



UNIVERSIDADE DE LISBOA
Faculdade de Medicina Veterinária
Divisão de Recursos Humanos

NOTICE

Call for the attribution of one research grant for a Master's degree

A call is open for the attribution of one Master Grant within the scope of the R&D project "Microalgae Biofortification for Sustainable Pigmentation and Antioxidant Protection in Animal Production" (acronym Sea4Feed), awarded under the Roullier Exploration Award 2025-2026 and coordinated by Dr. José António Mestre Prates at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine – University of Lisbon, under the following conditions:

Scientific area: Veterinary Sciences, Biological Sciences, Biochemistry, Biotechnology or related areas;

Admission requirements: To hold a Master's degree in Veterinary Medicine, Biology, Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biological Engineering, Biochemical Engineering or related areas;

Work plan: The fellowship holder will participate in research activities such as:

Task 1 – Selection of microalgae and definition of culture conditions for biofortification: support in the selection and maintenance of two pigment-rich microalgae, selected from *Arthrospira platensis*, *Dunaliella salina* and *Haematococcus pluvialis*, and participation in the optimisation of light x nutrient regimes in controlled culture systems/photobioreactors.

Task 2 – In vitro assessment of the bioactivity of the selected microalgae and their respective biofortified biomass: preparation of extracts/samples, potential application of in vitro digestion models and assessment of the bioaccessibility of bioactive compounds.

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.



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Workplace: The work will be developed at the Laboratory of Animal Product Quality / Laboratory of Biochemistry of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Animal Health - CIISA under the scientific guidance of Doctor José António Mestre Prates, Full Professor of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Lisbon, Avenida da Universidade Técnica, 1300-477 Lisboa and at the Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere, Av. Alfredo Magalhães Ramalho, nº 6, 1495-165 Algés, under the supervision of Doctor Narcisa Maria Mestre Bandarra.

Duration of the scholarship(s): The scholarship will last 12 months, starting in September 2026, and may be renewed in accordance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements, depending on the execution of the work plan, the fellow's evaluation, and the project's financial availability.

Monthly maintenance allowance amount: It corresponds to € 1359,64, according to *FCT, I.P.* (<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>).

Selection methods:

Eligible applications will be scored on a scale from 0 to 20 points, taking into account the candidate's merit and performance in each of the following criteria:

Criterion A: Curriculum evaluation – with a weight of **50%**

- Academic background – weight of **20%**
- Experience in the laboratory domains of the project – weight of **20%**
- Research projects / Publications – weight of **10%**

Criterion B: Motivation letter – with a weight of **10%**: Emphasis will be placed on the clarity of motivation, understanding of the Sea4Feed project objectives, availability for laboratory work, and the suitability of the candidate's background to Tasks 1 and 2

Criterion C: Interview – with a weight of **40%** (limited to the four candidates with the highest scores resulting from the application of criteria A and B) is intended to evaluate motivation, scientific maturity, communication skills, autonomy, availability, knowledge of data analysis, statistics, scientific writing, English language proficiency, good laboratory practices, and overall suitability to the work plan.



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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 three criteria, as follows:

$$\textbf{Final Classification} = (0.5 \times A) + (0.1 \times B) + (0.4 \times C)$$

For tiebreaker purposes, the ranking of candidates will be based on the scores attributed to each of the evaluation criteria in the following order: criterion A, criterion B, criterion C, and 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 as candidates who do not comply with all the requirements and formalities set out in this notice.

Composition of the Selection Jury:

President: Doctor José António Mestre Prates, Full Professor at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Lisbon

Full Members:

- Doctor Narcisa Maria Mestre Bandarra, Principal Research Coordinator at Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere
- Doctor Cátia Falcão Martins, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Lisbon

Alternate Members:

- Carlos Cardoso, Assistant Researcher at the at Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere
- Pedro Miguel Bule Gomes, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Lisbon

The president of the Jury will be replaced in his absence or impediment by the member who succeeds him in the order mentioned above.

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

Deadline for applications and form of submission: The call is open from 01/07/2026 until 11:59 pm on 14/07/2026.



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Applications must be delivered by email, with delivery/receipt notice, to the following email address candidatura.rh@fmv.ulisboa.pt, with the Subject/reference: Sea4Feed, in the care of Researcher Doctor José António Mestre Prates of FMV/UL

Applications must be formalised by email, including the following documents:

1. Application form, fully filled - which is available on the Faculty's website, at www.fmv.ulisboa.pt (Investigação/Bolsas de Investigação/ Formulários/Candidatura);
2. Motivation letter;
3. Detailed *Curriculum Vitae* of the candidate, dated and signed;
4. 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;
5. Proof of laboratory experience, participation in projects, publications, communications, technical reports, relevant training, or other elements that the candidate considers relevant for the assessment of their merit;
6. 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);
7. 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;
8. 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.
9. 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 honour, if not working any professional activity or provision of services;
10. 6. 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 a worker in public functions.

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.

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 analysed, 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: Sea4Feed.

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, 29 June 2026.

President

Rui Manuel de Vasconcelos e Horta Caldeira
(Full Professor)

