



Employment vacancy tender for external recruitment of a Principal Investigator, in the area of Bioengineering, sub-area of cellular biomedical technology, with an emphasis on the development of three-dimensional microenvironment models based on human cells and their applications

Reference 017/TI-IP/2022

Following the order of the Rector of *Universidade Nova de Lisboa (UNL)*, issued on May 5, 2022, an international call is now open, for a period of 15 working days, starting from the date of publication of this notice in the *Diário da República*, for the external recruitment of a position for one Principal Investigator of the Scientific Research Career foreseen within the staff plan of the *Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica António Xavier (ITQB NOVA)*, under private law regime, for the scientific area of Bioengineering, subarea of cellular biomedical technology, with an emphasis on the development of three-dimensional microenvironment models based on human cells and their applications.

This is an international application procedure and is ruled by the provisions of article 9 of the “Regulation on careers, recruitment and employment contracts of researchers under the employment contract regime of the *Universidade Nova de Lisboa*” (Regulation No. 393/2018, of 12 June, published in the *Diário da República*, 2nd series, No. 123, of 28 June), which has obtained a favorable prior opinion from the Scientific Council of ITQB NOVA.

This call is also open under the Contract Program to support the development of the R&D activities (“Procedimento Concursal de Apoio Institucional”), signed on December 28, 2021, between the *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P. (FC&T, I. P.)* and *Universidade Nova de Lisboa (NOVA)*, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 28 of the Scientific Employment Regulation (REC) - Regulation No. 607-A/2017, of 15 November, published in the *Diário da República*, 2nd series, nº 225, of 22 November, amended by Regulation No. 806-A/2019, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd series, of 14 October, and by the Regulation No. 985-B/2019, published in the 2nd series of *Diário da República*, as the 1st supplement, on 31 December.

The position to be filled within the scope of this international call is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on Quality Health (Goal 3).

Applicants who meet both the general and the special requirements for admission set forth in the present tender are admitted to the call.

Academic Qualifications:

PhD in Biochemistry.

General admission requirements:

- 1) National, foreign and stateless persons holding a PhD degree in Biochemistry;
- 2) Holders of a scientific and professional curriculum showing a profile appropriate to the activity to be developed.

Specific application requirements:

- 1) Compliance with the requirements established in No. 1 of article 11 of Decree-Law No. 124/1999, of 20 April (Statute of the Scientific Research Career);

- 2) Research experience in Bioengineering, scientific area of cellular biomedical technology, with emphasis on the development of three-dimensional microenvironment models based on human cells and their applications in functional cellular assays with representation of the microenvironment (minimum of 3 years after PhD or approval in public examinations of qualification or aggregation);
- 3) Proven experience with scientific publications in the field of Bioengineering, in the scientific area of cellular biomedical technology, with emphasis on the development of three-dimensional models of microenvironment based on human cells and their applications in functional cell assays with representation of the microenvironment;
- 4) Experience in mentoring Master and PhD students;
- 5) Experience as Principal Investigator of an independent laboratory for more than 6 years;
- 6) Experience as Principal Investigator (or co-Proposer) in externally funded scientific projects;
- 7) Possess an H-index higher than 25, obtained through Scopus;
- 8) Have published, within the last 15 (fifteen) years, at least 70 (seventy) scientific publications in international journals indexed in Scopus;
- 9) Have published, within the last 15 (fifteen) years, at least 15 (fifteen) scientific publications in international journals indexed in Scopus as corresponding author;
- 10) Proven experience in research and development work with industry that has resulted in processes and products;
- 11) Good knowledge of English language.

Category and applicable legislation:

- The functional content of the Principal Investigator is that described in paragraphs a) to e) of No. 2 and No. 4 of article 5 of the Statute of the Scientific Research Career, also comprising the provision of teaching services, under terms to be defined.
- The contract is made through an employment contract for an indefinite period, in accordance with the Labour Code, under private law, with remuneration to be negotiated according to the *Curriculum Vitae* and professional experience, from among the remuneration levels foreseen for this category in Annex I of Regulation No. 393/2018, of 12 June.
- If the PhD has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution (not Portuguese), it must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of signature of the employment contract.

Work place:

ITQB NOVA facilities, located in *Avenida da República*, in *Oeiras*.

Selection criteria:

Taking into account the profile of the activities to be developed, the evaluation criteria and the respective weightings, for the purpose of the evaluation of the admitted candidates, are as follows:

I - Curricular evaluation – Weighting: 90% of the total

A) Scientific performance, development and innovation – Weighting: 70% of the total

- i) Candidate's scientific production in the area of the present call, in particular the one resulting from his/her position as an independent researcher, materialized in internationally indexed scientific publications, books, book chapters and any other relevant scientific production, considering the quality of its content and also considering the number, impact, influence of its activity, as well as the five most important publications – 30%
- ii) Coordination and participation in research projects with external funding – 30%
- iii) Direction and coordination of research units –1%
- iv) Communications presented in scientific congresses and seminars/conferences – 2%
- v) Participation in bodies of scientific journals and other editorial activities, as well as the intervention as evaluator on juries of awards or scientific projects – 5%
- vi) Active participation in scientific commissions, organizations or networks – 1%
- vii) Awards and distinctions of scientific nature- 1%

B) Pedagogical capacity – Weighting: 9% of the total

- i) Coordination and teaching experience of curricular units, taking into account the diversity (subjects and study cycles), teaching practice and number of students, as well as the development of new curricular unit programs and the creation of new courses or study programs – 1%
- ii) The publication of lessons and other pedagogical material, especially in internationally indexed publications – 1%
- iii) Supervision of Master and PhD theses, completed or in progress, as well as the supervision of postdoctoral fellows and other researchers – 5%
- iv) Active participation in juries of academic examinations and open calls within the teaching and research careers – 1%
- v) Awards and distinctions of pedagogical nature – 1%

C) Extension activities – Weighting: 10% of the total

- i) The provision of services to the community, the economic valorization of research results, namely technology transfer actions, the contribution to the creation of spin-off companies as well as the registration of national and international patents, particularly when they are being explored, and also scientific dissemination activities and training actions – 10%

D) Academic management activities – Weighting: 1% of the total

- i) Positions held in University and Organic Unit bodies, coordination of departments, divisions, sections and courses, as well as other temporary positions and tasks relevant to the University – 1%

Sub-total (I) – 90%

II – Career development plan – Weighting: 10% of the total

Sub-Total (II) – 10%

Total (I + II) – 100%

Composition of the Selection Jury:

President: Doctor Cláudio M. Soares, Dean of the *Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica António Xavier* (ITQB NOVA).

Members:

Doctor Joaquim Cabral, Full Professor, *Instituto Superior Técnico da Universidade de Lisboa*;

Doctor Isabel Sá Nogueira, Full Professor, *Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade Nova de Lisboa*

Doctor Miguel Seabra, Full Professor, *Faculdade de Ciências Médicas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa*

Doctor Manuel Carrondo, Full Professor (Emeritus), *Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade Nova de Lisboa*

Doctor Emília Monteiro, Full Professor, *Faculdade de Ciências Médicas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa*

Selection process:

- 1) Candidates will be excluded from the call procedure if they formalize their applications incorrectly, namely by failing to comply with the general and specific requirements set out in this announcement, or if they do not prove to have the requirements required in this call, namely a PhD in the area for which the competition is open;
- 2) In case of doubt, the Jury may require candidates to produce documents to support their statements;
- 3) After analysis and admission of the applications, taking into account the compliance with the requirements demanded by Law and this notice, the Selection Jury shall first decide on the approval of the candidates in absolute merit according to the requirements demanded, preparing a list ordered alphabetically. An application is rejected in absolute merit if at least one proposal to that effect obtains a majority of favorable votes among the members of the Jury present at the meeting.
- 4) The final decision on each proposal, as well as the number of votes collected for each one of them, and the respective justifications, are an integral part of the minutes of the meeting of the Selection Jury.

Ranking methodology:

In the various voting rounds, each member of the jury must respect the order of his/her ranking list, observing the following procedures during voting:

- 1) The first ballot is to determine the candidate placed in 1st place by counting the number of votes that each candidate obtained for that place;
- 2) If a candidate obtains an absolute majority of votes for 1st place, he/she is placed in that position and is removed from the ballot. The procedure to choose the candidate who will occupy the 2nd place is then initiated;
- 3) If no candidate obtains an absolute majority of votes for 1st place, a new ballot is carried out, only among the candidates who obtained votes for 1st place, after withdrawing the least voted candidate for that place in the previous ballot; 4) If there is a tie between two or more candidates in the least voted position, a tiebreaking vote is carried out only among these

candidates, counting the number of first relative positions of each one, and the least voted candidate is removed;

- 5) If the tie remains between two or more candidates in the least voted position, but having been reduced the number of candidates tied in the least voted position, in relation to the previous voting round, a new tiebreaking vote shall be held only between the candidates tied in the least voted position, counting the number of first relative positions of each one, being removed the least voted;
- 6) If the tie remains between two or more candidates in the least voted position, without the number of candidates tied in the least voted position have been reduced in relation to the previous voting round, the tie shall be broken by the casting vote of the President of the Jury or by the exercise of the casting vote, as the case may be, and the candidate voted by the President shall be chosen for the subsequent voting round for the same position;
- 7) If there is a tie when only two or more candidates remain for the 1st place, the tiebreaker shall be decided by the casting vote of the President of the Jury or by the exercise of the casting vote, as the case may be;
- 8) Once a candidate has been selected for the 1st place, he/she shall leave the voting process and the procedure for choosing the candidate to be placed in 2nd shall be initiated, repeating the process referred to in the previous paragraphs for the subsequent positions until a single ordered list of all the candidates is obtained.

Application deadline:

The deadline for submitting applications is 15 working days, starting from the date of the publication of this public notice in *Diário da República*.

Submission of application:

By request, addressed to the Director of the ITQB NOVA, which must be accompanied by the following documents:

- a. Full identification (name, surname, place of birth, nationality, date of birth, number and expiration date of ID card/passport, tax identification number, address, zip code, telephone number and email address);
- b. Motivation letter expressing the reasons and the importance of the Candidate's contribution for this position;
- c. Certificates and declarations regarding the academic and professional situations invoked in the application, namely the certificate of the PhD degree or equivalent in the scientific and disciplinary area for which the call has been opened;
- d. *Curriculum Vitae* (CV) of the candidate, organized according to the items listed in point "Selection criteria" of this call;
- e. Report of the activities developed by the candidate;
- f. A career development plan;
- g. A copy of each of the published scientific work mentioned in the *Curriculum Vitae*, in digital format, namely the most representative ones, in terms of their contribution to the development and evolution of the disciplinary area for which the call is opened.

The documents proving that the general recruitment requirements are fulfilled may be replaced by a sworn declaration.

All documents **must** be sent, preferably in digital format, in a **single PDF file**, to the email address concursos@itqb.unl.pt indicating the Reference **017/TI-IP/2022** in the subject. Candidates may also send applications by post or deliver them in person at the ITQB NOVA facilities, located in *Avenida da República*, in *Oeiras*.

Notification of results:

All candidates will be informed of the decisions by e-mail.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy:

ITQB NOVA actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, whereby no candidate may be privileged, benefited, prejudiced or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty on the basis of ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and trade union membership.

In accordance with Decree-Law no. 29/2001, of February 3, the candidate with a disability has preference in equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare on the application form, on oath of honor, their degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, in accordance with the above-mentioned diploma.

The full notice of this procedure will be available on the Euraxess portal <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/> and on the ITQB NOVA website <https://www.itqb.unl.pt/jobs>

Oeiras, August 1st, 2022 - The Director of ITQB NOVA, Professor Doctor Cláudio Manuel Simões Loureiro Nunes Soares