

Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon
Call for the award of 1 (one) Research Grant for Masters enrolled in a non-degree course

Notice no. BICNCG/5/FF/2025

It is made known that a call for the award of **1 (one) Research Grant for Masters enrolled in a non-degree seeking course** within the scope of the project with the reference 2023.1417.PEX, entitled: B-RespHonsiv: Azaboron-oxy complexes (AZABY) as an innovative linker technology for targeted drug conjugates, exclusively funded by national funds from the Fundação para a Ciências e a Tecnologia, I.P., is open under the following conditions:

I. Scientific Area: Pharmaceutical Sciences

II. Admission Requirements:

- Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, or related areas¹;
- Be enrolled in a non-degree course integrated into the educational project of ULisboa or one of its schools, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units².

¹ All higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions need to be recognised by a Portuguese Institution in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of 16 August. The presentation of the recognition is mandatory for signing the contact. For further information, please visit [Degree and Diploma Recognition | DGES](#).

² During the application stage, if the candidates do not have in their possession the documents proving their enrolment in a non-degree course, it may be substituted by a declaration of honour. Proof of registration through the presentation of the certificated must be carried out until the hiring, under penalty of annulment of the candidate's assessment due to error on the assumptions of fact, and consequent exclusion from this competition.

Requirements:

- Proven experience in Organic Chemistry and structural characterization (NMR, HRMS);
- Experience with boron compounds and complex formation.

III. Research Grant Duration: The research grant will have a duration of **6 months**, with an expected start date in April 2025, on an exclusivity regime. The grant contract may be renewed for additional periods, as stipulated in paragraph a) of section 4 of article 6 of the Regulation of Research Grants of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. (Regulation No. 950/2019), or until the project's end date (whichever occurs first).

IV. Work Plan: Synthetic development of a library of boron complexes and the evaluation of their stability at physiological pH and hydrolysis at acidic pH. Determination of the hydrolysis mechanism of the complexes. The most promising complexes will be synthetically adapted to be used as linkers to connect a drug/fluorescent probe and a vector for cancer cells. The



cytotoxicity and distribution of the most promising conjugates will be evaluated through *in vitro* assays.

V. Workplace and Scientific Guidance: The work will be carried out in the laboratories of Building A, at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon (ULisboa), under the supervision of Dr. Fábio Miguel Figueiredo dos Santos, Junior Researcher, FFUL.

VI. Monthly maintenance stipend: The monthly maintenance allowance (grant) corresponds to **1.309,64€**, according to the table of monthly maintenance grant values directly allocated by the FCT, I.P. in Portugal (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf). Payment will be made via bank transfer.

In addition to the monthly maintenance stipend the grant holder will also be awarded with the value correspondent to the payment of the first step of *Seguro Social Voluntário* (voluntary payment of Social Security), in case he/she chooses to be included in this regime.

VII. Formalization of applications: Applications must be sent in non-editable format (PDF), to the email concursos@ff.ulisboa.pt, containing the identification of the above-mentioned notice. Applications in paper format will not be accepted.

VIII. Application deadline: The deadline for applications is from **March 3rd to March 14th, 2025 (10 working days)**.

IX. Evaluation and rating criteria:

Candidate's Merit: Aims to assess compliance with the formal requirements requested in the opening notice, but also to consider the suitability of the scientific area of training and/or specialization, training and professional experience, with a maximum weighting of 100%.

Adequacy of the Scientific Training Area (AACF): With a maximum weighting of 30%.

- Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, or related areas (**MsC**) – 0 to 20 values

Training and Experience (FE): With a maximum weighting of 40%.

- Candidates will be evaluated based on laboratory experience in synthetic organic chemistry, including the synthesis of boron complexes (**EXPLAB**) – 0 to 20 values

Specific competencies for the proposed work plan (CEPTP): With a maximum weighting of 30%.

- Candidates will be evaluated based on their knowledge in synthetic organic chemistry, structural analysis, and proficiency in the English language (**COQOS**) – 0 to 20 values

Final classification: The score obtained in the final classification results from the sum of the points obtained in the Candidate's Merit. An individual form will be filled for each candidate.

X. Instruction of Application:

- a. Application form containing the candidate's identification (*available on the institutional website*);
- b. *Curriculum Vitae* containing the information necessary for the evaluation of the application;
- c. Certificate proving ownership of a Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, or related areas;
- d. Document proving the enrolment in a non-degree course integrated into the educational project of ULisboa or one of its Schools, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units, or declaration of honour (*available on the institutional website*);
- e. Declaration of honour stating that there is no professional activity that violates the exclusivity regime (*available on the institutional website*);
- f. Motivation Letter;
- g. Other relevant supporting documents.

All the documents necessary for the submission of the application are available on the institutional website, through the *link*: <https://www.ff.ulisboa.pt/faculdade/recursos-humanos/bolsa-de-investigacao-para-mestres-inscritos-num-curso-nao-conferente-de-grau-academico-projeto-2023-14170-pex>.

The documents that instruct the application must be submitted in Portuguese or English language.

No document that should have been submitted in the application phase can be submitted after the deadline set in the opening notice. Failure to comply with the deadline set for the submission of the application, as well as the lack or late submission of documents referred to in this point will determine the exclusion from the competition.

XI. Composition of the Jury: The Jury responsible for the selection of the candidates will be constituted by:

President – Fábio Miguel Figueiredo dos Santos, PhD, Junior Researcher, FFUL;

1st Member of the Jury – Pedro Miguel Pimenta Góis, PhD, Associate Professor with Habilitation, FFUL.

2nd Member of the Jury – João Pedro Marante António, PhD, Invited Assistant Professor, FFUL;

1st Alternate Member of the Jury – Rafael Filipe Teixeira Arbuez Gomes, PhD, Assistant Professor, FFUL.

XII. Form of notification of results: All candidates will be notified of the final results of the evaluation by email and will have 10 working days after the aforementioned notification to make a statement, in accordance with the Code of Administrative Procedure.

After this notification, and in case there are no claims, the results will become final. In case of claims, and after the allegation is analyzed and accepted or rejected, the results will become final after 10 working days.

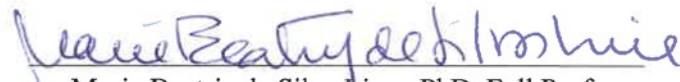
After the final decision is made, a complaint/appeal can be filed to the Director of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon, Maria Beatriz da Silva Lima, PhD, Full Professor, within 10 working days from the date of notification.



XIII. Applicable legislation and regulations: Regulation of Research Grants of the Fundação para a Ciências e a Tecnologia, I.P., Regulation no. 950/2019, published in the *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 241, on December 16, amended by Regulation no. 643/2021, published in the *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 135, on July 14; Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Lisbon, Order no. 6238/2020, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 113, of 12 June, republished by Order no. 8061/2022, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 126, of 1 July, and Research Fellowship Statute (EBI), Decree-Law no. 123/2019, published in *Diário da República*, 1st Series, no. 164, of 28 August.

Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon, February 28th, 2025.

The Director,


Maria Beatriz da Silva Lima, PhD, Full Professor