

Announcement of a call for research grant

Reference: 2026_061_BI_ApexChange

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 Research Grant in the framework of the project “ApexChange-Reproductive potential of blue sharks in a changing climate”, with the reference 2024.06874.RESTART, supported by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P (FCT), according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific Area: Biological Sciences

2. Admission requirements:

Any national, foreign and stateless candidate(s) interested in development R&D activities to be carried out by master students or by graduates enrolled in courses that do not award an academic degree in the area of Biological Sciences, or related scientific areas, with demonstrated experience in preparing samples for carbon and nitrogen stable isotope analysis. Experience in interpreting stable isotope data and analyzing and visualizing data using R is also required.

Degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of 16 August. Any recognition or other formal requirements established under this legislation must be completed before the scholarship contract is signed.

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.

Preference will be given to candidates who demonstrate:

-Immediate availability.

-Experience working with elasmobranch tissues.

-Experience working collaboratively in a team, writing technical or scientific reports, and presenting scientific results at scientific and non-scientific events.

-Strong motivation to carry out the proposed research work and contribute to the objectives of the project and the CIIMAR research team. This motivation should be clearly explained in the motivation letter.

3. Work plan:

The selected candidate will investigate the foraging ecology of blue sharks, in two contrasting environmental areas, using carbon and nitrogen stable isotope analysis. In parallel, the candidate will characterize the energy density profiles of sharks through lipid content analysis, providing insight into nutritional condition in each area. The selected

candidate will also participate in manuscript and technical reports writing, as well as on project results dissemination for scientific and non-scientific audiences.

Legislation and official rules: Law n.º. 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.

4. Work place:

The selected candidate will work in the Rivers and Coastal Ecology research team at CIIMAR headquarters, located in the Terminal Cruise of the Port of Leixões, in Matosinhos, under the supervision of Dr. Ester Dias.

5. Duration of the grant:

Duration of 6 months starting in August, under the regime of exclusive dedication, eventually renewal up to legal terms.

6. Monthly maintenance stipend:

The monthly maintenance allowance is 1 090,98€ 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/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf>, by bank transfer payment.

7. Selection methods:

An overall assessment (valued from 1 to 10) of the candidates' merit will be made through the evaluation of their curriculum vitae (30%; CV), the motivation letter (10%; ML), and the scientific experience relevant for this position (60%; SA).

CV: For the global evaluation of the CV, the academic qualifications and the global scientific path will be evaluated.

ML: Evaluation of the candidate's motivation and ability to innovate, based on the motivation letter describing the relevance of the scientific path to the position and personal career goals.

SA: The scientific activity is evaluated, based on: 1) demonstrated experience in the admission requirements mentioned in point 2; 2) autonomy level and degree of proactivity; 3) dissemination activities.

The evaluation process may include an interview with the first three graders in case of tied vote. In this case the interview weighs 30% and the previous evaluation weighs 70%.

8. Composition of the jury selection:

President of the jury: Ester Dias
Vogal: Carlos Antunes

Vogal: Martina Ilarri

9. 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 they so wish, 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.

10. Deadline for application and presentation of applications:

The competition is open from 07/07/2026 **until** 20/07/2026. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

- a) Curriculum vitae (in English);
- b) Copy of eligibility certificates;
- c) Motivation letter (max 2 pages) stating the aspects previously mentioned in points 2 and 7 (in English);
- d) Any other documents considered relevant for the application.

Applications that do not include the elements a, b, and c, will not be considered. False statements provided by the candidates shall be punished by law. At the time of the respective hiring the candidate must present the official degree certificate and evidence of enrolment in a master program or non-academic degree course integrated in the educational project of a Higher Education Institution.

The applications cannot exceed 20 MB and must be sent by e-mail to: rh@ciimar.up.pt, with the reference **2026_061_BI_ApexChange** in the subject line. The applications that do not include all the elements previously indicated will not be considered.

11. 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.