



PUBLIC NOTICE/0117/2026

OPENING NOTICE OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP FOR A PhD STUDENT (BI-M)

Reference: BI-M-CBR-2026-04

The Rector of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Prof. Dr. Isabel Capelo Gil, hereby announces the opening of an international call for applications for one Research Fellowship for a PhD student, under the terms of Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) regulations on scientific research grants, to carry out research activities in the scientific field of Biomedical Sciences and related areas, funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia through national funds, within the project entitled "Exploring Spiro- β -lactams as Therapeutic Agents Against RNA Virus-Induced Respiratory Infections", reference number 2023.16671.ICDT.

1. GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Be enrolled in a course leading to a doctorate degree.
- Not have benefited from a research grant for a doctoral student for more than four years, including the maximum duration of the grant to be awarded in this call.

2. SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must cumulatively meet the following mandatory requirements:

- a) Hold a Master's degree in Biomedical Sciences or a related area.
- b) Demonstrate previous experience working with viruses in Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) laboratory facilities.
- c) Hold certified training in Laboratory Animal Science for (EU functions A and D).
- d) Be available to carry out the activities foreseen in the work plan.

Failure to comply with any of the above requirements will result in exclusion from the selection process.

3. WORK PLAN

The fellow will perform research activities within the project, namely:

- Evaluation of the in vivo antiviral efficacy of selected spiro- β -lactam compounds in a mouse model of influenza A virus infection.
- In vivo experimental work under appropriate biosafety conditions and in accordance with the approved project authorization.
- Monitoring of disease progression and treatment efficacy.
- Collection and processing of biological samples and experimental data.
- Data analysis and interpretation.
- Contribution to scientific reports, conference presentations and publications.

4. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATIONS

Law n.º 40/2004, of 18 of August (Research Fellowship Holder Statute), altered by Decree-Law n.º 123/2019, of 28 of August and UCP Research Fellowship Regulation and FCT Research Fellowship Regulation.



5. WORKPLACE AND SCIENTIFIC GUIDANCE

The work will be developed at the Católica Biomedical Research Centre of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, located at Rua da Quinta Grande 6, Oeiras, Portugal, under the scientific supervision of Professor Marta Alenquer.

6. FELLOWSHIP'S DURATION AND START DATE

The fellowship will be awarded for a period of 12 months, in exclusive commitment. The fellowship is planned to start in January 2027.

7. MONTHLY MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

The fellowship's maintenance allowance is 1.359,64€ per month, paid monthly by wire transfer. The fellowship holder will be covered by work accident insurance.

If not covered by any social protection scheme, the fellowship holder can ensure the right to Social Security through adherence to the Voluntary Social Security scheme, pursuant to "Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social". Provided that the awarded fellowship has a minimum duration of 6 months, the fellowship holder will be entitled to be reimbursed, by UCP, of the charges resulting from the contributions that apply to the first bracket referred to in article 36 of Decree-Law no. 40/89, of 1 February, with the increase in charges arising from the option for the payment of a higher incidence base being paid by the fellow.

8. SELECTION METHOD

The candidates' final classification shall be presented on a scale of 0 to 100.

Candidates will be assessed based on 3 criteria:

- A. Academic curriculum assessment (40%): academic background and outputs (classification, papers published, conferences attended, outreach activities).
- B. Previous experience (40%): research experience relevant to the work plan, in particular in virology and in BSL-2 facilities.
- C. Motivation (20%): motivation letter and interest in the project.

If deemed necessary by the jury, the interview with the selected candidates will represent 30% of the final grade. The selection panel reserves the right not to select any candidate if it considers that none of the candidates has the required profile.

9. COMPOSITION OF THE SELECTION PANEL

President of the Jury: Professor Marta Alenquer

Effective Member: Professor Maria João Amorim

Effective Member: Professor Nelson Martins

10. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR APPLICATION

Applications are to be submitted in English and must include the following documents:

1. Letter elaborating on the motivations and objectives for applying to this position.



2. Curriculum Vitae, including all the elements to assess the admission requirements, namely all the research fellowships previously awarded, if applicable.
3. Proof of enrolment in a course leading to the degree of doctor, which may at the time of application be replaced by a declaration of honour from the candidate stating that they will be enrolled in a course leading to the degree of Doctor at the start date of the fellowship contract. The fellowship will not be awarded if the candidate does not provide proof of enrolment in a course leading to the degree of doctor at the time of contractualization.

11. DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Required documents should be sent by e-mail to malenquer@ucp.pt from **October 19th, 2026 to October 30th, 2026** (until 5 pm, Lisbon time) with the following reference in the Subject of the e-mail: BI-M-CBR-2026-04 - #Candidate's name#.

No document that should have been submitted at the application stage may be presented after the deadline set for this purpose in the opening notice. Failure to comply with the deadline set for the submission of the application, as well as the lack of submission or late submission of the documents referred to in this point will determine exclusion from the competition. False statements provided by the candidates are punishable by law.

12. DELIBERATION AND RELEASE OF THE RESULTS

The selection panel deliberates in accordance with the adopted and disclosed selection criteria. Minutes of panel meetings shall include a summary of the meeting content. After the application of the selection criteria, the panel shall prepare a ranked list of approved candidates and their respective classifications.

The final results of the evaluation will be sent by e-mail to all applicants within 90 working days after the deadline for the applications.

In the 10 working days after the communication of the final decision, the selected candidate must confirm in writing their availability to initiate the fellowship on the proposed date. In case of unavailability, the offer will be made to the next candidate in the ranked list.

13. PRIOR HEARING, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

In case of unfavourable decision, candidates will have 10 working days after notification to pronounce in a prior hearing, should they wish it, under the terms of the Code of Administrative Procedures. The final decision may be subject to a complaint within a period of 15 working days or, alternatively, of an appeal within a period of 30 working days, with both durations beginning on the date of the initial notification. The complaint or appeal should be addressed to the Rector's Office (Reitoria) of Universidade Católica Portuguesa. After this notification, and in case there are no allegations, the results will become definitive. Ineligible candidates will be notified by email, with details of the missing eligibility elements.

14. 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 submitted within the scope of this tender procedure is processed within the framework of said tender procedure only and will be treated 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.

The Data Subject is entitled to oppose 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.

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).

15. 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.

16. CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Católica Biomedical Research Centre, Rua da Quinta Grande 6, 2780-156 Oeiras

Human Resources Department

drh.sede@ucp.pt; 217 214 031/2

Lisbon, October 7, 2026

The Rector

