

EDITAL

ANNOUNCEMENT OF A RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP FOR MASTER'S DEGREE

Reference PRBI/2/2026

A call for applications is now open for a Master's Research Grant under project "THINNER – New therapeutic approaches to obesity based on neuroendocrine mechanisms of adipose tissue", with operation code COMPETE2030-FEDER-00768700, from the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, funded by Portugal 2030, the European Union, and national funds through FCT – Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P., under the Innovation and Digital Transition Operational Programme, under the following conditions:

The scholarship is intended for the implementation and development of the following activities:

- 1) Processing, preservation and analysis of samples from the project's animal models.
- 2) Preparation of biological samples for the assessment of gene and protein expression using high-throughput analysis.
- 3) Data analysis from high-throughput analyses based on biomathematical methodologies such as R and Python.

General scientific area: Health Sciences

Specific scientific area: Biology and Biochemistry

Requirements:

- Master's degree in Cellular Biology or Biochemistry
- Candidates enrolled in a PhD programme (proof of enrolment must be provided by the time the grant contract is signed).
- With experience in:
 - a) Laboratory techniques for protein analysis and gene expression
 - b) Computational methods for data analysis

Work plan:

The work plan to be developed includes: 1) Processing and preservation of plasma and tissue samples from the project's animal models. 2) Analysis of blood and tissue samples from treated rats using ELISA and Western Blot to determine various biochemical parameters, namely catabolic activity and insulin sensitivity. 3) Preparation of biological samples for the assessment of gene and protein expression using high-throughput analysis. 4) Data analysis from high-throughput analyses based on computational methodologies such as R and Python. 5) Preparation of the final scholarship report.



Scholarship period:

The scholarship has a duration of 12 months, non-renewable and on an exclusive basis, in accordance with the Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. currently in force. It is expected to start on 1 March 2026 and end on 28 February 2027.

Monthly Maintenance Grant:

€1,309.64, in accordance with the value table for Research Grants in Portugal awarded by FCT, I.P. (www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores), paid monthly by bank transfer.

In addition, voluntary social security contributions corresponding to the first level may be added if the candidate opts for registration. Personal accident insurance will also be provided.

Place of work:

The work will be carried out at the Coimbra Health School (ESTeSC) of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, under the scientific supervision of Professor Armando Caseiro.

Selection criteria:

The criteria for evaluating applications are as follows:

Curriculum evaluation (100%)

Composition of the Jury:

The jury responsible for the selection process will consist of the following PhD holders:

Permanent members: Professor Armando José Cerejo Caseiro, Professor Paulo Nuno Centeio Matafome, Professor Sara Carmo Silva

Substitute members: Professor João Paulo de Figueiredo, Professor Daniela Batista de Almeida

Documents to be submitted:

Applications must include the following documents:

- Application form available on the internet page for this competition at https://www.ipc.pt/bupc/concursos/form/concursos_bolseiros
- Elements of the National Identity Card/Citizen Card/Passport/Visa/Title of Residence; Tax Identification Number (NIF).
- Documents proving that the candidate meets the conditions defined in the admission requirements, namely, 1) qualification certificate - Master; 2) certificate of enrolment in PhD in the field of Forestry Sciences or in courses



not leading to an academic degree integrated in the educational project from an institution of higher education and 3) identification card for plant protection product applicators.

- Motivation letter
- Curriculum vitae
- Academic degree certificate

Application deadline:

10 working days, from 15/01/2026 to 28/01/2026.

Candidates must access and register on the website: https://www.ipc.pt/bupc/concursos/form/concursos_bolseiros to submit the application, selecting the procedure for which they intend to apply.

Applications must be delivered exclusively in digital format, in portable document format (pdf), with the exception of documents whose delivery is scheduled in other digital formats.

Application instructions are completed by filling in the sections available at the aforementioned link.

When formalizing the application, if it contains a classified document that reveals commercial or industrial secrets, or secrets relating to literary, artistic or scientific property, the candidate must expressly indicate such reservation, under penalty of the work in question being freely accessed by any one of the other candidates, in consultation with the process.

When submitting the application, the candidate must provide the data strictly necessary for the purpose, under the terms of this public notice, and must hide personal data that may exist in the documentation submitted, otherwise these data may be freely accessed by any of the other candidates, in the process query. Applicable legislation and regulations:

The awarding of scholarships is based on Law No. 40/2004 of 18 August (Statute of Scientific Research Scholarships), amended and republished by Decree-Law No. 202/2012 of 27 August, updated by: Decree-Law No. 233/2012, Law No. 12/2013, and Decree-Law No. 89/2013; the Scholarship and Research Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology in force (www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2015.pdf), Order No. 12709/2016 published in DR, II series of 21/10/2016, of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, regarding the IPC Scholarship Regulations.

The model scholarship contract and final reports to be prepared by the scholarship holder and the coordinator are those contained in the annexes to the Scientific Research Scholarship Statute mentioned above.

Applicable legislation and regulations:

The award of the scholarship is governed by Law no. 40/2004 of 18 August (Statute of the Scientific Research Grant Holder), as amended and republished by Decree-Law no. 202/2012 of 27 August, and updated by Decree-Law no. 233/2012, Law no. 12/2013, and Decree-Law no. 89/2013; by the Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology currently in force



(www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2015.pdf); and by Order no. 12709/2016 published in the Official Gazette (Series II) of 21/10/2016 of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, in compliance with the IPC Grant Holder Regulations.

The scholarship contract model and the final reports to be prepared by the grant holder and the coordinator are those included in the annexes to the Scientific Research Scholarship Statute mentioned above.

Publication/notification of results:

The final evaluation results will be published through an alphabetically ordered list by final score, displayed in a visible and public place at the Coimbra Health School (notice board reserved for this type of publication in the main building). All candidates will be notified by email for the purpose of a prior hearing of interested parties.

For further information, please contact:

Professor Armando Caseiro by email: armandocaseiro@estesc.ipc.pt

Coimbra, 06 January 2026