

#4124

Public Notice - International Selection Procedure

Two PhD Scientific Researchers Recruitment (Initial Stage Researchers)

FCiências.ID/2022/cE3c/16

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 two scientific researchers with a PhD degree, in the category of Initial Stage Researcher of the FCiências.ID Scientific Research Career, within the scope of the project SS-SARS2-WP: Systematic Surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 and its variants in wastewaters, Portugal (Ref. 060701/2021/864489/SUB/ENV.C2), financed by the European Union through the *Emergency Support Instrument*, under the Grant Agreement No. 060701/2021/864489/SUB/ENV.C2, in the form of an indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract, according to the Portuguese Labour Code and complementary legislation.

I. Admission Requirements

Portuguese nationals, foreign and stateless persons may submit applications to this selection procedure, provided they hold a doctoral degree¹ in Biology, Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, Genetics, Medicine, or related scientific fields, with a scientific and professional curriculum that reveals an adequate profile for the activity to be developed, and fully comply with the following requirements:

- a) The PhD must have been granted at least 6 months ago;
- b) Demonstrated scientific and/or professional experience in the computational analysis of microbial whole genome sequences, population genetics, and/or microbial phylodynamics – information provided on the CV;
- c) The candidate must also have research experience in infectious diseases – information provided on the CV;
- d) Proficiency in computational biology, e.g programming in R and/or Python – information provided on the CV.

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 the area of phylogenomics and/or phylodynamics for the study of pathogen transmission processes, in the last five years – information provided on the CV;
- b) R&D activity in the area of wastewater-based epidemiology – information provided on the CV;
- c) Participation in national and/or international scientific projects in the areas cited in a) and b) in the last five years – information provided on the CV;
- d) Scientific experience demonstrated by holding at least two publications as 1st author in international scientific journals in the area of genomics and/or microbial genetics, molecular epidemiology and/or phylodynamics – information provided on the CV;
- e) Experience in integrative approaches in the area of One Health – information provided on the CV;
- f) Scientific and/or professional training relevant to the development of the work plan underlying this project – information provided on the CV;
- g) Proficiency in Portuguese and English (written and spoken) – information provided on the CV.

III. Applicable Law

1. Portuguese Labour Code, as approved by Law No. 7/2009, of February 12th, in its current version (CT);
2. Administrative Procedure Code, as published in Decree-Law No. 4/2015, of January 7th, in its current version (CPA).

IV. Work Plan

The work plan tasks are inserted in Activities 2.4.5 (SARS-CoV-2 variant analysis) and 2.5.2 (Digital infrastructure- interoperability, reporting, documentation) of the project as follows: conducting scientific research in the area of wastewater-based epidemiology and genomic surveillance, performing molecular allelic discrimination assays and phylogenomic reconstruction of SARS-CoV-2 detected in wastewater, through the application of advanced computational tools for the analysis of whole genome sequences.

The candidate will also be responsible for participating in the organization of the various activities integrated in the above-referenced project, including: the planning and development of laboratory work; interaction with stakeholders and competent authorities; reporting and notification of results; preparation of documentation; preparation and writing of scientific papers; fostering collaborations in the thematic area of the project; and participating in extension and knowledge dissemination activities.

The work plan is included in the tasks of genomic surveillance under the responsibility of FCIências.ID of the aforementioned project.

V. Composition of the Jury

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

- President – Mónica Sofia Vieira Cunha (PhD);
- 1st Member of the jury – José Miguel Lima Lourenço (PhD);
- 2nd Member of the jury – Luís Miguel Rosalino (PhD);
- 1st Alternate Member of the jury – Ana Maria Gonçalves Reis (PhD);
- 2nd Alternate Member of the jury – Artur Lourenço (PhD).

VI. Place of work

Work will be developed at the facilities of Research Centre cE3c – Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Changes, in Campo Grande, Lisbon, Portugal.

VII. Contract Duration

The full-time indefinite duration fixed-term employment contract is expected to start in January 2023, and will last until the Work Plan referred to in section IV is completed. It will have an expected duration of 6 months, will not exceed the limits set in the CT.

VIII. Monthly Allowance

The gross monthly salary corresponds to 2.153,94 Euros, 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, and by the decree-law nr. 109-A/2021, of December 7th, 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. Based on the assessment of the candidates' scientific and curricular background in the last 5 years, each member of the jury presents a justified proposal for admission (final classification equal to or greater than 80%) or exclusion (final classification below 80%) for each candidate, according to the evaluation criteria referred to in paragraph 4.
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 field of computational biology, focused on the analysis of whole genome sequences, population genetics, molecular epidemiology and/or phylodynamics - 50%;
 - b) Scientific publications in the field of computational biology, focused on the analysis of whole genome sequences, population genetics, molecular epidemiology and/or phylodynamics - 40%;
 - c) Pedagogical, extension and knowledge dissemination activities, namely in the context of promotion of scientific practices, organization of courses, seminars and conferences of promotion and dissemination in the area of computational biology, molecular epidemiology, microbial genomics and/or microbial genetics - 10%;
 - d) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury - 10%.
5. The jury may decide to interview the three best ranked candidates [in criteria a) to c) 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 c) 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 12 - 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 11th November to 24th November 2022.
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* in PDF format - *mandatory*;
 - 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 10th October 2022.