

CALL FOR AWARDING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS WITHIN PROJECT GRANTS AND R&D INSTITUTIONS

1 (one) Research Fellowship (BI) for a PhD student

1 Research Fellowship(s) (BI) is (are) open at the **FCiências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências**, for the Project “ SHIELD4GRAPE - BREEDING AND INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RELIANCE ON CHEMICAL PESTICIDES IN GRAPEVINE”, “HORIZON-CL6-2023-BIODIV-01-101135088”, financed by European Union within the scope of Horizon Europe - Community Framework Program for Research & Innovation, through Grant Agreement no 101135088, under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Biotechnology
2. **Admission requirements:** Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biology or related areas, with a minimum of two years' experience working in research activities. Solid theoretical and practical knowledge in the area of gene expression regulation by microRNAs and small non-coding RNAs, proven by the authorship of scientific publications in the area and/or communications at conferences. Consolidated experience in molecular biology techniques, in particular isolation, molecular cloning and functional assays of small RNAs, including their quantification by real-time PCR methods.
3. **Additional optional skills and qualifications:** Experience in the regulation of host-pathogen interactions by small non-coding RNAs, transcriptome analysis of microRNAs and use of target prediction algorithms and computational approaches to characterize interaction networks between microRNAs and targets.
4. **Contracting requirements:** Presentation of the academic qualifications and/or diplomas. Enrollment in a PhD program in Biochemistry or Biology.
5. **Work plan:** Isolation of small RNAs from biological samples generated within the scope of the project for differential expression analysis by small RNA-seq. Implementation of methods to validate results focusing on the expression levels of small RNAs from non-model organisms by qPCR or non-radioactive Northern-blotting. Computational prediction of regulatory networks dependent on differentially expressed microRNAs.
6. **Legislation framework:** Research Fellowship Holder Statute, in accordance with Law 40/2004, of 18 August, in its current version and the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, in its current version (Reg. 950/2019 published in DR on 16th December: <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968>, or at the FCT website: <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.pt>), and FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation, as approved on 12th May 2020 (available at [Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação Científica da FCiências.ID](https://www.fciciencias.id/regulamento-de-bolsas-de-investigacao-cientifica-da-fciciencias.id)).
7. **Place of work:** The work will be developed at RNA Systems Biology Laboratory, of BioISI – Biosystems & Integrative Sciences Institute, Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon under the scientific supervision of Professor Dr. Margarida Gama Carvalho.
8. **Fellowship duration:** This position is initially opened for 12 months and due to start in March 2025. The fellowship contract may be potentially renewed for until the end of the project, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation of Research Fellowships from the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P and FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation.
9. **Monthly allowance:** The fellowship amounts to € 1259,64, according to [table values](#) of the FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation. The fellowship holder will have a personal accident insurance and can ensure the right to social

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security through adherence to the voluntary social insurance scheme, if not covered by any other social protection scheme, pursuant to *Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social*.

The fellowship will be paid monthly by bank transfer.

Additionally, it may be paid a tuition fees support grant (SAP) to support the costs with the annual tuition fees.

10. **Evaluation and selection process:** Candidates will be assessed by a) Academic training (30%); b) Experience in scientific fields described in paragraphs 2 and 3 (50%); c) Publications and Communications in the area (20%). The jury may choose to conduct an interview with the top 3 (three) classified in total of criteria a), b) and c), aimed at obtaining clarifications, additional information and/or explanation of elements presented. In this case, the sum of the evaluations obtained in evaluation criteria a), b) and c) will correspond to 70% of the final classification and the interview to 30%.

Applicants whose application is scored with a final classification of less than 80 points are not eligible for granting a fellowship.

11. **Selection Committee:** Professor Dr. Margarida Gama Carvalho (President); Professor Dr. Andreia Figueiredo and Professor Dr. Francisco Pinto (effective members); Doctor Ricardo Dias and Doctor Bernardo Duarte (alternate members).

12. **Publication/notification of results:** All the candidates will be notified by e-mail, sent by the call holder, with the selection meeting minutes enclosed.

13. **Deadlines:** This call for applications is open from 05/02/2025 to 13/02/2025 .

14. **Application:** Applications should be sent via e-mail to mhcarvalho@fc.ul.pt, by attaching the following documents:

- a. Curriculum vitae;
- b. Certificate of completion of previous degree ^{Note 1, 2}.

15. **Processing of personal data:** FCIências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, as the controller under the General Data Protection Regulation, collects and processes the personal data requested in the context indicated in paragraph 14., under the legitimate interests in ensuring the award of the research fellowship to candidates with the indicated profile.

The personal data will be kept for the period necessary for the execution of the purposes for which they are intended, being ensured the processing and protection in an appropriate and diligent way, the confidentiality and integrity of these data, through appropriate technical and organizational measures.

Personal data may be transmitted to third parties, namely the entity funding the research project, solely for the purposes specifically established. In this sense, whenever the transfer of personal data to countries outside the European Union and/or international organizations is necessary, compliance with the applicable legal provisions is ensured.

You have the right to request access, rectification, elimination, limitation of processing, the right to object and also data portability (if technically feasible), through the e-mail address: dpo@fciencias-id.pt. You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the National Data Protection Commission.

For more information, we recommend consulting the Internal Rules of Data Protection of FCIências.ID - Association for Research and Development of Sciences at <https://fciencias-id.pt/>.

16. **Time limits for the appeal procedure:** In case of negative decision, the candidates have 10 business days, after the date of announcement of the results of the candidates evaluation, to pronounce their disagreement in



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accordance with the *Código do Procedimento Administrativo*. Appeals against the final decision may be submitted to the Administration Board of FCIências.ID (fciencias.id@fciencias-id.pt) within 15 business days after the notification date.

Note 1: The documents that prove the entitlement of the academic qualifications and diplomas can be dismissed during the application period and replaced by a declaration on their honour from the applicant ([Minuta PT](#), [Minute EN](#)). Their delivery is mandatory for the fellowship contractualization.

Note 2: Please note that - higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions need to be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, pursuant to the [Decree-Law nr. 66/2018](#) (August 16) and the [Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019](#) (January 25). The presentation of the recognition certificate is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained at: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.

