

RESEARCH GRANT (BI-MSc)(1 vacancy)

Reference: SYMBIOMICS/BI-MSc/2018-088

A competition is open for the attribution of 1 Research Grant in the framework of "SYMBIOMICS- Omics of marine symbioses: Metabarcoding and metagenomics characterization of host-microbe adaptation and novel biosynthetic gene clusters", (NORTE/01/0145/FEDER/029985), within the R&D Institution CIIMAR (Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research), supported by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through COMPETE2020 - Operational Programme for Competitiveness and Internationalization (POCI) and national funds through FCT/MCTES, according to the following conditions:

1. Scientific area: Biological Sciences

2. Admission requirements

- i) The candidate must hold a Master in the field of Biological Sciences or Environmental Sciences
- ii) The candidates must have demonstrated experience in:
 - Isolation of cyanobacteria from marine environment
 - Knowledge of molecular biology techniques (primer design, PCR, cloning, DGGE)
 - Experience in next-generation sequencing data analyses
 - Prior knowledge of microbiome analyses and statistical tools in microbial ecology
- iii) A valid driving licence and scuba diving experience
- iv) Fluency in both English and Portuguese languages

3. Workplan:

The proposed project for 6 months duration involves the microbiome characterization among marine invertebrates, mainly sponges and several other species. The candidate should have previous knowledge and experience in the collection/identification of marine sponges and sponge-associated microbial communities

The selected candidate is expected to perform extensive sampling of marine invertebrates from both intertidal and sub-tidal regions. It also involves the sample processing for molecular analyses, microbial isolation and data analyses. In addition, the

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candidate is expected to participate in scientific data communication including the preparation of technical reports.

4. Legislation and official rules:

Lei n.º 202/2012, 27th August; Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P.— 2015 and CIIMAR Grants Regulation.

5. Work place:

The work will be carried out at CIIMAR, Evolutionary Genomics and Bioinformatics (EGB) research group.

6. Duration of the grant:

The research grant is for a total of 6 months, under the regime of exclusive dedication and according to legal terms.

7. Monthly salary:

The monthly maintenance allowance is €980 (nine hundred and eighty Euros –Tax Free), in agreement with the monthly maintenance stipend table of the grants directly attributed by FCT, I.P. within the country (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores.phtml.en>).

8. Selection methods:

An overall assessment of the applicants will be performed based on their scientific and academic achievements.

- Experience in cyanobacteria isolation from sponges – 30%
- Expertise in sponge taxonomy and sponge microbial ecology - 40%
- Experience in molecular techniques (PCR, DGGE, cloning) and NGS data analyses– 30%

Evaluation of the scientific and academic achievements will focus on scientific capability, quality of the research, and knowledge of the scientific skills applicable for the proposed project.

The jury reserves the right to not assign the research grant if none of the candidates meets all requirements and matches the desired profile.

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9. Composition of the jury selection:

President of the jury: Anoop Alex, PhD

Vogal: Cristiana Moreira, PhD

Vogal: Agostinho Antunes, PhD

10. Form of advertising/notification of results:

The final results of the evaluation will be sent through a list sorting the candidates according to their attributed mark, by e-mail and available in CIIMAR website; in case of disagreement, the candidates have a 10-working day term in which to contest the decision, if he/she so wishes, as provided for in the Código do Procedimento Administrativo in a preliminary hearing setting. The jury reserves the right to not assign the contract depending on the quality of the applications.

11. Deadline for application and presentation of applications:

The competition is open from **27 December 2018 until 10 January 2019**. The applications must be formalized, compulsorily, by sending the following documents: cover letter, Curriculum vitae, copy of the eligibility certificates, and past research activities and its relevance to the current project (max 2 pages) by e-mail addressed to Anoop Alex (anoophycaud@gmail.com) with Cc to: secretariado@ciimar.up.pt with **SYMBIOMICS/BI-MSc/2018-088** in the subject line. The applications that **do not include all** the elements previously indicated will **not be considered**.