

CALL FOR A RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP FOR A MASTER DEGREE, UNDER THE "EDC(Mind)2- Promoting healthy indoor environments with spotlight on endocrine disruptors: elucidating the links between environmental exposure, neurodevelopment and social behaviour in children" PROJECT (REF.º PTDC/CTA-AMB/3040/2021), AT THE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO

There is an open call for applications for a research scholarship for a master degree in the scope of the project “EDC(Mind)2- Promoting healthy indoor environments with spotlight on endocrine disruptors: elucidating the links between environmental exposure, neurodevelopment and social behaviour in children”, reference PTDC/CTA-AMB/3040/2021, at the Institute of Public Health of the University of Porto, financed by national funds through Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) under the following conditions:

Application deadline: 22 April to 07 May 2024

1. Scientific area: Biology, Biotechnology, Health Sciences

2. Applicable legislation and regulations

Statute of Scientific Research Grant Holder, approved by Law no. 40/2004, of 18 of August, as amended by Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of 28 of August; Regulation no. 950/2019, of 29 of November, published in Diário da República, no. 241, Series 2, of 16 of December (Regulation of Research Grants of FCT, I. P.); Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of 16 August (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions); Administrative Procedure Code (CPA), approved by Decree-Law no. 4/2015, of 7 January.

3. Admission requirements:

To apply for the scholarship, applicants must comply with the following requirements, for which documentary evidence must be provided:

- a. Degree in Genetics and Biotechnology and Master in Clinical Laboratory Biology;
- b. Be enrolled in a Doctoral program in Biomedical Sciences, requirement to be proven before the hiring act;

or

Be enrolled in a non-academic degree course integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units, a requirement to be duly proven at the time of hiring.

***Note:** In the case of masters who are enrolled in courses that do not confer an academic degree, the scholarship can only be awarded to those who do not exceed, with the conclusion of the scholarship contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of two years in this type of exchange, followed or interpolated.*

- c. Fluent in Portuguese and English (written and spoken).

***Note:** If the degree has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, in accordance with the provisions of article 25 of Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16 August, which approves the legal regime for the recognition of academic degrees and higher education diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions and Article 4 (2) (e) of Decree-Law no. 60/2018 of 3 August, and any formalities established therein be fulfilled up to the date of the contracting act.*

4. Preferred requirements:

- a. Previous integration into multidisciplinary research teams in a scientific area of this call;
- b. Research experience in indoor air quality area;
- c. Experience in sampling and analysis methods of physical and chemical parameters present in indoor air;

- d. Experience in collecting and handling biological samples, namely exhaled air samples;
- e. Proficient in use computer software's to the management and analysis of data (e.g. Excel, SPSS);
- f. Scientific activity, namely scientific articles, communications at scientific meetings/conferences or other scientific publications;
- g. Scientific awards and distinctions.

5. Work Plan:

The main tasks to be performed under the scholarship will be:

- a. Conducting field work surveys to collect air samples and measure physical and chemical parameters in indoor air;
- b. Exhaled air samples collection and analysis of exhaled volatile organic compounds profiles using an electronic nose (e-nose technology);
- c. Data management and data analysis;
- d. Dissemination of project results.

6. Workplace and supervision

The work plan will be developed at the Air and Occupational Unit, Environmental Health Department of the National Institute of Health Dr. Ricardo Jorge, I.P., Porto under supervision of Prof. João Paulo Teixeira.

7. Duration of the scholarship

The scholarship will have a duration of 12 months, and expected starting month is May 2024, on an exclusive basis, with no possibility of renewal.

8. Amount of the monthly maintenance allowance

The amount of the allowance is 1.259,64 euros (one thousand, two hundred and fifty-nine euros and sixty-four cents), in accordance with the table of values of the scholarships awarded directly by FCT, I.P. in Portugal.

9. Evaluation methods:

Curriculum evaluation (CE) and, if the selection board deems it necessary, a selection interview (E) for the first three best ranked candidates with AC classification equal to or higher than twelve points. In the case of an interview, the classification must be equal to or higher than 10 points. The final classification will be obtained by the following formula: $0,7 \times CE + 0,3 \times E$, on a scale of 0 to 20 points. If there is no interview, the final classification will be equal to the one obtained in the CE.

In eventuality that none of the candidates demonstrates to have the profile indicated for the execution of the work plan, the jury reserves the right not to award the scholarship.

The criteria for curricular evaluation (CE) are (0 to 20 points):

- a. Academic education (6/20);
- b. Professional experience (7/20);
- c. Scientific activity, awards (6/20);
- d. Fluency in Portuguese and English language (1/20):

The evaluation factors of the selection interview (E), if it takes place, will be (0 to 20 points):

- a. Specific professional experience (7/20);
- b. Capacity of expression and good interpersonal relationships (6/20);
- c. Clarity and critical thinking (7/20).

10. Selection panel:

President – Prof. João Paulo Teixeira

1st Effective member – Dr. Joana Madureira

2nd Effective member – Dr. Carla Costa

1st Alternate member – Dr. Solange Costa

11. Form of presentation of applications and deadline for applications:

11.1 The Call for Applications is open until **07 May 2024**.

11.2 The applications should be formalized, obligatorily, through email to the address

candidaturas@ispup.up.pt, with the ref^a "**BI – Master | EDCMind2**" in the subject accompanied by the following documents, of mandatory presentation:

- a. Letter of Motivation (in English);
 - b. Curriculum Vitae (in English);
 - c. Documents proving that the applicant meets the conditions required for the type of scholarship to which he is applying, namely certificate(s) of qualification(s), with the final classification obtained and the respective academic degree recognition by a Portuguese higher education institution* (if applicable) and proof of enrolment in a cycle of studies leading to a degree or in a non-degree course**.
- *The degree recognition must be duly proven until the act of hiring. If the recognition of the degree is under review, should be send proof of the request;
- ** Proof of enrolment in a cycle of studies leading to a degree or in a non-degree course may be waived at the application stage and replaced by a declaration of honour of the applicant, only in the contract phase of the scholarship. However, the grant will be conditional on the delivery of these documents.
- d. Other documents deemed relevant by the candidate.

11.3 Failure to submit the documents identified above in the application will result in the administrative exclusion of the candidates.

12. Disclosure of the results:

- a. The results of the evaluation will be communicated to candidates via the email provided at the time of application.
- b. Candidates have a period of 10 working days, counting from the day after the notification, to comment, if they wish, in a prior hearing.

13. In case of withdrawal of the candidate ranked first, the highest body of the Institute reserves the right to call the next candidate and so on until the vacancy is filled, since the candidate fulfill all the requirements defined at points 3, 9 and 11.

14. Policy of non-discrimination and equal access

ISPUP actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, whereby no candidate may be privileged, benefited, prejudiced or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty on the basis of ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status,

family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs or affiliation with a professional union.

15. Data protection and privacy policy

ISPUP is committed to comply with the personal data protection legislation in order to protect the data and privacy of employees, students and partners. As the controller, ISPUP commits to process all data collected during the application process according to the procedures defined in the data protection legislation and in accordance with the Privacy Policy.