

**COMPETITION FOR THE AWARD OF 1 (ONE) RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP, UNDER THE "RAPID AND LOW-COST DIAGNOSIS FOR CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY TYPING USING FTIR" PROJECT (INVo60596), FUNDED BY THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION UNDER THE GRAND CHALLENGES ANNUAL MEETING 2022 SUPPORT PROGRAM, CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE AT UCIBIO, FACULTY OF PHARMACY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTO**

The current competition is open for the award of 1 (one) research scholarship aimed at conducting Research and Development (R&D) activities leading to the attainment of a master's degree or for individuals holding a master's degree enrolled in a non-degree course integrated into an educational project of a higher education institution, under the "Rapid and Low-Cost Diagnosis for Clinical Microbiology Typing Using FTIR" Project (INVo60596). This project is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation under the Grand Challenges Annual Meeting 2022, and it is currently ongoing at the UCIBIO Research Unit, associated laboratory i4HB, Microbiology Laboratory at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Porto, under the following conditions:

**1. Research field / Scientific area:** Health Sciences, Biological Sciences.

**2. Admission requirements:**

To apply for the research scholarship, applicants must comply with the following requirements, for which documentary evidence must be provided:

- a) Bachelor's degree in Life and Health Sciences, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Biotechnology, or related fields<sup>1</sup>;
- b) Be enrolled in a master's program at a higher education institution; or hold a master's degree and be enrolled in a non-degree program integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association with one or more R&D units, to be proven before the hiring process<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> If the academic degree has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, in accordance with the provisions of article 25 of Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16, which approves the legal framework for the recognition of academic degrees and diplomas from foreign higher education institutions, and paragraph e) of no. 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law no. 60/2018, of August 3. Any formalities established therein must be completed by the date of hiring. The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas, as well as the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese grading scale, can be requested at any public higher education institution or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, only for cases of automatic recognition).

For more information, it is recommended to consult the DGES portal at the following address: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

<sup>2</sup> The proof of enrollment must be submitted by the date of hiring, and candidates may attach a sworn statement confirming that they meet the enrollment conditions for application purposes.

### **3. Preferred requirements:**

- a) Previous laboratory experience in classical bacteriology (preparation of culture media, aseptic technique, bacterial isolation and phenotypic identification methods) and molecular biology;
- b) Knowledge in epidemiology of resistance and bacterial typing.

### **4. Work Plan:**

The main tasks to be performed under the scholarship are:

- a) Acquisition and organization of databases of FT-IR spectra of bacterial isolates from different species;
- b) Analysis and comparison of spectra using artificial intelligence methods;
- c) Support in the development and/or validation of experimental protocols for the recovery of bacteria from complex samples.

### **5. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:**

Portuguese Law no. 40/2004, dated August 18 (Scientific Research Fellow Statute) in its current wording; Regulation 184/2021 of 3 March, as amended by Resolution No. 1301/2021, published in D.R., 2nd series, on 22 December 2021; Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16th (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions); Administrative Procedure Code (CPA), approved by Decree-Law No. 4/2015, of January 7th, and others.

### **6. Workplace:**

The work plan will be developed at the UCIBIO Research Unit, associated laboratory i4HB, Microbiology Laboratory at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Porto, or in other locations necessary for the execution of the work plan, under the scientific guidance of Dr. Ângela Novais and Prof. Dr. Luísa Peixe.

### **7. Duration:**

The scholarship will have a duration of 6 (six) months, with the possibility of the scholarship contract being eventually renewed for equal or different periods, during the eligibility of the current funding of the Research and Development Unit and/or the available period for the execution of the work plan, under an exclusivity regime. The maximum period for granting

the scholarship will be defined in accordance with the Research Scholarship Regulations of the University of Porto for the type of scholarship awarded.

### **8. Monthly maintenance allowance amount:**

8.1. The scholarship amount is 930.98€, in accordance with the values table of the Regulation. Payment will be made by FFUP through bank transfer. In addition to this subsidy, the scholarship holder will be covered by personal accident insurance.

8.2. The scholarship holder may join the Voluntary Social Security Scheme (valid for a scholarship contract of 6 months or longer), and in case of joining, the reimbursement corresponds to the 1st tier of the contributory base incidence of Social Security.

### **9. Evaluation methods:**

9.1. Curriculum Assessment (AC), and, if deemed necessary, the Selection Interview (EP) for the top 3 candidates based on the AC.

