

#3789

Public Notice - International Selection Procedure

PhD Scientific Researcher Recruitment (Initial Stage Researcher)

FCiências.ID/2021/DL57/BioISI/20

FCiências.ID - Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências, through its Chairman of the Board of Directors, hereby announces the opening of an international call for the recruitment of a scientific researcher with a PhD degree, within the scope of the project miThic: microRNA-based cell-type specific targeting of Cas9 complexes for therapeutic purposes (Ref. EXPL/BTM-ORG/0982/2021), financed by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P./MCTES through national funds (PIDDAC), in the form of an indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract on an exclusive regime, according to the Portuguese Labour Code and Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of August 29th, as amended by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19th.

I. Admission Requirements

Portuguese nationals, foreign and stateless persons may submit applications to this selection procedure, provided they hold a doctoral degree¹ in Immunology and Infectious diseases or similar areas, have specialised skills and/or expertise in the field of Cell and Molecular Biology (or associated fields), and fully comply with the following requirements:

- a) The PhD must have been granted at least 5 years ago;
- b) Demonstrated scientific and/or professional experience in the area of immune system and immune response;
- c) The candidate must also have experience in molecular biology, specifically, microRNA function, and HIV infection;
- d) Knowledge in techniques of genetic engineering, molecular cloning, sequencing, animal cell culture and manipulation;
- e) Demonstrated previous scientific and/or professional experience in experimental research with Immune system cells.

¹ Please note that Degrees obtained in foreign countries need a Portuguese Recognition issued by a Portuguese high degree Institution, according to the [Decree-Law nr. 66/2018](#), of August 16th and the [Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019](#), of January 25th. The presentation of such Recognition is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained in: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.

II. Preferential Requirements

- a) R&D activity in vertebrate genetics/genomics and host-pathogen interactions;
- b) Experience in participation in national and/or international scientific projects in the scientific areas of this call for applications;
- c) Scientific publications: scientific experience demonstrated by a minimum number of 5 publications as 1st author in international scientific journals in the field of molecular biology/immunology;
- d) Relevant scientific and/or professional training: experience in writing research grants and ability to secure funding;
- e) Demonstrated experience in supervising postgraduate students in the scientific area(s) of this call for applications;
- f) Proficiency in Portuguese and English (written and spoken).

III. Applicable Law

1. Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of August 29th (RCD), in the wording conferred on it by Law No. 57/2017, of July 19th (RCD);
2. Portuguese Labour Code, as approved by Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th, in its current version (CT);
3. Regulatory Decree No. 11-A/2017, of December 29th;
4. Administrative Procedure Code, as published in Decree-Law No. 4/2015, of January 7th, in its current version (CPA).

IV. Work Plan

The objectives of the work plan are:

- 1) Generation of miRT-gRNA-miRT and dCas9 constructs targeting the HIV genome;
- 2) Validation of the miR-dependent expression of sgRNAs and dCas9 in multiple cell types;
- 3) Validation of cell type-specific re-activation of proviral DNA using latency models.

The work plan is included in tasks 1 to 4 of the project EXPL/BTM-ORG/0982/2021.

V. Composition of the Jury

In accordance to article 13 of the RCD, the members of the jury are:

- President – Prof. Margarida Gama Carvalho, Investigadora Principal do Projeto;
- 1st Member of the jury - Prof. Francisco Pinto, Investigador Principal do BioISI-GER;
- 2nd Member of the jury - Prof. Carlos Miguel Farinha, Investigador Principal do BioISI-FunGP;
- 1st Alternate Member of the jury - Dr. Peter Jordan, Investigador Principal do BioISI-GER;
- 2nd Alternate Member of the jury - Dr. Luisa Romão, Investigador Principal do BioISI-GER.

VI. Place of work

Work will be developed at the facilities of Research Center BioISI – BioSystems & Integrative Sciences Institute, in Campo Grande, Lisbon, Portugal.

VII. Contract Duration

The full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract is expected to start on January 2022, and will last until the Work Plan referred to in section IV is completed. It will have an expected duration of 9 months, will not exceed the limits set in the RCD.

VIII. Monthly Allowance

The gross monthly salary is stipulated in clause 1 a) of article 15 of the RCD, corresponding to level 33 of the Single Remuneratory Table, as approved by Government Order No. 1553-C/2008, of December 31st, updated by the decree-law nr. 10-B/2020, of March 20th, being 2.134,73 Euros, on an exclusive regime, plus holiday and Christmas allowances, as well as food allowance in the amount and conditions set out for workers with a legal employment relationship under the Labour Code.

