

NOTICE OF OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR THE HIRING OF AN AUXILIARY RESEARCHER FOR THE DEFLECT - PREDICTING CHRONIC MUSCULOSKELETAL PAIN SUSCEPTIBILITY IN YOUNG ADULTS: A LOOK BACK TO BUILD A HEALTHIER FUTURE PROJECT (REFERENCE COMPETE2030-FEDER-00875500) OF THE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTO

The Institute of Public Health of the University of Porto (ISPUP) opens an international selection procedure for hiring an Auxiliary Researcher to carry out research activities in the scientific areas of Biostatistics, in the context of an individual employment contract with an uncertain resolution, under the Labour Code, approved by Law no. 7/2009, of 12 February, as amended. These research activities are carried out under the “**DEFLECT - Predicting chronic musculoskeletal pain susceptibility in young adults: a look back to build a healthier future**” project, reference **COMPETE2030-FEDER-00875500**, funded by FEDER, COMPETE2030 program and the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT).

Application deadline: July 16th to July 29th, 2025

1. Scientific area(s)

The scientific areas of this contest are Biostatistics

2. Applicable legislation

Decree-Law no. 57/2016, of 29 August, amended by Law no. 57/2017 of 19 July, which approves a regime for hiring doctorates to stimulate scientific and technological employment in all areas of knowledge (RJEC); Regulatory Decree no. 11-A/2017, of 29 December; and applicable regulatory standards; Labor Code, approved by Law no. 7/2009, of February 12, in its current wording.

Following article 16 of the RJE, this tender procedure is exempt from the authorization of the members of the Government responsible for the areas of finance and Public Administration, namely that referred to in paragraph 3 of article 7 of the LTFP, to obtain the prior favorable opinion of the members of the Government responsible for the areas of finance and Public Administration, referred to in Article 30(5) of the LTFP and the procedure for the recruitment of re-skilling workers referred to in Article 265 of the LTFP. |

3. Admission requirements

The competition may be opposed national, foreign and stateless candidates who hold the degree of |PhD in Statistics| and holders of a scientific and professional curriculum that reveals experience and a profile appropriate to the activity to be developed.

The candidate must have:

- |a) PhD in Statistics obtained more than 5 years prior to the date of the contract;
- b)** Scientific independence in the area of statistical modelling of epidemiological data, demonstrated by relevant professional experience and scientific publications.|

Suppose the doctorate has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution. In that case, it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution following 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 diplomas of Higher Education awarded by foreign higher education institutions and point e) of paragraph 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law no. 60/2018 of 3 of August, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the act of contracting.

4. Preferred conditions

- a. Solid professional experience demonstrating independence in the development of different statistical modelling methods and their application to population health issues;
- b. Authorship of scientific articles published in prestigious peer-reviewed journals, dedicated to the development of statistical methods for measuring health indicators;
- c. Experience in participating in multidisciplinary teams conducting research as part of longitudinal epidemiological studies;
- d. Experience in modelling data on the aetiology of chronic pain using population-based studies.

5. Functions

The functions to be performed include planning and executing various activities related to:

- a. Design and development of the statistical analysis plan for the data collected as part of the DEFLECT project, focused on pain trajectories in childhood and adolescence;
- b. Supervision of statistical analysis within the project, in collaboration with a multidisciplinary team of researchers at various career stages;
- c. Collaboration in the writing of scientific manuscripts resulting from the project;
- d. Collaboration in advanced training activities related to the project and to the cohort in which it is embedded (Generation XXI).

6. Workplace

The workplace is located at [Institute of Public Health of the University of Porto], under the supervision of [the project's principal investigator Raquel Lucas].

7. Contracting regime

The PhDs will be hired under an [uncertain fixed-term employment contract by legal imperative, according to point b) of paragraph 1 of article 6 of the RJE, ex vi, paragraph 2 of article 18 of the RJE, and remain only for the period necessary for the execution of the tasks defined in the project and identified in the following paragraph.]

8. Duration

The [uncertain fixed-term contract will be 15 months], possibly renewable but not exceeding the project completion date [16/05/2028].

9. Remuneration

The basic monthly remuneration is [€ 3501.28 (three thousand five-hundred and one euros and twenty eight cents)], equivalent to the [auxiliary research level, following point a) of paragraph 1 of article 15 of Law No. 57/2017, of July 19 and with the first remunerative position of the initial level provided for in article 2 of Regulatory Decree no. 11-A/2017, of december 29, corresponding to level 33 the single pay scale, approved by Decree-Law n.º 84-F/2022, of december 16].

