

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR THE HIRING OF ONE (1) RESEARCH TECHNICIAN IN MICROBIAL GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Reference: 2023_043_1_TS_FattyCyanos

A competition is open for the attribution of one (1) work contract vacancy to a Research Technician in the framework of the project “**Fatty acid incorporation and modification in cyanobacterial natural products — FattyCyanos**”, with reference **Grant Agreement No 759840** within the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), supported by the European Research Council through the Horizon 2020 programme, according to the following conditions:

- 1. Scientific Area:** Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biochemistry or related areas.
- 2. Admission requirements:** In order to be admitted to the competition, the candidates **must hold a BSc degree** in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biochemistry or in a related field. The candidates **should be able to communicate orally and in written form in English language**.

Any national, foreign and stateless candidate(s) who hold a degree in one of the afore-mentioned areas and a scientific and professional curriculum whose profile is suited for the activity to be performed is encouraged to apply to this position. *In cases where the degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, the said degree must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16th August until the signature of the contract.*

- 3. Work plan:** The selected candidate will provide support to the FattyCyanos ERC project, namely by assisting in biochemical studies on the biosynthesis of cyanobacterial natural products. Specifically, this will involve the cloning, expression and purification of cyanobacterial enzymes, the preparation and maintenance of cyanobacterial cultures and the isolation, and structural analysis of natural products.

- 4. Applicable legislation:** Article 140, number 2, line g) and article 148, of the Labour Code approved Law no. 7/2009 of 12th February, and updates.

- 5. Work place:** The selected candidate will work under the supervision of Dr. Pedro Leão, integrated in the Research Team “Cyanobacterial Natural Products” at CIIMAR (University of Porto). The laboratory is located at the headquarters of CIIMAR, in the modern Cruise Ship Terminal of the Port of Leixões, in Matosinhos, Porto’s metropolitan area. The selected candidate will work in an international and highly multidisciplinary environment with a strong connection to the Ocean.

- 6. Duration of the contract:** A six month work contract will be signed, according to legal terms (articles 140º, number 2, line g; and article 148º – Labour Code).

- 7. Monthly salary:** The gross monthly salary is 1476,49 € according to the Single Remuneration Table.

- 8. Selection methods:** The candidates should also have an excellent academic and professional track record, with **proved laboratory experience in molecular biology and protein biochemistry, namely PCR, cloning, protein expression, purification and characterization**, as well as in natural products isolation

and structure elucidation. The candidates should be committed to work in a team and be **highly motivated and oriented towards a research technician role and teamwork**. Experience in microbiology techniques, in particular cultivation and manipulation of cyanobacteria is a plus.

A global appreciation of the candidates' merit and motivation (valued from 1 to 10) will be made on the basis of the evaluation of their scientific and curricular track-record, in particular the quality of their research outputs related to the subject area of the present call. This will result in a pre-selection of the three best-scoring candidates, scored higher than 7, which will be communicated to the candidates. One or both of the referees indicated by each of the pre-selected candidates can be contacted at this stage to provide reference letters. An interview may also be carried out, in which case all of the pre-selected candidates will be summoned to the interview. The jury will select one candidate among the pre-selected candidates to the position.

If an interview to the three pre-selected candidates takes place, its objective is solely to clarify issues related to their application, namely regarding their curricular and professional achievements. In this case, the interview will have a relative weight of 0.1 and the previously communicated score will have a relative weight of 0.9.

The evaluation of the professional track record relates to the relevance, timeliness, quality and adequacy to the current project and will focus on the research activities from the past 5-years that the candidate considers more relevant (as highlighted in their application). *This 5-year period can be increased, if justified and asked for by the candidate, on account of disease, maternity/paternity leave, or other duly justified period of unavailability to work.*

9. Composition of the jury:

President of the jury: Pedro Leão
Vogal: Joana Almeida
Vogal: Maria Lígia Sousa

10. Form of advertising/notification of the results: The results of the first step of the evaluation (pre-selection) will be published on the website of CIIMAR and sent by e-mail. The candidates have a 10-working day term in which to contest the decision, if they so wish, as provided in the "Código do Procedimento Administrativo", in a preliminary hearing setting. After the eventual collection of reference letters and interviews, the final results will be communicated by e-mail to the candidates. The jury reserves the right not to assign the work contract if none of the candidates meet all the requirements and match the desired profile.

11. Deadline for application and how to apply: If you are interested in this position, you should send your application between the **24/04/2023 – 9/05/2023**, to rh@ciimar.up.pt and msousa@ciimar.up.pt. **The subject of the e-mail must contain the competition reference** (as indicated in this announcement). The application must be formalized compulsorily by sending the following documents (all documents in English language):

- Detailed Curriculum Vitae in English including the e-mail address and phone number of the candidate as well as two reference contacts (name, e-mail and current position);

- Motivation Letter (max 2 pages) that includes a short description of the professional accomplishments that the candidate considers relevant in the past 5 years;
- Copy of the eligibility certificates.

The whole application should be no bigger than 5 MB. **Applications that do not include all the previously indicated elements will not be considered.**

12. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: *CIIMAR actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.*

Pursuant to Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication/expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.