The Final Grade (CF) will be obtained using the following formula, on a scale of 0 to 100 points:

$$CF = 0,7 \times AC + 0,3 \times E$$

If there is no interview, the final score (CF) will be determined by Curriculum Assessment (AC) (CF = AC)

9.2. The factors targeted for **curriculum evaluation (AC)** are:

- a) Previous laboratory experience in the field of Clinical Bacteriology, particularly in bacterial isolation, aseptic technique, and phenotypic methods of bacterial identification (50%);
- b) Knowledge in the field of antibiotic resistance epidemiology and bacterial typing (20%);
- c) Previous experience in molecular biology techniques applied to bacteria (20%);
- d) Participation and/or organization of scientific meetings (10%).

9.3. The factors for evaluating the **selection interview (E)**, if conducted, will be:

- a) Ability to demonstrate the interest in previously acquired training and the suitability of skills to the project to be developed (60%);

- b) Motivation and availability for performing the functions outlined in the work plan (40%).

9.4. The failure of candidates to attend the interview phase of the selection process is considered equivalent to withdrawing from the competition, resulting in their exclusion from the procedure.

9.5. In the event that none of the candidates demonstrates possessing the required profile for the execution of the work plan, the Jury reserves the right not to award the scholarship.

## **10. Selection panel:**

President – Dr. Luisa Maria Sobreira Vieira Peixe, Associate Professor at FFUP;

1<sup>st</sup> effective member – Dr. Ângela Patrícia da Silva Novais Amorim, Assistant Researcher at UCIBIO

2<sup>nd</sup> effective member – Dr. Filipa Maria Fortio Mourato Teixeira Grosso, Researcher at UCIBIO;

1<sup>st</sup> alternate member – Dr. Ana Raquel Pinho Freitas, Assistant Professor at IUCS-CESPU;

2<sup>nd</sup> alternate member – Dr. Patrícia Sofia Carneiro Antunes, Associate Professor at FCNAUP.

## **11. Disclosure of the results:**

11.1. The final evaluation results will be disclosed via email provided during the application process.

11.2. In accordance with Article 121 and subsequent articles of the Administrative Procedure Code, the draft of the final ranking is notified to the candidates by email for them to express their views for the purpose of holding a prior hearing.

11.3. The final decision must be made within a maximum period of 60 working days after the conclusion of the prior hearing of interested parties or the public consultation.

## **12. Reserve list:**

Based on the final ranking list, a reserve list will be established for use until June 2024. This list will be used for the potential hiring of new scholarship holders within the scope of the current project or in the case of withdrawal by the candidate ranked first. In the event that

none of the candidates demonstrates possessing the required profile for the execution of the work plan, the jury reserves the right not to award the scholarship.

In case of withdrawal by the candidate ranked first, the highest authority of the Faculty reserves the right to call the next candidate and so on until the vacancy is filled. This process will be based on the reserve selection list, which can be used up to 6 (six) months from the date of the approval of the results of this competition. For this purpose, a "reserve selection list" will be created, corresponding to the final ranking list.

### **13. Submission of applications:**

13.1. The Call for Applications is open until **February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024** (10 working days).

13.2. Applications for the competition should be submitted through the online application submission system available on the website [FFUP - Processos de Recrutamento](#) accompanied by the following documents:

- a) *Curriculum vitae*, with full name and address indication;
- b) Bachelor's degree certificate and the respective recognition of the academic degree (to be submitted until the hiring);
- c) Copy of the enrollment certificate for the ongoing master's degree (to be submitted until the hiring) [if the candidate is in the condition of "b) Be enrolled in a master's degree at a higher education institution (...)];
- d) Copy of the master's degree certificate and the respective recognition of the academic degree (to be submitted until the hiring) [if the candidate is in the condition of "b) (...) hold a master's degree and be enrolled in a non-degree program integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association with one or more R&D units (...)];
- e) Copy of the enrollment certificate in a non-degree program (to be submitted until the hiring) [if the candidate is in the condition of "b) (...) hold a master's degree and be enrolled in a non-degree program integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association with one or more R&D units (...)];
- f) Documentary evidence of preferred conditions, including letter(s) of recommendation/reference (if applicable)
- g) Declaration of eligibility (attached).

13.3. Candidates may also include other documents they deem relevant for curriculum evaluation.

13.4. Failure to submit the document mentioned in item a) during the application process will result in the administrative exclusion of candidates.

13.5. It is requested that supporting documents be attached to the application without resorting to links to external platforms/drives. To ensure the readability of all documents, the preferred recording format is the *Portable Document Format (.pdf)*. Files should be named with the first and last name of the candidate and should not exceed, collectively, 5 MB. They may be compressed in *.zip* format.

**14.** The University of Porto actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access so that no applicant may be privileged, benefited, damaged, or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty due to ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, ethnic origin, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions, and trade union membership.