10. Selection methods

According to Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of 29 August, amended by Law no. 57/2017, of 19 July, are selection methods:

- a) Evaluation (curricular) of the scientific and curricular path of the candidates (90%);
- b) Interview, if the jury deems it necessary, to perform a maximum of [3] candidates among the best positioned in the curricular evaluation (10%);
- c) If applicable, the successful candidate must score at least [10 points] (half of the total score) in the curricular evaluation and the interview;
- d) If no interview is conducted, the final score will be the same as the CE score.

- e) If none of the candidates demonstrates having the profile indicated for carrying out the work plan, the Selection Committee reserves the right not to allocate the vacancy in the competition.

11. Evaluation of the Scientific and Curricular Course of the candidates (0 to 20 points)

The evaluation of the scientific and curricular path, considering the profile appropriate to the requirements of the functions corresponding to the category to which this competition relates, focuses on the relevance, quality and timeliness of the following aspects:

- a) Professional experience demonstrating independence in the development and use of different statistical modelling methods applied to population health (5 points);
- b) Quality and quantity of authorship of scientific articles dedicated to the development of statistical methods for measuring health indicators (5 points);
- c) Experience in participating in multidisciplinary research teams in the context of cohort studies (5 points);
- d) Research experience in modelling population data on the aetiology of chronic pain (5 points).

12. Interview Evaluation (0 to 20 points)

If the interview takes place, up to a maximum of 3 candidates with the best classification in the evaluation of the scientific and curricular course will be admitted, and the jury will evaluate aspects related to:

- a) Demonstration of professional knowledge in the scientific field (5 points);
- b) Demonstration of how the position fits within the career development plan (5 points);
- c) Demonstration of motivation to join the project team (5 points);

- d) Demonstration of motivation to contribute to scientific advancement both within and beyond the institution (5 points).

The failure of the candidates to appear at the eventual interview phase of the selection process is equivalent to the withdrawal from the competition, and the candidates are excluded from the procedure.

13. Valuation of selection methods

- a) Each jury member evaluates the candidates' scientific and curricular path on a scale of 0 to 20 points. The classification is obtained through the weighting defined in the evaluation criteria.
- b) The evaluation of the second selection method is expressed on a scale of 0 to 20 points, and the classification is obtained through the weighting defined in the criteria to be evaluated.

14. Composition of the jury

President – Raquel Lucas

1st Effective member – Henrique Barros

2nd Effective member – Milton Severo

1st Alternate member – Sílvia Fraga

2nd Alternate member – Andreia Oliveira

15. Formalization of applications

15.1 Applications are formalised, mandatorily, through email to the address candidaturas@ispup.up.pt, with the ref. "Auxiliary Researcher_DEFLECT" in the subject, accompanied by the documents proving the conditions provided for in points 3, 4 and 11 of this competition, namely:

- a) Letter of motivation, in which the candidate must, in addition to the references indicated in the minimum requirements, explain the reasons that motivate him or her to carry out scientific research, to apply for this competition and how his/her academic profile and previous experience are suitable for this project;
- b) Curriculum Vitae, with the indication of full name and contact;
- c) Copy of the supporting documents of all the degrees obtained by the candidate (including doctorate), with the final classification obtained and the respective academic degree recognition by a Portuguese higher education institution (if applicable).

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;
- d) Other documents that the applicant justifies are relevant for the examination of his/her application (if applicable).

15.2 Applications must be submitted by July 29th, 2025.

15.3 Failure to comply with the deadline for submission of the application set, failure to submit or submit the documents referred to in point 15.1 (a) after the application submission deadline. The exclusion decision is notified to the candidates in the final minutes by e-mail to hold the hearing of the interested parties.

15.4 The jury may, whenever it deems it necessary, request the candidates to submit documents complementary to the facts in the curriculum submitted, determining a deadline for this purpose.

15.5 False statements made by candidates will be punished following the law.

16. Form of advertising/notification of results

- a) The minutes(s) regarding the phase(s) of evaluation of the applications will be sent via email to the address provided by the candidates in their Curriculum Vitae.

- b) Prior hearing and deadline for the final decision: under Article 121 of the Code of Administrative Procedure, after being notified, candidates have ten working days to comment.

17. 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.

18. Non-discrimination and equal access policy

ISPUP actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty due to, in particular, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, the territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.

19. Privacy and data protection policy

ISPUP is committed to complying with personal data protection legislation to protect the data and privacy of employees, students, and partners. As the controller, ISPUP undertakes to process all data collected in the application process following the procedures defined in the data protection legislation and per the stipulations of the Privacy Policy.