IX. Evaluation of applications

1. Failure to comply with the Admission Requirements implies the non-admission of candidates in absolute merit.
2. According to article 5 of the RCD, the selection of the candidates approved in absolute merit will rely on the evaluation of their scientific and curricular achievements in the last five years, taking into consideration the quality and relevance of the scientific production, and the professional activity indicated as more relevant by the candidate, for the project.
3. The final classification of candidates is given on a scale of 0 to 100%.
4. Evaluation of the relative merit of candidates, will rely on the following criteria:
 - a) Participation in relevant scientific projects in the area - 40%;
 - b) Scientific publications in the area - 40%;
 - c) Pedagogical and outreach activities, in particular in the context of promoting scientific practices, organization of courses, seminars and conferences, in the area - 10%;
 - d) Assessment of the motivation letter and eventual references provided by the candidate - 10%;
 - e) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury - 10%.
5. The jury may decide to interview the two best ranked candidates [in criteria a) to d) of paragraph 4)], for clarifications and improved explanations of curricular elements. If there is an interview, the sum of the classification obtained in the evaluation criteria a) to d) will correspond to 90% of the final classification and the interview will correspond to 10%.
6. The jury shall deliberate by means of a roll-call vote based on the evaluation criteria.
7. Minutes of the jury meetings are drawn up, summarizing all relevant elements considered by jury members, as well as their individual votes and justifications.
8. After completion of the evaluation process, the jury will draw up a ranking of successful candidates with their classifications.
9. Hiring will be decided by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, based on the final jury recommendation.
10. The evaluation results will be published on the website of the FCIências.ID ("Concursos" tab). The candidates will be individually notified of the evaluation results by e-mail sent to the address indicated in the "Personal Data" section of the submitted form.
11. With the notification referred to in paragraph 10, the hearing phase of interested parties referred to in Article 121 *et seq.* of the CPA will begin, and last for ten working days.
12. The possible pronouncement of the candidate in a prior hearing must be addressed to the President of the jury and submitted in writing to concursos@fciencias-id.pt. The President of the jury will convene a jury's meeting to produce the final decision, within thirty working days.
13. Within five working days of the final jury decision, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID will approve it and the candidates will be notified.
14. The communication between FCIências.ID (concursos@fciencias-id.pt) and the candidates will be electronic and will comply with the following rules:

- a) At the time of electronic submission of any document - namely in the case of paragraph no 11 - the candidates must generate proof of "sent message".
- b) FCIências.ID will send an email message acknowledging documents received to the email address used by the candidates, within two working days.
- c) In case of absence of a confirmation receipt by FCIências.ID – showing the possibility of technical problems that should neither be the responsibility of the candidate nor FCIências.ID - the candidates should contact FCIências.ID, with the proof referred to in point (a), to ensure delivery and proper receipt of the documents concerned.

X. Compliance with public policies

1. FCIências.ID actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due to, inter alia, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, 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 beliefs and trade union membership.
2. Under the terms of D.L. No. 29/2001, of February 3, a disabled candidate has a preference in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare their respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication / expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the above-mentioned diploma.

XI. Submission of Applications

1. The present call will be open from 20th December to 31st December 2021.
2. The application and all the required documents may be submitted in Portuguese or English.
3. Applications will be submitted online, through the electronic platform of FCIências.ID (<http://concursos.fciencias-id.pt>).
4. On the electronic platform, applicants will complete a *mandatory* section on Personal Data [name, address, date of birth, contact email, nationality and scientific identifiers] and upload files with the documents listed below:
 - i. Detailed *curriculum vitae* - *mandatory* - **CV may be provided in PDF format or through the [CIÊNCIAVITAE](#) system;**
 - ii. A motivation letter clearly demonstrating that the candidate has an adequate profile for the position and fully complies with the Admission Requirements - *mandatory*;
 - iii. Up to five publications relevant for the objectives of the Work Plan - *mandatory*;
 - iv. Digital copies of documents proving formal academic degrees (PhD) and/or other scientific and professional qualifications - original documents must be provided in case of actual recruitment - *mandatory*;
 - v. Other documents that candidates consider relevant for the assessment of their scientific merit, including reference letters, or to declare the personal situation in the cases covered in section X-2 of this Notice - *optional*.
5. By decision of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of FCIências.ID, candidates who do not submit the documents identified in paragraph 4 will not be admitted to the call. In case of doubts, the Chairman may also invite candidates to substantiate specific data or statements with official supporting documents, before accepting the candidates' submission.

This Public Note was approved by the jury on 17th December 2021.