

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE OPENING OF A SELECTION OF A RESEARCH GRANT– (BI) 1

VACANCY

Reference 2025_023_BI_MICROCHAR

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 research Grant in the framework of the project **MICROCHAR - Structures of biochar immobilized microorganisms for the removal of pharmaceuticals in wastewater treatment plants**, with the reference 2023.13621.PEX, supported by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Environmental Sciences, Biology or similar areas

2. Admission requirements

We are looking for a candidate with a BSc degree in Environmental Sciences, Biology or similar areas, with a final classification of at least 15 values (in 20), enrolled in a master's program, with the aim of consolidating his scientific training through the development of research work leading to the achievement of the respective MSc degree or on 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.

The candidate must be available to develop it's master's thesis under the theme **“Potential of biochar immobilized microorganisms for the removal of pharmaceuticals in quaternary wastewater treatment plants”**.

If the BSc degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, the candidate must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16th August at the time of the signature of the contract.

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.

3. Work plan:

The selected candidate will work for the project MICROCHAR, namely within the task 1 (Potential of bacterial strains to biodegrade pharmaceuticals for the development of bacterial aggregates) and task 2 (Biochar structures with immobilized bacterial aggregates). Within the scope of these activities, different biodegradation tests will be carried out to assess the potential of different microorganisms to degrade different pollutants in wastewater. In addition, different tests will be carried out to develop microbial aggregates to immobilize in biochar.

4. Legislation and official rules:

Law nº.40/2004, 18th August (Research Fellowship Holder Statute) in its current version; Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. and CIIMAR Grants Regulation.

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, under the supervision of Dr. Joana P. Fernandes, Dr. Marisa Almeida e Dr. Ana Paula Mucha.

6. Duration of the contract:

Duration of 12 months, starting in July 2025, under the regime of exclusive dedication.

7. Monthly stipend:

The monthly maintenance allowance is 1040,98 €, 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/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf , by bank transfer payment.

8. Selection methods:

The evaluation will take into account:

- Merit of the academic curriculum and performance (global appreciation taking into account the BSc degree, its appropriateness to the position as well as the performance of the candidate in such degree)- 50%
- Relevant experience and qualification for the proposed research area - 50%

The evaluation process may include an interview with the three top candidates, in which case the interview will have a **weight of 20% and the evaluation previously carried out will have a weight of 80%.**

The jury reserves the right to not assign the research grant if none of the candidates meets all requirements and matches the desired profile.

9. Composition of the jury selection:

President of the jury: Joana P. Fernandes, PhD

Vogal: Marisa Almeida, PhD

Vogal: Ana Paula Mucha, PhD

10. Form of advertising/notification of results:

The final results of the evaluation will be sent through a list sorting the candidates according to their attributed mark, by e-mail and available in CIIMAR website; 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 Código do Procedimento Administrativo 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 presentation of applications:

The competition is open from **March 24th to April 11th 2025**. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents:

- Detailed Curriculum vitae;
- Copy of the eligibility certificates;
- Evidence of enrollment in a master/integrated master program or non-academic degree course;
- Motivation letter;
- Contact e-mail address and phone number

Applications cannot exceed 20 MB and must be sent by email to rh@ciimar.up.pt. Applications that **do not include all** the elements previously indicated will **not be considered**.

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.