

Announcement of a call for higher technician

Reference: 2026_071_TS_UnderPressure

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 technician position in the framework of the project *UnderPressure - Metal impacts on deep-sea microbial diversity and nitrogen cycling potential*, with reference COMPETE2030-FEDER-00906200, funded by the FEDER (Fundo Europeu de Desenvolvimento Regional) and the COMPETE 2030 (Innovation and Digital Transition Programme (COMPETE 2030, Portugal 2030) through the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) under the MPr-2023-12 – SACCCT – IC&DT, according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific Area: Microbial Ecology / Biogeochemistry / Metagenomics

2. Admission requirements:

To be admitted to the competition, candidates must hold a Bachelor degree in the areas of Biological Sciences, Environmental Sciences, or Bioinformatics. Candidates must master the English language. Applicants must also have excellent academic and professional credentials, a willingness to work in a team, and be highly motivated and oriented towards a research technician role.

3. Work plan:

The selected candidate will work for the project “*Metal impacts on deep-sea microbial diversity and nitrogen cycling potential (UnderPressure)*” and will participate in the bioinformatic analysis of metagenomes and metatranscriptomes generated by the project or available in public databases with the goal of identifying N cycling genes and their environmental drivers in deep-sea metagenomes and transcriptomes. The candidate will also be involved in collecting and processing samples for DNA and RNA sequencing as well as real-time and digital PCR.

4. Legislation and official rules:

Article 140, n. 2, g)) and Article 148, n. 4, of the Labor Code (Law 7/2009, of 12 February and respective updates.

5. Workplace:

The selected candidate will work under the supervision of the researcher Miguel Semedo from the Microbiome Ecology and Biogeochemistry group. The laboratory is located at the headquarters of CIIMAR, in the Cruise Terminal of the Port of Leixões, in Matosinhos, in the metropolitan area of Porto. The successful candidate will work in an international and multidisciplinary environment with a strong connection to the marine environment.

6. Duration of the contract:

An unfixed-term employment contract scheduled to start in January 2027, under the legal terms in force (Labor Code).

7. Monthly Salary:

Equated to the higher technical career, level 15: gross monthly salary 1446,51 €, food, holidays, and Christmas allowance apart.

8. Selection methods:

An overall assessment (valued from 1 to 10) of the candidates' merit will be made through the evaluation of their scientific and curricular track record, based on 3 strands and relevance for the planned project. The evaluation of the curriculum vitae will count 40% (CV), the motivation letter 20% (ML) and the scientific activity 40% (SA).

- CV (40%): For the global evaluation of the CV, the academic qualifications, professional skills, and the scientific path will be evaluated and considered in the scope of the project.
- ML (20%): Evaluation of the candidate's motivation and ability to perform innovative and rigorous research, based on the motivation letter describing the relevance of the scientific path to the position and personal career goals.
- SA (40%): The scientific activity is evaluated, based on:
 - i. Publications in peer-reviewed international journals in the working area of the project.
 - ii. Pre-print publications in the working area of the project.
 - iii. Oral and poster presentations in international and national conferences in the working area of the project.
 - iv. Previous research experience in bioinformatic analysis of microbial communities, namely through metabarcoding, metagenomics, and/or metatranscriptomics.
 - v. Previous laboratory experience with molecular biology tools to detect and quantify N cycling genes in environmental samples (e.g. real-time qPCR, digital PCR).
 - vi. Participation in R&D projects and teams, services, or knowledge transfer processes.

The evaluation of the scientific and curricular path will focus on the relevance, quality, and adequacy to the work plan of the project. This global assessment will result in a pre-selection of the three best-ranked candidates, which will be communicated to the candidates. An interview may also be carried out, in which case all of the pre-selected candidates will be summoned to the interview. The jury will select one candidate among the pre-selected candidates

to the position. If an interview to the pre-selected candidates takes place, its objective is to clarify aspects related to their professional and/or curricular achievements. The interview has a weight of 20% and the previous evaluation weight of 80%.

9. Composition of the jury:

President of the jury: Miguel Semedo

Vogal: Catarina Magalhães

Vogal: Francisco Pascoal

10. Form of advertising/notification of the results:

The final results of the evaluation will be sent 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 contract depending on the quality of the applications.

11. Deadline for application and how to apply:

The competition is open from **October 12th until November 6th**, The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae (max 3 pages);
- Copy of the eligibility certificates;
- Motivation letter (max 1 page) outlining past research/professional activities and their relevance to the position;
- Any other documents that the candidates may recognize as relevant;
- E-mail address and phone number.

Applications cannot exceed 20 MB and must be sent by email to rh@ciimar.up.pt with the offer reference in the subject. 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 policy of non-discrimination and equal access, by which no candidate can be privileged, can benefit or be put in disadvantage, or can be deprived of any rights or duties based on their social or cultural background, ethnic group or race, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic status, education, social condition, genetic assets, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and unionization.

As set forth by the Decree Law 29/2001, the candidate with disability has preference if equally classified, which prevails over any other legal preference. The candidates with disability must declare in their application, on their word of honour, their degree and type of disability, and the means of communication/expression that are to be used in the selection process, as provided by the above-mentioned legal diploma.