

Post-doctoral research grant (BIPD) (1 vacancy)

Reference: 2023_100_BPD_NIAF

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 Post-Doctoral grant in the framework of the Project Sustainable antifouling agents: from grape wastes to the sea with the green chemistry leading the way, reference PTDC/CTA-AMB/0853/2021, within the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), supported by FCT, according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Chemistry

2. Admission requirements: The candidate must accomplish the following requisites:

- A PhD in the field of Medicinal Chemistry, obtained in the three years prior to the application submission date*
- Candidates should speak and write fluently English.

Preferred conditions are previous experience in green chemical organic synthesis, or in docking studies or in recombinant protein expression.

* The scholarship can only be awarded if the post-doctoral research is carried out in a host entity different from the entity where the research work that led to the award of the doctoral degree was carried out; and if the scholarship holder does not exceed, with the conclusion of the scholarship contract in question, including the possible renewals, an accumulated period of three years in this type of grant, consecutive or interpolated.

In the event the doctorate degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, said degree must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16th August until the signature of the contract.

3. Work plan: in CIIMAR, several promising nature-inspired antifouling (NIAFs) compounds were synthesized by bioprospection of known marine antifouling compounds and were found to be harmless than commercial antifoulants that are damaging the ocean. In this on-going project the organic synthesis of the most potent compound was adapted to obey to the Green Chemistry Principles, namely use of eco-friendly solvents, replacement of hazardous reagents, prevent waste (the raw material of the synthesis was obtained from winery wastes). The candidate will be involved in Task 2 (chemical synthesis) applying green chemistry and sustainable assessment metrics to the optimized synthetic route of the patented compounds. On the other hand, it is also expected that the candidate be able to engage Task 4 (molecular targets) applying in silico studies (docking studies) and molecular biology assays to disclose the mechanism of action of NIAFs.

4. Legislation and official rules: Law nº. 40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship and Studentship Regulation) amended and republished by [Decreto-Lei n.º 202/2012](#), 27th August; Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. —and CIIMAR Grants Regulation approved by FCT.

5. Work place: The work will be carried out at FFUP, Rua Viterbo Ferreira (Marine Natural Products and Medicinal Chemistry - CIIMAR), under the scientific supervision of Prof Marta Ramos Pinto Correia da Silva Carvalho Guerra.

6. Duration of the contract: Duration of 12 months, starting in February 2024, under the regime of exclusive dedication.

7. Monthly salary: The monthly maintenance allowance is € 1 741,00, in agreement with the monthly maintenance stipend table of the grants directly attributed by FCT, I.P. within the country (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM_2023.pdf). Payment will be made monthly by bank transfer. In addition to this allowance, the grantee will be covered by personal accident insurance.

8. Selection methods: The ranking of candidates will be performed by an initial evaluation based on a global Curriculum Vitae evaluation.

The candidates' CV score (CVS) will be the sum of the evaluation for the Academic Qualification (AQ) and the Professional Experience (PE), in accordance with the formula:

$$CVS = AQ + PE$$

The Academic Qualification (AQ) and the Professional Experience (PE) will evaluate the merit of the candidate, and are evaluated with the following subcriteria:

AQ. Overall assessment of the curriculum - will have a weighting of 50% and will evaluate the following sub-factors:

- Closeness of the topic of the PhD to the field of the thematic of the project (25%)
- Scientific publications in the field of the admission requirements (15%)
- Oral communications in scientific meetings / national and international congresses and awards (10%)

PE - Expertise / skills in the field of research indicated - will have a weighting of 50% and will evaluate the following subfactors:

- Laboratory experience in synthesis of organic compounds (heterocyclic compounds) and in structure elucidation (20%)
- Experience in in silico tools (15%)

- Experience in biological assays (15%)

Short-listed candidates with similar highest final scores may be invited to an interview, having a maximum weight of 10% of the total evaluation. The interview will be used to clarify aspects related to the candidate's motivation.

The jury reserves the right to not assign the research grant if none of the candidates meets all requirements and matches the desired profile with a minimum of 15 values of the total evaluation.

9. Composition of the jury selection:

President of the jury: Marta Ramos Pinto Correia da Silva Carvalho Guerra

Vogal: Doutora Ana Sara Gomes

Vogal: Doutora Raquel Ruivo

10. Form of Advertising/notification of results: The final results of the evaluation will be published through a list sorting the candidates according to their attributed marks, on the CIIMAR website and by e-mail;

After the announcement of the results, candidates are considered automatically notified to, if they wish to do so, comment on the results on a preliminary hearing period within 10 working days after that date, as provided for in the *Código do Procedimento Administrativo*.

The jury reserves the right to not assign the grant depending on the quality of the applications.

In case of resignation or withdrawal of the selected candidate, the next candidate with the highest evaluation score will be notified immediately.

Based on the final sorted list of the candidates it will be made a reserve list that will be used for the future recruitment of grantees for this project.

11. Deadline for application and presentation of applications: The competition is open from **12/1/2024 until 31/1/2024**. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

-detailed Curriculum vitae with clear specifications of i) contact e-mail address and phone number; ii) list of peer-reviewed publications, books and/or reports that prove the experience in the above-mentioned fields; iii) list of the computer skills (software and/or programming languages for simulation and data analysis; newly developed software); - certificates (copy) of the previous academic degrees, specifying mandatorily the final classification;

- motivation letter with the indication of the reference of the competition (as indicated in this announcement);
- any other documents that the candidates may recognize as relevant to demonstrate the adequacy to the function.

The applications should be sent by e-mail to: rh@ciimar.up.pt with the reference indicated in this announcement in the subject line. The applications that do not include all the elements previously indicated will not be considered.

12. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: CIIMAR actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

Pursuant to Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honor, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication/expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.