

CALL FOR AN INITIATION RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship Reference IMM/BII/20-2024

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for one (1) Initiation Research Fellowship under the project "**Innovation Pact "HfPT - Health from Portugal"**" with the funding support from Mobilizing Agendas/Alliances for Business Innovation - Component 5 of the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP), under call for proposals nr 02/CO5-i01/2022.

Scientific Area(s): Neurosciences

Fellowship recipients / Admission requirements: Any national or foreign citizens of European Union member states, citizens of third countries, stateless persons and citizens benefiting from political refugee status who meet the requirements to be enrolled in a non-academic degree course in an area related to the work plan of the grant are eligible to apply to this call.

Are considered "Non-academic degree courses" the ones referred in [paragraph e\) of number 3 of article 4 of Decree-Law nr 74/2006, from 24th March](#), in its current version, as long as they are developed in association and cooperation between a higher education institution and at least one R&D Unit in accordance with the provisions of paragraph e) of Article 3 of FCT Fellowship Regulation.

Applicants must hold the following requirements:

- MSc degree in Neurosciences;
- Practical course on Laboratory Animal Science (rodents);
- Experience in animal use, sacrifice, and dissection (rodents);
- Experience in electrophysiological recordings in the hippocampus;
- Experience in interpretation of virtual screening of compounds;
- Experience in primary neuronal cultures and molecular assays, (namely western blot);
- The international experience of the candidates, although not a decisive criterion for selection, will be valued.

Work Plan and Objectives

- To evaluate the efficacy of selected compounds (by virtual screening) *in vitro* in primary neuronal cultures.
- To evaluate *ex vivo* the efficacy of selected compounds by electrophysiological recordings in hippocampal slices in order to assess the magnitude of long-term potentiation (LTP).

Legislation and Applicable Regulation: Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação (Lei n.º 40/2004, de 18 de Agosto, republished in attachment to Decreto-Lei n.º 202/2012, de 27 de Agosto, changed by **Decreto-Lei n.º 123/2019, 28 de Agosto**), current Regulation of Fellowships of iMM and iMM Career By-Law and Assessment regulations.

Predicted start date, duration and renewal conditions: The fellowship contract is predicted to start in June 2024, for a period of six (6) months on an exclusive basis, eventually renewable until the maximum stipulated in the applicable regulation not exceeding the eligibility period of the project.

Work place and Scientific Orientation: The research activities will be developed at Laboratory of Neuronal Communication & Synaptopathies of MM, under the supervision of Maria José Diógenes.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: iMM undertakes to ensure compliance with the principles of non-discrimination and equality and to that extent, provides that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty due in particular ancestry, age, gender, sexual

orientation, marital status, family status, economic status, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, ethnic origin or race, place of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and trade union membership.

International environment and experience: Diversity is a fundamental aspect of the essence of IMM, where researchers and non-researchers of different nationalities, backgrounds and areas of study work together, promoting the exchange of experiences and interactions, contributing to the personal and professional development of each person and to the existence of an international, inclusive and stimulating environment.

Research Fellows Support Centre: The Research Fellows Support Centre works on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM to 6:00PM at Human Resources Office.

Fellowship financial conditions: The fellow will benefit from a monthly stipend in the amount of **1.259,64€**. The amount will be paid by wire transfer at the end of each month. The fellow will also benefit from a personal accident insurance to execute the proposed research activities as well as the right to Social Security through Voluntary Social Insurance regimen, if wanted, under the terms of Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social, and the contributions costs will be supported by the research project.

Application documents: - Motivation Letter; - Detailed CV; - MSc degree certificate; - Animal course certification; - Candidate's declaration of honor indicating previous fellowships, if any, its typology and duration. ***The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.*** In case the applicant does not have yet the required degree certificate, a declaration of honor stating the conclusion of the necessary qualifications for the purposes of this process will be accepted and must be sent by the end date of the call.

Jury evaluation and selection: The applications will be assessed by a jury composed of Professors Maria José Diógenes, (FMUL, IMM), Francisco Enguita (FMUL, IMM) and Ana Maria Sebastião (FMUL, IMM).

Selection methods: Curriculum evaluation (50%) and Interview (50%). Only candidates who obtain a classification equal to or greater than 40% in Phase 1 will be selected for interview.

Deadlines and application process: **The call will be open from 8th of May until 21th of May 2024** (10 working days). Applications should be submitted through IMM website, by clicking in the "Apply" button below the position job ad. ***The non-compliance with these requirements determines the immediate rejection of the application.***

Notification of results: The evaluation results will be announced within 90 days after the termination of the applications submission deadline, by writing and publishing a jury meeting minute at IMM website at <https://imm.medicina.ulisboa.pt/jobs/#results> with all process of recruitment, evaluation and selection including a list of all excluded and admitted candidates and for these last ones, their classification. All admitted candidates will be notified by email.

Preliminary Hearing and Final Decision Deadline: After notification, all candidates have 10 working days to respond. Panel's final decisions are pronounced within a period of 90 days, from application deadline.

Selection reserve list: Non applicable

Fellowship contracting: The Fellowship is granted through the signature of a [contract](#) between IMM and the selected fellow and after the fellow send the following mandatory documents: copy of identification document (in case of non-European citizens is mandatory the work visa / valid resident permit), document proving the required academic degree and the document proving the enrollment in a / non-academic degree course. For each Fellowship period an [Activity Report](#) must be prepared by the fellow as well as the [Report](#) by the supervisor.

Lisbon, 7th of May 2024

The Executive Director of IMM
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota

