

CALL FOR A POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship Reference IMM/BII/30-2022

Instituto de Medicina Molecular João Lobo Antunes (iMM) opens a call for an Initiation Research Fellowship for a master degree with the funding support "La Caixa" Banking Foundation, under the project "***Mechanism and function of epitranscriptomic poly(A) tail modifications in African trypanosomes***" (TRYP6A).

Scientific Area: Molecular, Cellular and Genetic Parasitology.

Fellowship recipients / Admission requirements:

Any National, foreign and stateless candidate(s) that fulfill the necessary conditions to be enrolled in a non-academic degree course (in an area related to the work plan) can apply.

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:

- Master in Biology or related fields.
- Preference will be given to candidates with experience in RNA biology.
- Experience in molecular cell biology techniques, namely, genetic screens, quantitative PCR, molecular cloning and transfection.
- Organizational and methodological skills.
- Excellent knowledge of spoken English.

Work Plan and Objectives: In the last decade, RNA modifications have been identified as key players in regulation of gene expression. By studying an ancient organism (*Trypanosoma brucei*), we discovered that poly(A) tails can be methylated and modulate messenger RNA stability (Viegas I *et al.*, Nature 2022). The goals of this project are to characterize the evolution of poly(A) modifications, to investigate their biotechnological applications and to report the project's findings in activities of scientific dissemination.

Law and 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 October 2022, for a period of 12 (twelve) months on an exclusive basis, eventually renewable until the maximum stipulated in applicable regulations, not exceeding the eligibility period of the project.

Work place and Scientific orientation: The research activities will be developed at LFIGUEIREDO Lab of iMM, under the supervision of Luisa Figueiredo, PhD.

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 monitoring center works on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00AM to 6:30PM at Human Resources Office.

Fellowship financial conditions: The fellow will benefit from a monthly stipend in the amount of **1200€** in accordance with the applicable regulation. 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: - One page motivation Letter written in English; - Detailed CV, including a list of publications, research grants, prizes and technical expertise; - Master certificate; - Name and Contact of two references; - 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: Applications will be evaluated by a jury composed by Luisa Figueiredo (iMM), Sara Silva Pereira (iMM) and Abdulbasit Amin (iMM) (all PhD's).

Selection methods: 1st phase - CV and motivation letter (75%); 2nd phase - interview and references (25%). The jury will select for the interview (evaluation: 10%) the candidates who obtained in the first phase the highest ranking, with a minimum of 60%.

Deadlines and application process: The call will be open from **30th August until 12th September 2022.** 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: A reserve selection list will be created for a period of six months.

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 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, 29th August 2022

The Executive Director of IMM
Professor Maria Manuel Dias da Mota

 **"la Caixa" Foundation**