

Announcement of a call for research grant

Reference: | 2026_035_BI_PALEOHAKE |

A competition is open for the attribution of | 1 | Research Grant in the framework of the project | PALEOHAKE; The origin and evolution of hake (*Merluccius merluccius*, Linnaeus 1858) exploitation in Iberia, a palaeogenomic approach |, with the reference |2024.1438.PEX|, supported by FCT|, according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: |Evolutionary Biology; Palaeogenomics|

2. Admission requirements:

|Any national, foreign and stateless candidate (s) who hold (s) a Master's degree in Biological Sciences, Marine Sciences, Biotechnology or related areas. Candidates are expected to have scientific and technical knowledge on:

- molecular biology techniques (DNA extraction, Library construction),
- ancient DNA,
- Data analysis/ bioinformatics;
- Proficiency in spoken and written English, as well as good interpersonal skills in the context of a multidisciplinary research team.

Requirements:

- Immediate availability,
- Experience in working in clean lab settings (mandatory),
- Availability to work abroad
- Experience with scientific workflow management systems,
- Experience in bioinformatic analysis of ancient genomic data,

- Experience in analysing and visualizing data in R

The candidate must be enrolled in a doctoral program and/or be enrolled in a non-academic degree course integrated in an educational project of a developed higher education institution in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units*.

Proof of enrolment must be submitted at the time of contracting and candidates may attach a declaration on their honour that they meet the registration conditions for the purposes of their application. These grants are intended for the performance of R&D activities by students aiming at the

consolidation of their scientific training through the development of research work leading to the attainment of the respective academic degree, integrated into R&D projects.

*Students who are enrolled in non-degree-granting courses may only be awarded if they do not exceed, with the signing of the grant contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of two years in that type of grant, whether consecutive or intermittent. |

3. Work plan:

|The selected candidate will join the PALEOHAKKE team and will participate in the day-to-day routines of the project. They will be responsible for the generation of all ancient DNA data, Task 2 Sample processing and sequencing data collected, of the research project. |

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 developed at CIIMAR, Terminal de Cruzeiros, Av. General Norton de Matos, s/n, 4450-208 Matosinhos, Portugal, within the PALEOMAR group and at University of A Coruña, Spain, under the supervision of Dr Paula Campos. |

6. Duration of the grant:

|The grant will last for 6 months, eventually renewal up to legal terms. |

7. Monthly maintenance stipend:

The monthly maintenance allowance is Doctoral students or bachelors and masters (BI)-PT 1 359,64€.

8. Selection methods:

|1st. Curriculum evaluation: 70%

2nd. Interview: 30% - only to the top three candidates, and if the evaluation is higher than 70% in the previous stage |

9. Composition of the jury selection:

President of the jury: | Paula Campos |

Vogal: | Gonçalo Themudo |

Vogal: | Rute Fonseca |

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 he/she 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 | **27/4** | until | **11/5/2026** |. 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 he/she 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, with the reference | 2026_035_BI_PALEOHAKE | 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.