

Research Studentships (for students of a course that does not award an academic degree,)

Applications are open for one Research Studentship, within the framework of the project/R&D institution: XCI_REVERSAL: Reversal of X-chromosome inactivation during naïve human iPSC reprogramming / Institute for Bioengineering and Biosciences (iBB), with the reference 1801P.01652 - XCI_Reversal - 2024.14670.PEX, financed by national funds through the financial support of FCT/MCTES, under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Cell and Molecular Biology

Admission Requirements:

a) to hold a master degree and be enrolled at a course that does not award an academic degree and it is integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, performed in association or cooperation with one or several R&D units;

b) not to exceed with this contract, including the possible renovations, an accumulated period of two years in this type of studentship, continuously or with interruptions.

Workplan: The prospective candidate will become an integral part of the XCI_REVERSAL project titled “Reversal of X-chromosome inactivation during naïve human iPSC reprogramming”. The primary goal of this project is to elucidate the molecular mechanisms underlying X-chromosome inactivation reversal during naïve reprogramming in human cells in order to improve the generation of high-quality naïve induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs). This project employs state-of-the-art molecular biology techniques, including CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing and molecular cloning, alongside advanced cell biology methodologies such as human stem cell culture, iPSC reprogramming, transfection and electroporation, RNA fluorescence in situ hybridization (RNA FISH), and immunofluorescence.

Legislation and Regulations: Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by Law nr. 40/2004, of August 18, as worded by Decree-Law nr. 123/2019, of August 28; FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, available on <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968> .

Workplace: The work will be developed at the Institute of Bioengineering and Biosciences of Instituto Superior Técnico, under the scientific supervision of Dr. Simão Teixeira da Rocha.

Duration: The research fellowship(s) will have the duration of 9 months, non-renewable and it's expected to begin in March 2026.

Monthly maintenance allowance: According to the values for Research Fellowships awarded by FCT in Portugal (<https://www.fct.pt/fct-atualizou-o-valor-das-bolsas-para-2025/>), the amount of the monthly maintenance allowance is € 1.309,64, being the payment method an option of the Fellow by Wire Transfer/Check.

Selection methods: The selection methods will be the following: 1) Masters in Biological or Biomedical Sciences or Biological or Biomedical Engineering, Biotechnology or similar with a score of at least 18 or higher (30% of final mark) or equivalent scores from; 2) Evaluation of CV in relation to the research position (experience in stem cell biology, CRISPR technology, RNA FISH and Epigenetics will be highly valued) (30%), and 3) individual interview of selected candidates based on point 1) and 2) with a cumulative score of 50% out of 60%, via online or in-person (40%). The top candidate with best score will be selected.

Composition of the selection Jury: Prof. Simão Teixeira da Rocha, Prof. Margarida Diogo and Prof. Tiago Fernandes.



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Announcement/ notification of the results: The final evaluation results will be communicated to all applicants by email.

Deadlines and procedures of complaint and appeal. A complaint may be lodged from the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal to the Executive Board of IST-ID within 30 working days, both counted from the respective notification.

Application deadline and formalization: The call is open from February 16 until March 2, 2026.

It is mandatory to formalize applications with the submission of the following documents: i) B1 Form – Fellowship application (<https://ist-id.pt/recursos-humanos/bolseiros/#documentos-relacionados>); ii) *Curriculum Vitae*; iii) academic degree certificate, where applicable; iv) proof of enrollment at a course that does not award an academic degree; v) motivation letter; vi) declaration on honour that the applicant does not exceed with this contract an accumulated period of two years in this type of studentship, continuously or with interruptions.

Applications must be submitted to the email: simao.rocha@tecnico.ulisboa.pt and mafalda.firmino@tecnico.ulisboa.pt.



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