

## **ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF 1 RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS, REF.**

### **E2S/TBIO/BI/2025/01**

AN OPEN CALL IS ANNOUNCED FOR THE AWARD OF ONE (1) RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MASTER'S DEGREE HOLDER, REGISTERED IN A DOCTORAL PROGRAM OR IN A NON-DEGREE AWARDING COURSE, AT THE CENTER FOR TRANSLATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH (TBIO), SCHOOL OF HEALTH (E2S), POLYTECHNIC OF PORTO, UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

#### **1. SCIENTIFIC AREA**

HEALTH BIOTECHNOLOGY / BIOCHEMISTRY

#### **2. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

General Requirements

- a) Master's degree holders registered, at the time of the scholarship agreement, in a doctoral program or in a non-degree awarding course integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units;
- b) Proof of registration in a doctoral program or a non-degree course, may be waived at the application stage;
- c) For the scholarship agreement, the selected candidate must present valid proof of registration in a doctoral program, or a non-degree course issued by the respective academic services of the Higher Education Institution, indicating the current academic year or its duration (start and end).

Specific Requirements

- a) Academic background: Master's degree in Biochemistry (in Health) or other scientific area related;
- b) Not exceed, with the execution of the scholarship contract in question, including possible renewals, a cumulative period of two years under non-degree course type of scholarship, whether consecutive or intermittent.

Candidates who have obtained their degree abroad must have the degree officially recognized in Portugal, along with the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese grading

scale, in accordance with Decree-Law No. 66/2018, dated August 16. All formalities specified therein must be completed by the application deadline.

#### Preferential Factors

Preference will be given to candidates who demonstrate experience and skills in:

- a) Knowledge and/or experience in Development of activities in a laboratory context of Biotechnology in Health / Biochemistry / Molecular Biology; Knowledge acquired throughout academic training in: i) Microbiology; ii) Bioactivity assessment; iii) Extraction of natural compounds; iv) Microbiome; v) Molecular biology (qRT-PCR); and vi) Analytical techniques using HPLC.
- b) Immediate availability to start the scholarship (to be stated in the motivation letter).
- c) Proficiency in oral and written English.

### 3. WORK PLAN

Collaborate on tasks related to Medical Biotechnology, specifically:

- a) Development and implementation of protocols for biomarkers' detection;
- b) Validation of potential biomarkers;
- c) Analysis of metabolite segregation levels under pathophysiological conditions;
- d) Preparation of scientific articles and publications related under project's activities.

### 4. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

- Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, amended by Decree-Law No. 202/2012, of August 27, Decree-Law No. 233/2012, of October 29, Law No. 12/2013, of January 29, Decree-Law No. 89/2013, of July 9, Decree-Law No. 123/2019, of August 28, and Decree-Law No. 65/2024, of October 1.
- Research Scholarship Regulation of P.PORTO (P.PORTO/P-001/2020), approved by Dispatch P.PORTO-P-015-2020.
- Research Scholarship Regulation of FCT, I.P., No. 950/2019, of December 16, amended by Regulation No. 643/2021, published in the 2nd Series of the Official Gazette No. 135, of July 14.

### 5. SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISION AND WORKPLACE

The work will be developed at the facilities of the Center for Translational Health and Medical Biotechnology Research (TBIO), School of Health (E2S), Polytechnic of Porto, under the scientific

supervision of Professor Mónica Vieira (supervision) and Professor Clara Pereira and Professor Virgínia Fernandes (co-supervision).

## 6. DURATION AND ACTIVITY REGIME

Scholarship contract of 6 months, possibly renewable for an additional 6 months. up to the maximum limit provide in the regulation, on an exclusive basis, in accordance with the applicable regulations.

## 7. MONTHLY MAINTENANCE GRANT AMOUNT

The scholarship amount is € 1.259,64, according to the FCT value table in effect, paid monthly, plus reimbursement for voluntary social security, as provided for in the regulations, and in accordance with Expense Authorization Request No. ESS 6288.

