



**MED – Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development**

**Research Scholarship for Master degree – 1 position**

**6 April 2021**

A call for tender for the award of a Research Grant for a master, enrolled in a cycle of studies or non-degree course is open, within the scope of the project “Development of an innovative feed mixture for outdoor finishing of males from local pig breeds, to benefit meat quality and production system sustainability”, with the reference “ POCI-01-0247-FEDER-072226 ”financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the COMPETE and Portugal 2020, under the following conditions:

**1. Scientific Area:** Animal and dairy sciences

**2. Requirements:**

Master of Science in Biochemistry, Biomedical Sciences, Animal Production Engineering or similar areas, with inscription in PhD programs, or courses not leading to a degree. In ordering candidates, preference will be given to candidates with: 1) Experience on techniques and molecular analyses in animal tissues (preferential factor); 2) Experience on physical-chemical analysis of meat and fat; 3) Ability and autonomy to study and implement new laboratory techniques in the aforementioned domains; 4) Driving license and own vehicle.

According to the FCT Research Scholarship Regulation nº950 / 2019 of December 16, 2019, article 3 and 6, BI applicants must comply with the rule of the effective insertion in study cycles leading to the attribution of academic degrees or in non-academic degree courses.

**2. Work Plan:** The candidate must perform the following functions:

- Collection at the slaughterhouse of carcass data and samples of various tissues to be analysed (physico-chemical and molecular biology analyses); (Activity 2.2);
- Laboratory: Conducting physical (colour, water retention coefficient) and chemical analyses (dry matter, crude protein, total pigments, myoglobin, total and soluble collagen, total lipids, fatty acids) in swine tissues (muscle and fat) (Activity 2.3);
- Collaboration in the dissemination, communication and exploitation of project results.

In addition to the work mentioned above, the fellow must also intervene in work related to molecular biology analyses, as well as in complementary studies related to the evaluation of the expression of genes of interest for the manipulation of meat quality. To this end, the candidate must perform the following tasks:

- Extraction and quantification of total RNA from animal tissues (muscle and fat);
- RNA reverse transcription techniques analyses;
- Real-time PCR and conventional PCR analyses;
- Analysis and sequencing of genes with influence in terms of reproduction and meat quality, using specific cloning techniques.

**4. Applicable legislation and regulations:** The granting of the Research Scholarship will be carried out by entering into a contract between the University of Évora and the fellow, under the terms of the Research Fellowship Statute (Law nº 40/2004 of 18 August and decree-law nº 123/2019 of August 28) and in accordance with the legislation and Regulation of Research Grants of the Foundation for Science and Technology, IP in force, regulation nº950 / 2019 of December 16, 2019 <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml.pt> .

**5. Workplace:** The functions will be developed at Herdade Experimental da Mitra, University of Évora, Valverde, and at the Nutrition and Metabolism Laboratory of MED, Mitra, University of Évora, under the scientific guidance of Profs. José Manuel Martins and Rui Charneca. Short stays or visits to the Slaughterhouse to be designated for the slaughter of experimental animals and to the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, may also be necessary.

**6. Duration of the scholarship:** The scholarship will have a duration of 6 months, starting in September 2021. The scholarship contract may be renewed, up to a maximum of 15 months.

**7. Monthly maintenance allowance amount:** The scholarship amount corresponds to 1.104,64€ , according to the table of scholarship values directly attributed by FCT, I.P. in the country (<http://fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores> ), with payments made monthly, by check or bank transfer. To this value, there is the voluntary social insurance corresponding to the first level, as well as the personal accident insurance.

#### **8. Composition of the Selection Jury:**

President – Professor José Manuel Mota Ruivo Martins  
1st Vogal – Professor Rui Miguel Carracha Charneca  
2nd Vogal – Professor José Alberto Feijão Macedo Neves  
1st Substitute – Professor Miguel Nuno Geraldo Viegas dos Santos Elias  
2nd Substitute – Professor Amadeu António Gomes Borges de Freitas

**9. Selection methods** The selection will be made based on the candidates' curriculum evaluation and will take into account the merits of the candidates, considering the academic background, the average degree and master's degree, the curriculum profile, the experience in laboratory work and techniques, experience in laboratory procedures scope of molecular biology, experience in scientific research relevant to the project in question and scientific publications in the area, as well as a good knowledge of English at written and oral level. Driving license and own vehicle will also be required. In the event of a tie between the top two finishers or if deemed necessary by the jury, an interview will be held.

