

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

1 (one) Research Fellowship (BI) for a Master enrolled in a non-degree course

1 Research Fellowship(s) (BI) is(are) open at the **FCiências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências**, for the project “Cytotoxicity analysis and transfection of lipid nanoparticle formulations”, financed by 100% funded by national private entities (HOVIONE), under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Biochemistry, Molecular and Cellular Biology
2. **Admission requirements:** MSc degree in Molecular Biology and Genetics or related areas, with work experience in the context of research laboratories in the area of Cell and Molecular Biology for more than one year. Experience in mammalian cell culture and image and data analysis using Fiji and R, including generation of reports in R markdown and basic knowledge of programming.
3. **Additional optional skills and qualifications:** Rigor, organization and ability to work within a team. Experience in technical support for laboratory research activities. Experience in the following techniques: cloning and plasmid vector purification; transfection; RNA extraction; computational methods for RNA structure prediction and interaction; characterization of mRNA molecule integrity using TapeStation and Nanopore sequencing; analysis of short and long read NGS sequencing data.
4. **Contracting requirements:** Presentation of the academic qualifications and/or diplomas. Enrolment in a non-degree course developed in association or cooperation between a High Education Institution and one or multiple research units.
5. **Work plan:** mRNA transfection assays using LNPs and performance of microscopy screening test in immortalized cell lines, including cell culture maintenance, staining and image acquisition. Automated analysis of microscopy screening data, statistical analysis and reporting of results. Construction, purification and validation of plasmid vectors and analysis of mRNA molecule integrity, including sequencing data analysis. Support in the organisation and maintenance of the cell culture infrastructure, as well as the laboratory equipment essential to the project.
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>), 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 the RNA Systems Biology Laboratory, of BioISI – Biosystems & Integrative Sciences Institute, Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisboa under the scientific supervision of Professor Dr. Margarida Gama Carvalho.
8. **Fellowship duration:** This position is initially opened for 3 months due to start in March 2025. The fellowship contract may be potentially renewed for 9 months, 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 € 1309,64, 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, a tuition fees support grant (SAP) may be paid to support the costs with the tuition fees, in accordance with the provisions of Article 21(6) of the FCIências.ID Fellowship Regulation.

10. **Evaluation and selection process:** Candidates will be assessed by a) CV evaluation (70%), b) motivation letter (30%). The jury may choose to conduct an interview with the top 2 (two) classified candidates total of criteria a) and b), aimed at obtaining clarifications, additional information and/or explanation of elements presented. In this case, the sum of the evaluations obtained in criteria a) and b) 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:** President of the jury – Margarida Gama-Carvalho, 1^o effective member – Hugo Botelho 2^o effective member – Francisco Pinto; 1^o Alternate member – Carlos Farinha; 2^o Alternate member – Bárbara Henriques.

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 03/03/2025 to 12/03/2025 .

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;}
- c. Motivation letter.

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/>.

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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 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>.