## 8. SELECTION METHOD AND JURY COMPOSITION

The selection method will be in accordance with the following selection criteria and respective evaluations:

- a) Evaluation of the *Curriculum Vitae* and the candidate's suitability profile for the position, rated from 0 to 20 (weighting 50%).
  - A1) Bachelor's degree in Medicinal Biotechnology/ Biochemistry with an average equal to or greater than 16 – 6 points;
  - A2) Bachelor's degree in Medicinal Biotechnology/ Biochemistry with an average lower than 16– 4 points;
  - A3) Other Bachelor degree related to the previous ones – 3 points.
  - A4) Laboratorial experience in Molecular Biology and Metabolites' analysis, greater than 1 year – 5 points;
  - A5) Laboratorial experience in Molecular Biology and Metabolites' analysis, under 1 year – 3 points;
  - A6) Laboratorial experience in microbiome analysis techniques – 3 points.
  - A7) Laboratorial experience and use and handling of HPLC – 5 points.
  - A8) Immediate and total availability to start the scholarship – 4 points.
  
- b) Interview. The interview will be evaluated on a scale from 0 to 20 (weighting 50%).
  - B1) Knowledge and skills in the field of laboratorial analysis techniques – 10 points;
  - B2) Interpersonal relationship integrated in work teams – 5 points;
  - B3) Personal attitude and communication – 5 points.

The candidate with the highest overall score, considering 50% for the CV and suitability profile for the position and 50% for the interview, will be selected.

In case of a tie, candidates will be broken by the average of the Master's or Integrated Master's course they hold.

Candidates may be excluded from the competition for the following reasons:

- a) For not meeting the mandatory requirements specified in the announcement (point 2);
- b) Candidates who score below 9.5 in any evaluation component will be considered excluded from the selection process and will not be evaluated in subsequent components;
- c) The failure of the candidate to attend the interview or the unavailability of the candidate to provide any additional clarifications requested, is equivalent to withdrawal from the competition.

Composition of the Selection Jury:

Jury President:

Professor Mónica Almeida Vieira, Coordinator Professor at E2S|P.PORTO and deputy director of TBIO.

Effective Members:

Professor Clara Ferreira Pereira, Adjunct Professor at E2S|P.PORTO and TBIO Researcher.

Professor Virgínia Cruz Fernandes, Adjunct Professor at E2S|P.PORTO and TBIO Researcher.

Substitute Member:

Dr. Fábio Gabriel Teixeira, Guest Assistant Professor at E2S|P.PORTO and TBIO Researcher.

## 9. PUBLICITY/NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

The results of the competition will be communicated to candidates electronically through the online platform available at <https://domus.ipp.pt/concursos/ess/pessoal/>, in accordance with the deadlines established in the P.PORTO Research Scholarship Regulation.

## 10. APPLICATION DEADLINE AND METHOD OF SUBMISSION

The competition is open for a period of 10 working days, from February 18 to March 3, 2025.

Applications must be submitted exclusively through the electronic application form, which is available at <https://www.ess.ipp.pt/ess/recrutamento/bolsas-de-investigacao/bolsas-de-investigacao>, and the required documents must be submitted by the application deadline. The documents to be submitted include:

- 1) Curriculum Vitae;
- 2) Certificates of qualifications;
- 3) Proof of enrolment in a study cycle leading to the attainment of a PhD degree or in a non-degree course;
- 4) Declaration, under honor commitment, that for the scholarship agreement, will present valid proof of registration, if not enrolled in a doctoral program, or in a non-degree course at application submission.
- 5) Declaration, under honor commitment, that
  - a) The candidate has read the P.PORTO Research Scholarship Regulation (P.PORTO/P-001/2020), approved by Dispatch P.PORTO-P-015-2020, and commits to complying with it;
  - b) Not exceed, with the execution of the scholarship contract in question, including possible renewals, a cumulative period of two years under non-degree course type of scholarship, whether consecutive or intermittent.
- 6) Any other documents that the candidate considers relevant.

Notes:

- The proof of documents mentioned in point 2, relating to academic degrees and diplomas, or their recognition if awarded by foreign higher education institutions, may be waived at the application stage and replaced by the candidate's declaration of honor. The verification of this condition will occur only during the scholarship contract phase.
- The proof mentioned in point 3 may not need to be submitted, with the grant being conditional on valid enrollment within six months from the communication of approval in the scientific evaluation stage.
- Applications sent via email, or any other electronic means not specified above will not be accepted.

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February 14, 2025. The President of School of Health of the Polytechnic Institute of Porto, *Professor Maria Cristina Prudêncio Pereira Soares*.