



UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA
Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária

NOTICE

Call for the attribution of one (1) research grant for a Master

Applications are open for a Master's Research Grant under the project "Enzytarget - Designing a new generation of antibody-enzyme conjugates for cancer immunotherapy through glycoalyx editing in a feline mammary carcinoma model," funded by the "la Caixa" Foundation and coordinated by Dr. Pedro Bule of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Lisbon, under the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Biotechnology

2. Admission requirements:

- Hold a Master's degree in Medical Microbiology or related areas;
- Be enrolled in a degree-awarding academic program (a declaration of commitment may substitute enrollment proof, to be verified only upon scholarship contract signing).

3. Work plan: The scholarship holder will participate in the development of an Antibody-Enzyme Conjugate for the treatment of Feline Mammary Carcinoma and Triple-Negative Human Breast Cancer. The grantee will be involved in several different activities including:

- a) Gene synthesis and cloning of carbohydrate-active enzymes, particularly sialidases;
- b) Recombinant production and purification of enzymes;
- c) Functional analysis of enzymes targeting high-morbidity diseases, such as cancer and chronic infections;
- d) Characterization of immune pathways via flow cytometry, microscopy, immunohistochemistry, etc.;
- e) Cell culture;
- f) X-ray crystallography.



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4. **Applicable legislation and regulations:** Statute of the Scientific Research Fellows, approved by Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, in its drafting in force. Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Lisbon, order no. 6238/2020, published in the *Diário da República* (Official Journal), 2nd series, of June 12, 2020 and the Regulation of Research Grants of the *Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT)* as well as per applicable National and Community legislation.
5. **Workplace:** The work will be carried out at the Glycobiology and Structural Enzymology Laboratory from the Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Animal Health (CIISA), under the scientific supervision of Dr. Pedro Miguel Bule Dias Gomes, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Lisbon.
6. **Duration of the scholarship(s):** The scholarship will last 10 months, starting in July 2025.
7. **Monthly maintenance allowance amount:** The scholarship amount is €1,309.64, in accordance with the FCT, I.P. national grant value table (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf).
8. **Selection methods:** Eligible applications will be scored on a scale of 0 to 20, based on:
 - **Criterion A: Curriculum Assessment (CA)** – 0–20, weight 60%:
 - Master's degree classification ≥ 18 : 40%
 - Scientific publications in the area (only indexed journals considered; Q1 journals receive bonus): 10%
 - Proven lab experience in the last 5 years: 10%
 - **Criterion B: Motivation Letter** – 0–20, weight 10%
 - **Criterion C: Other relevant factors** (e.g., participation in relevant conferences or activities): 0–20, weight 10%
 - **Criterion D: Interview** – 0–20, weight 20% (limited to the top four candidates after application of criteria A, B and C)

If no interview takes place, the 20% weight is added to the motivation letter.



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Candidates are ranked by the weighted average across all criteria. Ties are broken by the classification obtained in individual criterion, starting from Criterion A, followed by B, then C, then D.

Candidates scoring below 9.5 in any phase are excluded.

For the final decision for the research grant attribution, the candidates will be ordered according to the weighted average of the obtained score in each of the four criteria, as follows:

$$\textit{Final Classification} = (0.6 \times A) + (0.1 \times B) + (0.1 \times C) + (0.2 \times D)$$

For tiebreaker purposes, the ranking of candidates will be based on the scores attributed to each of the evaluation criteria by the following order: criterion A, criterion B, criterion C, criterion D.

Candidates who score less than 9.5 points will be excluded from the procedure, and the next selection methods or stage will not apply to them, as well candidates who do not comply with all the requirements and formalities set out in this notice.

9. Composition of the Selection Jury:

Chair: Dr. Pedro Miguel Bule Dias Gomes, Assistant Professor at FMV-Ulissboa;

Effective Members:

- Prof. Dr. José António Mestre Prates, Full Professor at FMV-Ulissboa;
- Prof. Dr. Victor Manuel Diogo de Oliveira Alves, Assistant Professor at FMV-Ulissboa

Substitute Members:

- Prof. Dr. António José de Freitas Duarte, Full Professor at FMV-Ulissboa
- Prof. Dr. Graça Maria Leitão Ferreira-Dias, Full Professor at FMV-Ulissboa

10. Notification of results: All candidates will be notified of the Final Assessment Result via the email indicated in the application.



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11. Deadline for application and form of submission of applications: Applications are open from 25/06/2025 to 11:59 PM on 08/07/2025.

Applications must be submitted via email with delivery/read receipt to: expediente@fmv.ulisboa.pt with subject/reference "Enzytarget - LaCaixa," to the attention of Prof. Dr. Pedro Bule.

Applications must be formalized by email, mandatory including the following documents:

11.1. Motivation letter;

11.2. Detailed *Curriculum Vitae* of the candidate, dated and signed;

11.3. Documents proving that the candidate meets the required conditions for awarding the scholarship, namely copies of the qualification certificates for all academic degrees obtained, with final grade;

11.3.1. For academic degrees awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it is mandatory to present the record of recognition of the academic degree and the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese scale (process regulated by Decree-Law no. 341/2007, of 12 October), or alternatively, obtaining equivalence/recognition of academic degrees (process regulated by Decree-Law no. 283/83, of 21 June);

11.3.2. Foreign candidates who do not present proof of conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale will be assessed with the minimum grade;

11.3.3. Scholarship contracts will only be concluded with candidates holding diplomas issued by institutions, upon presentation of proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final grade, as indicated above.

11.4. Updated declaration proving the candidate's professional situation, indicating the nature of the relationship, functions and teaching hours on average per year, if applicable, and may replace it with a declaration of honor, if not working any professional activity or provision of services;

11.5. Letters of recommendation (optional).



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Scholarship contracts do not generate legal-labor relations or the provision of services, and the grantee does not acquire the status of worker in public functions.

12. Policy of non-discrimination and equal access: FMV-ULisboa promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, meaning that no candidate may be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty based, in particular, on ancestry, age, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic status, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, ethnic origin or breed, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.

13. Deadlines and Procedures for Prior Hearing, Complaints and Appeals:

After the provisional list of assessment results has been communicated, candidates have a period of 10 working days to, if they wish, make a statement at a prior hearing of interested parties, in accordance with articles 121 et seq. of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

If any statements are submitted, they will be analyzed and a final decision will be made. A complaint may be filed against this final decision within 15 working days, or, alternatively, an appeal may be filed within 30 working days, both counting from the date of notification. Candidates who choose to submit a complaint must address their statement to the Rector of the University of Lisbon. Candidates who choose to appeal must address the appeal to the funding entity.

Note: All documents sent by email must have the *.doc* or *.pdf* extension and the subject filled in with the project reference.

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, June 20, 2025

The President of the Faculty


Rui Manuel de Vasconcelos e Horta Caldeira
(Full Professor)