STATEMENT

(for the purpose of applying for a Research Fellowship)

For the purposes of complying with the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 10 of the Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Porto, I declare that:

I have not entered into any Research Fellowship contract to date under the Research Fellowship Statute;

To date, I have entered into the following EBI Research Grant agreements:

| Scholarship Typology | Start Date | End Date | Contracting Entity |
|----------------------|------------|----------|--------------------|
|                      |            |          |                    |
|                      |            |          |                    |
|                      |            |          |                    |

I further declare that I meet the conditions of eligibility to join this scholarship, as required under the terms of the aforementioned regulation.

As it is true, I sign this declaration.

Date:

Signature:

**RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP CONTRACT**

**BETWEEN:**

**FIRST:** University of Porto, public foundation under private law, legal entity with NIPC 501413197 and NISS 20008871411, through its organic unit, \_\_\_\_\_ of the University of Porto, with administrative autonomy, headquartered at \_\_\_\_\_, with NIPC \_\_\_\_\_, represented in this act by Professor \_\_\_\_\_, as Director of the OU of the financing entity, hereinafter referred to as "First Party",

**SECOND:** \_\_\_\_\_ (name), bearer of citizen card No. \_\_\_\_\_, taxpayer No. \_\_\_\_\_ and beneficiary of Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_, resident in \_\_\_\_\_, hereinafter referred to as "Second Party",

Considering that:

The application requirements for awarding the scholarship under the \_\_\_\_\_ competition have been met (identification of the competition / reference of the notice of the opening of the call), the evaluation process of the candidates and dissemination of the results has been completed and the required documentation has been received.

This research fellowship/science and technology management/ (other) agreement is entered into in good faith, and reciprocally accepted, under the Research Fellowship Statute, approved by Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, in accordance with current stipulations, and governed by the following clauses:

**CLAUSE ONE**

The First Party agrees to grant the Second Party a research grant \_\_\_\_\_, within the scope of the \_\_\_\_\_ project, beginning on \_\_\_\_\_, and ending on \_\_\_\_\_.

**CLAUSE TWO**

The Second Party declares to be aware of the FCT Research Scholarship Regulation, as it is subsidiarily applicable.

**CLAUSE THREE**

The Second Party agrees to carry out the work plan attached to this contract, the content of which it declares to have full knowledge and understanding, accepting all conditions without reservations, from the aforementioned start date and on an exclusive dedication basis, pursuant to article 5 of the Research Fellowship Holder's Statute.



#### CLAUSE FOUR

The Second Party will carry out the work at \_\_\_\_\_ of the University of Porto, which functions as a Host Institution, having as Scientific Advisor Professor:

Availability to start from November 1, 2022, to be indicated in the motivation letter.

#### CLAUSE FIVE

1. The amount of the monthly maintenance allowance awarded is € \_\_\_\_\_ (in writing).
2. The Second Party also benefits from personal accidents insurance during the length of the scholarship, the conditions of which it declares full awareness of and accepts without reservation.

#### CLAUSE SIX

The First Party may cancel the scholarship and the Second Party is obliged to refund all or part of the amounts received in the following cases:

- a) Serious and repeated non-compliance with the duties of the Second Party contained in the Statute of the Research Fellow and *the FCT Research Fellowship Regulation*, for reasons attributable to it;
- b) Negative evaluation of the Second Party's performance carried out by the supervisor or the host entity under the terms provided for in *the FCT Research Scholarship Regulation*;
- c) Provision of false statements by the Second Party on matters relevant to the granting and renewal of the scholarship or to the appreciation of its development.

#### CLAUSE SEVEN

Without changes to the provisions of the previous clause, this agreement automatically terminates with:

- a) The completion of the activity plan;
- b) The reaching of the deadline for which the scholarship is awarded;
- c) The repeated non-compliance by one of the parties;
- d) Revocation by mutual agreement;
- e) Establishment of a legal-work relationship with the host entity.
- f) Eligibility statement

#### **CLAUSE EIGHT**

1. The rights and duties of the parties are those resulting from the provisions of the Research Fellowship Holder Statute.
2. The Fellow declares to have taken note of the Research Fellow's Statute and the applicable Regulation(s) and commits to observing its provisions.

#### **CLAUSE NINE**

It is agreed between the parties that in case of need and to resolve any issues arising from this contract, the Court of the District of Porto will have jurisdiction, expressly waiving any other.

#### **CLAUSE TEN**

Any change to be made to the contract in the course of its execution will be subject to prior written agreement.

