

## **Announcement of a call for research grant**

**Reference: 2025\_032\_BI\_AC**

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 Research Grant within the scope of the activity plan in the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), according to the following conditions:

**1. Scientific area:** Biological Sciences / Marine Sciences

**2. Admission requirements:**

Any national, foreign and stateless candidates with a Master degree in the area of Biological Sciences (Biology, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Marine Sciences, or similar areas), with a final average equal or greater than 16 points (out of 20).

Candidates must master the English language.

The candidate must be enrolment in a doctoral program or non-academic degree course integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or several R&D units at the time of application.

If the applicant is not yet enrolled, it must meet the requirements to register; enrolment will be mandatory and proof necessary only at the moment of scholarship contracting.

Note: In the case of enrolment in courses that do not confer academic degree, the research grant can only be awarded to those who do not exceed, with the signing of the research grant contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of two years in this type of grant, consecutive or interpolated.

Academic degrees awarded by a foreign higher education institution must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16th August, which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, being any formalities established therein fulfilled only by the date of the contracting act.

### **3. Work plan:**

The selected candidate will join the Fish Nutrition and Welfare team in CIIMAR - Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research, under the scientific supervision of Dr. Ana Couto. The selected candidate will integrate a project aiming at health and welfare biomarker discovery in aquaculture fish species. The candidate will assist the scientific activities of the project and will give technical support and analyse the data generated and gathered throughout the project. This will include assistance during fish trials and fish maintenance, histological, proteomic and metabarcoding data acquisition and analysis.

### **4. Legislation and official rules:**

Law nº. 40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship and Studentship Regulation) in its current version; 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 CIIMAR, Edifício do Terminal de Cruzeiros do Porto de Leixões, Av. General Norton de Matos, s/n, 4450-208 Matosinhos, and at the Science Faculty of Porto University, Rua do Campo Alegre, s/n, 4169-007 Porto, integrated in the Nutrition and Welfare research team.

### **6. Duration of the grant:**

Duration of 7 (seven) months, eventually renewed, with a provisional start on May 2025, under the regime of exclusive dedication.

### **7. Monthly maintenance stipend:**

The monthly maintenance allowance is 1 309,64 € (one thousand three hundred and nine euros and sixty four cents), in agreement with the monthly maintenance stipend table of the grants directly attributed by I.P. within the country: [https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela\\_valores\\_SMM\\_2025.pdf](https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf) . Payment will be made by bank transfer. In addition to this allowance, the grantee will be covered by a personal accident insurance.

## **8. Selection methods:**

The ranking of candidates will be done based on the evaluation of the Curriculum Vitae (EC) performed according to the following criteria:  $EC = [50\%AQ + 30\%PE]$

- AQ: Academic qualification relevant for the scientific area.
- PE: Professional Experience

Preference will be given to candidates with strong background in fish nutrition and previous experience in one or more of the following topics:

- a) Fish nutrition trials;
- b) Histological evaluation of fish tissues and identification of intestinal parasites;
- c) Proteomics and metabarcoding data analysis;
- d) R and Python programming languages.

The evaluation process may include an interview with the first three graders scored higher than 7 out of 10, which is intended to clarify aspects related to the results of their research, in which case the interview weighs 20% and the previous evaluation weighs 80%.

## **9. Composition of the jury selection:**

President of the jury: Ana Couto

Vogal: Aires Oliva Teles

Vogal: Cláudia Serra

## **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 mark by e-mail; in case of disagreement, the candidates have a 10-working day term in which to contest the decision, if it so wishes, as provided for in the Administrative Procedure Code in a preliminary hearing setting. 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.

### **11. Deadline for application and presentation of applications:**

The competition is open from 30 April **until** 14 May 2025 . The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

- Detailed Curriculum vitae, in Portuguese or in English;
- Past research activities and its relevance to the current project explained in a motivation letter written in Portuguese or English;
- Certificates (copy) of the previous academic degrees, specifying mandatorily the final classification. Only candidates who have completed the Master degree by the end of the application period will be admitted. If they do not yet have the official degree certificate, a declaration of honour from the candidate stating that it has completed the qualifications required by the end of the application period, will be accepted. At the time of the respective hiring the candidate must present the official degree certificate;
- Evidence of enrolment in a doctoral program or non-academic degree course, if applicable.

Alternatively, the candidate's declaration of honour attesting the commitment to enrol in a Doctoral Program or a non-academic degree Course integrated in the educational project of a Higher Education Institution, if selected for the scholarship and accepted the award. Proof of enrolment in a doctorate or a non-academic degree Course integrated in the educational project of a Higher Education Institution is mandatory at the moment of scholarship contracting;

- Contact e-mail address and phone number.

The applications cannot exceed 20 MB and must be sent by e-mail to: [rh@ciimar.up.pt](mailto:rh@ciimar.up.pt) , with the reference “**2025\_032\_BI\_AC**” 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 honour, 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.