

NOTICE N.º 017/2024

OPEN CALL FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION WITHIN THE TERMS LAID DOWN OF THE REGULATIONS FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE

TITLE: Two Research Grant (BI Lic)

It is now open a call for two Research Grant (BI Lic) within the project DivRestore/0009/2020 - DEEP REST - Conservation & restoration of deep-sea ecosystems in the context of deep-sea mining funded by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. (FCT I.P.), with the following conditions:

Research Field: Environmental Sciences or similar area.

Admission Requirements: Degree in Marine Biology or similar area, preferentially with experience in marine ecotoxicology, including laboratory experience in conducting bioassays and biomarkers analysis.

Work Plan: The grant holder will participate in several tasks, including: literature review, ecotoxicological bioassays, biomarker analysis, with the objective of understanding metal/organisms interactions, as early distress signals of damage to ecosystem health in the deep sea (hydrothermal vents and polymetallic nodule fields), essential to assess recovery potential and resilience. The grant holder should be involved in writing reports and scientific publications, and in presenting results in conferences.

Applicable Legislation and regulations: Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by the Law nº 40/2004, from 18 of August, conferred by the Decree Law 123/2019, from July 28th and the Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2019/12/241000000/0009100105.pdf>).

Working place: The work will be developed at Centro de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (CIMA) from the University of Algarve, under the scientific supervision of Nélia Cristina da Costa Mestre (PhD), Assistant Researcher at the Universidade do Algarve.

Duration of the grant: The grant will have a first contract of 6 months duration, beginning in May 2024. The contract may be renewed until the end of the project, considering Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2019/12/241000000/0009100105.pdf>).

Value of monthly maintenance allowance: The monthly maintenance allowance corresponds to €990,98. The maintenance allowance will be paid monthly by bank transfer.

Selection criteria will be as follows: According to article 11, no. 2 of the Research Grants Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology the selection criteria will be:

- applicant's merit (70%),
- motivation letter (30%).

In the applicant's merit, in order to find the adequate profile to the activities to be developed, the following criteria will be valued: academic merit (30%); experience in methods in marine ecotoxicology (30%); experience in conducting bioassays (20%); experience in biomarker analysis (20%).

The final classification system for candidates is expressed on a scale of 0-20, with a rating up to tenths.

The tender jury shall comprise the following members:

- Nélia Cristina da Costa Mestre (President)
- Cármen Sofia Vieira de Sousa (Effective member)
- Tainá Garcia da Fonseca (Effective member)
- Vânia Sofia Serrão de Sousa (Substitute member)

Publication and notification of the results: Final results will be publicized through an ordered list according to the final grade and posted in a conspicuous and public local of Centro de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (CIMA) and communicated to the applicants by e-mail to the addresses indicated by each candidate.

Deadline for applications and submission forms: the call is open from **02/05/2024 to 15/05/2024**
Applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

- Official identification document (simple copy or legal equivalent). If you have a nationality other than Portuguese, you should present a residence permit, permanent residence certificate or long-term resident status, valid on the scholarship start date, any of which may be replaced, in its absence, by a declaration of commitment. However, one of the previous must be delivered at the contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the granting of the scholarship;
- Copy of the qualification certificates of the academic degrees held, specifying the final classification and, if possible, the classifications obtained in all subjects taken;
- If the degree has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must conform to the rules established in Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of August 16, and all required formalities must be complied with up to the date of termination deadline for submission of the application. If the completed process is not found until the end of the application deadline, the candidate must prove that he / she has requested the recognition of the degree.
- Curriculum Vitae;
- Motivation letter, up to 500 words;
- Taxpayer Identification Number (NIF), if you have a nationality other than Portuguese, it must be submitted during the scholarship contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;
- Other documents considered important
- The Application Request, dated and signed, must be addressed to the President of the Evaluation Panel (<https://www.ualg.pt/sites/default/files/documentos/2022-12/anexo-iii-requerimento-para-candidatura-bolsa-en.pdf>) for the following address: A/C Nélia Mestre, CIMA - Universidade do Algarve, Edifício 7, Campus de Gambelas, 8005-139 Faro or by email to: ncmestre@ualg.pt, mentioning the call number in the subject. The applicant must duly express his/her consent that all notifications regarding this application are sent to the email address given.

Grant contract Documents

-Supporting documents stating that the applicant gathers all the requirements for this grant, namely the enrolment certificate in an awarding degree study cycle or in a postgraduate course;

-Supervisor Declaration taking the responsibility for the Work plan supervision, according to article 5º-A of the Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, as well as assuring the necessary conditions for the development of the work plan and in compliance with article 13º of the Statute of Scientific Research Fellow;

-Declaration of the Grant acceptance;

-Declaration of commitment stating the exclusivity regime

Complaints and Appeal Deadlines and procedures

On the decision for granting the Research Grant, candidates may, if they wish, comment on the hearing of interested parties, within 10 working days, under the terms provided for in the Administrative Procedure Code.

From the practice or omission of any act of the evaluation panel, candidates can complain to the body, within 10 working days.

The final decision of the evaluation panel can be appealed to the Rector within 15 working days after the respective notification.

Grant Contract

With the applicant(s) selected, and after receiving all the required documentation, a scholarship contract will be signed in accordance with the attached model.

Assessment of the grant holder(s)

At the end of each period of duration of the grant contract, the activity developed by the grant holder(s) is evaluated by the supervisor, by applying the following criteria, in accordance with the attached model:

- a) Fulfilment of objectives – assessment of the level of achievement of results by the grantee, taking into account the work plan (75%);
- b) Behavioural skills – assessment of personal characteristics highlighted during the assessment period, namely those related to professionalism and rigor in all activities carried out (15%);
- c) Personal attitude – assessment of the personal commitment and availability shown during the evaluation period, considering factors such as the effort made, the interest and motivation shown, as well as the receptivity of the guidance team's recommendations (10%).

University of the Algarve reserves the right to cancel this application procedure if by any means the contract celebration with the funding entity is not established.

University of Algarve, 22nd April 2024

Scientific Coordinator

Doctor Nélia Cristina da Costa Mestre