#### **CLAUSE ELEVEN**

1. This contract takes effect on the date of its signature by both parties.
2. The concrete definition of the activities referred to in the previous paragraph is the responsibility of the First Party, after hearing the Second Party and the Scientific Advisor, and they must be present in the definition of activities as well as when signing the agreement, as stated in the previous clause.

#### **CLAUSE TWELVE**

1. The Second Party agrees to keep confidential any information of a confidential nature to which it has access during the provision of its work, and to use it only for the purpose of complying with the provisions of this scholarship agreement and for the benefit of the First Party.
2. The Second Party, in the exercise of its functions, is bound by the specific duty of professional secrecy, under the terms and in accordance with the current legislation regarding the protection of personal data, remaining applicable even after the termination, for any reason, of the effects of this scholarship agreement.
3. The Second Party further acknowledges that all documents containing confidential information are the exclusive property of the First Party, and the Second Party is obliged to keep such documents always properly protected and to return them before the end of the scholarship agreement.

#### **CLAUSE THIRTEEN**

1. The First Party, better identified in this agreement, is responsible for the processing of the Second Party's personal data.

2. The personal data collected and processed are those strictly necessary for the execution of this scholarship agreement and for compliance with the legal provisions to which the First Party is bound.
3. The processing of this data will be carried out in accordance with the current legislation on the protection of personal data and in accordance with the data protection policy of the University of Porto.
4. The First Party provides the second party with information regarding the processing of its data, in compliance with the principle of lawfulness, loyalty and transparency (attached document that forms an integral part of this contract).

#### CLAUSE FOURTEEN

1. 1. The industrial property rights over the inventions or creations made by the Fellow during the execution of this contract belong to the University of Porto.
2. The University of Porto guarantees, as a general principle, the attribution of copyright to the Second Party for any literary, scientific and artistic works conceived and made by the scholarship holder.
3. The exception to the previous point is in regards to works that have been created at the request of the University or to be published or disseminated on behalf of the University, as the University will be organising and directing their production.

This contract is made in duplicate and a copy is intended for each of the grantors, with a copy being sent to the scientific advisor.

Attached: work plan signed by the Second Party and the Scientific Advisor.

Porto, \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

**The First Party**

**The Second Party**

(Professor X)

NAME

## **Attachments to the Agreement**

### **Disclosure of usage of personal data**

#### **1. Purposes of data processing**

Personal data is collected for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes, and may not be further processed in a manner incompatible with those purposes.

In this context, the processing has as its exclusive purpose the management of human resources and fulfilment of obligations and exercise of specific rights of the data manager or the data subject in relation to the applicable legislation, namely social protection, administrative management of the activity, insurance policy subscription and personal accident process management.

#### **2. Lawfulness of data processing**

The processing of the personal data collected is necessary for the execution of the contract to which the data subject is a party, and for compliance with the legal provisions to which the data manager is obliged.

The personal data processed are adequate, relevant and strictly necessary to carry out the aforementioned purposes, respecting the principle of minimization.

#### **3. Recipients of the data**

Within the scope of this contract, the data will be communicated to the competent entities by virtue of a legal provision, or at the request of the data subject.

#### **4. Retention period:**

Whenever there is no specific legal requirement, the data will be stored and kept in a way that allows the identification of the holders, only for the amount of time necessary to fulfil the purposes that motivated their collection and treatment.

The information may not be kept beyond 10 years after the termination of the employment relationship.

Personal data may be kept for a maximum period of one year after the termination of the employment, without harm to its conservation in case of judicial proceedings beyond that period, up to a limit of six months after the final decision.

#### **5. Rights of data subjects**

The data subjects are guaranteed the right to information, access, rectification, limitation of processing and deletion of their personal data, provided that it does not go against other legally protected rights or interests.

## **6. Principle of integrity and confidentiality**

Personal data is processed in such a way as to ensure its security and confidentiality, including protection against its unauthorised or unlawful processing and against its accidental loss, destruction or damage.

For more information about data collection and processing, the U. Porto recommends the consultation of the Personal Data Protection Policy of U. Porto, which is available on SIGARRA of U. Porto (institutional website), on the home page under "Data Protection Policy", and is also available on the organisational website, under the "Data Protection" tab.

**RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES FINAL REPORT TEMPLATE**

**(to be completed by the Fellow)**

**Identification of the Fellow**

Full Name:

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**Scholarship Identification**

Scholarship type

Reference:

From \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Project Name and Host Institution:

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Field of work

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Main Researcher /Scientific Advisor:

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**Evaluation criteria (to be completed by the advisor)**

**Activities Developed:**

**Deviations from the plan and justifications:**

**Publications and works prepared within the scope of the scholarship:**

Fellowship holder

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Scientific advisor:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: