CALL FOR APPLICATION FOR A RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP
Refª: BIO-K – BI_1

Portuguese version

A call for applications is open for one Research Scholarship within the scope of the project "BIO-K - Development of Freeze-Dried Kombucha Cultures for Industrial Application", funded by the ERDF through the Innovation and Digital Transition Program (COMPETE2030-FEDER-02288700) under the management of the National Innovation Agency (ANI), under the following conditions:

Scientific Area(s): Biological Sciences

Scope and Legal Framework

This call is governed by the scholarship regulations in force and, specifically, by the ANI funding rules applicable to the respective project.

In strict compliance with these guidelines, absolute preference will be given to hiring candidates holding a Doctoral degree (PhD) in the requested field of study or related areas. Candidates holding a master's degree will only be considered for hiring under the following exceptional conditions:

a. If no candidates holding a Doctoral degree apply for the call; or
b. If the admitted candidates holding a Doctoral degree do not belong to the intended field of study and/or do not possess the specific experience required for the technical-scientific profile of the project.

Admission Requirements:

General Requirements:

1. Candidates for the Research Scholarship must hold a master's degree in Microbiology or related fields.
2. Candidates for the Research Scholarship must also be enrolled in, or commit to enrolling in, a non-degree-granting course integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units that promotes the consolidation of their scientific training.[1].

[1] *Candidates are given the possibility, at the application stage, to submit only a declaration of commitment to enroll in a course that does not confer an academic degree under the terms mentioned above. If the candidate is selected, the delivery failure of the effective enrollment document for the course, within ten working days, following the date of communication of the selection, will be considered as withdrawal of the candidate for the scholarship investigation for which you were selected*

Specific Requirements:

Candidates must have research knowledge/experience in the following areas:

a. Mastery of concepts and methodologies in the field of Food Microbiology;
b. Community analysis using culture-dependent and culture-independent techniques;
c. Preservation and stabilization of microorganisms;
d. Chemical analyses by gas chromatography and mass spectrometry or atomic emission spectrometry.

Preferential Factors:

A track record of collaboration in research projects with industry, distribution, or other non-academic entities will be considered a preferential factor.

Work Plan and Objectives to be Achieved:

The activities of the scholarship holder to be hired encompass the analysis of the microbial and chemical dynamics of the fermentation process, and the optimization of microbial concentrate preparation processes and storage conditions to ensure the viability and functionality of the cultures, culminating in the validation of proofs of concept and the dissemination of the results obtained.

Applicable Legislation and Regulations:

- Research Fellow Statute (*Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação* - EBI), approved by Law No. 40/2004 of 18 August, as amended: dre.pt
- Research Grants Regulation of Universidade Católica Portuguesa in force: ucp.pt;
- Research Grants Regulation of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. (Regulation No. 950/2019 of 16 December, as amended), applicable on a subsidiary basis whenever grants are directly or indirectly funded by FCT: dre.pt;
- Rules and other guidelines stemming from mandates of the funding agency for the position open for application.

Workplace:

The work will be carried out at CBQF - Centre for Biotechnology and Fine Chemistry, in Porto, under the scientific supervision of Prof. Dr. Paula Teixeira.

Duration of the scholarship:
The scholarship, which is expected to begin on January 1, 2027, will have a duration of 12 months on an exclusive basis.

Monthly maintenance allowance amount:
The amount of the scholarship corresponds to 1359,64 Euros. according to the research scholarship values awarded directly by FCT, I.P. in the Country (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf) and will be paid by bank transfer. This stipend amount will remain unchanged regardless of whether the selected candidate holds a Master's degree or a Doctoral degree (PhD), in accordance with the funding rules and limits approved by the National Innovation Agency (ANI) for this position.

Selection methods:
The selection methods to be used will be the following: i) curriculum (50%); ii) previous experience (50%). If necessary, the 3 best positioned candidates may be interviewed, and in this situation, the weighting will be curricular evaluation (45%).; ii) previous experience (40%) and selection interview (15%).

Only candidates with a final classification equal to or greater than 80, on a scale of 0 to 100, will be selected for this position.

Applications that do not meet the admission requirements, delivered on time and incomplete applications will be considered ineligible.

Composition of the Selection Jury: President of the Jury: Prof Paula Teixeira, Effective Members: Prof Tim Hogg and Dr Joana Barbosa. Substitute Jury: Dr Beatriz Nunes Silva.

Form of advertising/notification of results:
The jury deliberates in accordance with the selection criteria adopted and disclosed. The jury meetings minutes will contain a summary of the meeting content. After completing the application of the selection criteria, the jury proceeds with the elaboration of the ordered list, with the ranking of the approved candidates. The ranking list of eligible candidates will be published on the premises of the Universidade Católica Portuguesa, in Porto, located at Rua de Diogo Botelho, 1327, 4169-005 Porto - Portugal, with each candidate being notified of his/her position on the list ranking of candidates via email. Ineligible applicants will be notified by email, with details of the missing eligibility elements.

Complaint and appeal procedures:
Candidates have a period of ten working days, after the disclosure referred to in the previous number, to give their opinion at a prior hearing.

Deadline for acceptance of the scholarship:
Within ten working days following notification of the grant award, the selected candidate must confirm in writing his/her availability to start the scholarship on the proposed date. Failing to do so or not having availability, the candidate placed in the next position will be called.

Application deadline and form of submission:

Candidates submit their application from November 17, 2026 until November 30, 2026 (until 5 pm, Lisbon time).

Applications are formalized by completing the **Application Form** https://hr-ucpporto.inqueritos.porto.ucp.pt/949627?lang=en

It will be necessary to submit the following documents:

1) Cover letter, identifying the title and reference of the project, describe the motivation and professional objectives of the candidate.
2) Detailed Curriculum Vitae (should contain all the elements to assess the admission requirements, including language knowledge and research experience).
3) Copy of the certificate(s) of qualifications conferring academic degree in the terms requested in the notice, which contain the final classifications.
4) Registration of recognition of the academic degree awarded by a foreign higher education institution, preferably with the registration of the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale to guarantee eligibility in this call for application[2].
5) Proof of enrolment in a non-degree-granting course or a declaration of honour committing to enrol, in accordance with the admission requirements.[3]

Only applications received during the opening period of the above-mentioned call shall be considered. Candidates who incorrectly formalize their application or who do not prove the requirements of this call are excluded. False statements made by applicants will be punished under the law.

Privacy Policy:

Universidade Católica Portuguesa is the controller responsible for the processing of Personal Data in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 – General Regulation on Data Protection.

The personal data processed in the scope of this tender procedure is processed within the framework of said tender procedure only and will be processed by Universidade Católica Portuguesa with the purpose of verifying the fulfilment, by the candidates, of the assumptions established in the applicable legislation for their contracting. Opposition to the processing of data by the candidates will make it impossible to accept the application and, therefore, to analyse and evaluate it.

The personal data of the Data Subject, if it be indispensable for the fulfilment of the obligations of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, may be conveyed to third parties, namely to the Financing Entities identified in this announcement.

The data retention period shall correspond to the legally defined period of five years.

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[2] *If the required academic degree has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with the Portuguese legislation on the recognition of foreign degrees, regulated by DL no. 66/2018 of 16 August.*

Applicants are advised to consult the website of the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES) for additional information on this matter: https://www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/reconhecimento.

[3] *Candidates are given the possibility, at the application stage, to submit only a declaration of commitment to enroll in a course that does not confer an academic degree under the terms mentioned above. If the candidate is selected, the delivery failure of the effective enrollment document for the course, within ten working days, following the date of communication of the selection, will be considered as withdrawal of the candidate for the scholarship investigation for which you were selected*

The Data Subject is entitled to oppose to the collection and processing of data, has the right to verification, the right to rectification, the right to deletion, and the right to restriction of processing of the data collected. However, the exercise of such rights may be excluded when the personal data is used to protect public interest, namely in the detection and prevention of crimes or when subject to professional rules of confidentiality.
The Data Subject has the right of access and portability of the data.
Rights of Personal Data Subjects: https://www.ucp.pt/rights-data-subjects.
For purposes of exercising the respective rights, contact the University through the e-mail address compliance.rgpd@ucp.pt or by using the address found at the end of this announcement, through the means set out in "Contacts for clarification".
The Data Subject is always entitled to contact and file a complaint with the Comissão Nacional de Proteção de Dados (Portuguese Supervisory Authority for Personal Data).

Non-discrimination and equal access policy:
Universidade Católica Portuguesa actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, family and economic conditions, instruction, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions, and union membership.

If you have any questions about this position, please contact:
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