

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

Applications are open for one (01) Research Studentship within the framework of the project “**Pacto da Bioeconomia Azul**” (“**Blue Bioeconomy Pact**”) at “Associação do Instituto Superior Técnico para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento” (IST-ID) (reference C632741873-00467082, investment n.º 16), financed by the European Union through the NextGenerationEU programme and national funds through the “Instituto de Apoio às Pequenas e Médias Empresas e à Inovação” (IAPMEI) and the Recovery and Resilience Plan, under the following conditions:

**Scientific Area:** Biological Sciences

**Admission Requirements:**

- a) to hold a Bachelor’s degree in Biological Sciences, Biological Engineering, Biotechnology or related areas;
- b) to be enrolled at a course that does not award an academic degree and it is integrated in the educational project of Instituto Superior Técnico at the University of Lisbon, performed in association or cooperation with the Biological Sciences Research Group of the Institute for Bioengineering and Biosciences (iBB);
- c) 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:**

1. Isolate and identify, by molecular means (e.g., ITS gene sequencing), marine yeasts from diverse environments (e.g., seawater, sediments, algae);
2. Perform phenotypic screenings for biotechnologically relevant properties of marine yeasts, including pigment (carotenoid) and enzyme production, antimicrobial activities, lipid biosynthesis and algal-growth promoting activities;
3. Address the range of carbon sources that can be efficiently catabolized and the stress tolerance of marine red yeasts (e.g., *Rhodotorula* species) suitable for circular biotechnology applications;
4. Establish and maintain a marine yeast culture collection that fosters the study and exploitation of metabolically-versatile strains of interest to the blue biotechnology sector (e.g., oleaginous yeasts, and yeasts displaying antimicrobial and/or algal growth-promoting properties).

The objectives will be achieved within the framework of Work package 9 (“WP9 – Portuguese Blue BioBank”) of the “Blue Bioeconomy Pact” project. The adequate conduction of the workplan is pivotal for the granting of the “Advanced Formation Diploma in Methodologies and Techniques of Scientific Research” to the grant holder by Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, and for the progress of the “Blue Bioeconomy Pact” Project.

**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://former.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2019.pdf> and <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968>.

**Workplace:** The work will be developed at the Institute for Bioengineering and Biosciences (iBB) of Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, under the scientific supervision of Professors Isabel Sá-Correia and Rodrigo da Silva Costa.

**Duration:** The research fellowship will have the duration of 12 months. It is expected to begin in July 2023 and may be eventually renewed up to the maximum of 12 months.

**Monthly maintenance allowance:** According to the values for Research Fellowships awarded by FCT in Portugal ([https://former.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/Tabela\\_de\\_Valores\\_SMM\\_2022.pdf](https://former.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/Tabela_de_Valores_SMM_2022.pdf)), the amount of the monthly maintenance allowance is € 930,98, being the payment method an option of the Fellow by Wire Transfer/Check.

**Selection methods:** *Curriculum* evaluation, with eventual individual interview if necessary. The criteria used to evaluate the candidates' curricula will be as follows:

1. Academic trajectory. Bachelor's final grade, with special value attributed to indicators of additional academic qualifications of the candidate (e. g. frequency of post-graduation courses and other training programmes in microbiology, quality of monographs, scientific initiation in the areas of microbiology and molecular biology) (30%).
2. Familiarity with laboratory techniques and methods in basic microbiology, such as microbial cultivation and preparation of culture media and chemical solutions (20%);
3. Familiarity with laboratory techniques and methods in molecular biology, such as e.g., DNA extraction, agarose and polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, genotyping methods, notions of molecular taxonomy (25%);
4. Experience in experimental methods for the study of the biology and physiology of yeasts (25%).

**Composition of the selection Jury:**

Professor Isabel Sá Correia (Department of Bioengineering, Instituto Superior Técnico)

Professor Rodrigo da Silva Costa (Department of Bioengineering, Instituto Superior Técnico)

Doctor Tina Keller-Costa (Department of Bioengineering, Instituto Superior Técnico)

**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 May 10 until May 23, 2023.

It is mandatory to formalize applications with the submission of the following documents: i) B1 Form – Fellowship application (<https://ist-id.pt/concursos/bolsas/>); ii) *Curriculum Vitae*; iii) academic degree certificate, where applicable; iv) proof of enrollment at a course that does not award an academic degree (it can be provided by the time the successful candidate starts working on the project); 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 following e-mail addresses: [isacorreia@tecnico.ulisboa.pt](mailto:isacorreia@tecnico.ulisboa.pt); [rodrigoscosta@tecnico.ulisboa.pt](mailto:rodrigoscosta@tecnico.ulisboa.pt); [mafalda.firmino@tecnico.ulisboa.pt](mailto:mafalda.firmino@tecnico.ulisboa.pt)