Final Score<sup>1</sup> = 50 (P) + 30 (H) + 15 (I) + 5 (C)

<sup>1</sup>Where: Curriculum profile [P]; Literary qualifications [H]; Knowledge of the English language [I]; Driving license [C].

#### **Curriculum profile (max. 50):**

Academic curriculum (max. 7)

Postgraduate course (in the area) (> 1) - 5

Postgraduate course (in the area) (= 1) - 3

Course > 30 h (in the area) (> 1) - 2

Course > 30 h (in the area) (= 1) - 1  
No courses (in the area) - 0

<1 year - 8  
No experience - 0

Work in Congresses and others alike (max. 8)

Publication/poster in Proceedings or Books of Abstracts - International Congress (in the area) (> 1) - 5  
Publication/poster in Proceedings or Books of Abstracts - International Congress (in the area) (= 1) - 3  
Publication/poster in Proceedings or Books of Abstracts - National Congress (in the area) (> 1) - 3  
Publication and poster in Proceedings or Books of Abstracts - National Congress (in the area) (= 1) - 1  
No publications and posters - 0

Publications in international ISI/SCOPUS or national indexed journals with review (max. 20)

International article (> 1) (in the area, 1st author) - 10  
International article (= 1) (in the area, 1st author) - 6  
International article (> 1) (in the area, ≥2nd author) - 4  
International article (= 1) (in the area, ≥2nd author) - 3  
International article (> 1) (1st author) - 2.5  
International article (= 1) (1st author) - 2  
International article (> 1) (≥2nd author) - 1.75  
International article (= 1) (≥2nd author) - 1.5  
National article (> 1) (in the area, 1st author) - 1  
National article (= 1) (in the area, 1st author) - 0.75  
National article (> 1) (in the area, ≥2nd author) - 0.75  
National article (= 1) (in the area, ≥2nd author) - 0.5

Research experience in the project area (max. 15)

> 1 year - 15

No articles - 0

**Literary Qualifications (max. 30):**

Graduation:

Final grade = 10 - 5.0  
Final grade = 11 - 6.0  
Final grade = 12 - 7.0  
Final grade = 13 - 8.0  
Final grade = 14 - 9.0  
Final grade = 15 - 10.0  
Final grade = 16 - 11.0  
Final grade = 17 - 12.0  
Final grade = 18 - 13.0  
Final grade = 19 - 14.0  
Final grade = 20 - 15.0

Master's degree:

Final grade = 10 - 5.0  
Final grade = 11 - 6.0  
Final grade = 12 - 7.0  
Final grade = 13 - 8.0  
Final grade = 14 - 9.0  
Final grade = 15 - 10.0  
Final grade = 16 - 11.0  
Final grade = 17 - 12.0  
Final grade = 18 - 13.0  
Final grade = 19 - 14.0  
Final grade = 20 - 15.0

**Knowledge of English (max. 15):**

I = 15, level C of the Common European Framework of Reference with IELTS or TOEFL diploma

I = 7, level B of the Common European Framework of Reference with 1st Certificate diploma

I = 3, level A of the Common European Framework of Reference without a diploma

I = 0, does not have or does not have a diploma

**Driving license (max. 5):**

C = 5, with license and own car

C = 0, no licence

**10. Publication / notification of results:** The final results of the evaluation will be published, through a list ordered by final grade or other, posted in a visible and public place of the Zootechnics Department of the University of Évora, and all candidates will be notified by e-mail.

Under the terms of the right of prior hearing of interested parties, the draft Final Classification will be announced by any written means to all interested parties.

**11. Application deadline and form of submission of applications:** The competition is open from April 12 to April 23, 2021 and the results of the selection will be published until April 30, 2021.

Applications must be formalized by sending an application letter accompanied by the following documents:

Detailed Curriculum Vitae, with a breakdown of the classifications obtained in the disciplines of the respective courses and final classification; Copy of qualification certificates, as well as other documents proving competencies described in CV considered relevant for the application.

**Applications must be sent by e-mail and include the following reference in the field “Subject”:**

**Projeto ECO-PIG REF.ª72226 / UÉ Mestre**

To: Prof. José Manuel Mota Ruivo Martins  
Zootechnics Department of the University of Évora  
e-mail: [jmartins@uevora.pt](mailto:jmartins@uevora.pt)

*co-financed by:*



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