

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Title: Post-Doctoral research Fellowship; 1 vacancy

Reference: 22/ECUM/CFUM/2026 – MuSSHeal (BIPD)

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of 1 post-doctoral research fellowship within the scope of the I&D project MussHeal–“MULTiresponsive DreSsing for Self-Management and HEALing of Chronic Wounds”/Center of Physics of the Universities of Minho and Porto, ref.^a COMPETE2030-FEDER-00887000, financed by national funds FEDER through Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Physics, Chemistry, Materials Engineering, Biomedical or Biological Engineering, Biotechnology.

Recipient category: The BIPD are intended for doctorates in the area of Physics, Chemistry, Physics or Chemical Engineering, Materials Engineering and Biomedical or Biological Engineering.

Admission Requirements:

- Hold a doctoral degree obtained within three years prior to the date of submission of the scholarship application;
- To have carried out the research leading to the award of the doctoral degree in an organization other than the one hosting the scholarship; *
- Not exceed, with the conclusion of the contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of three years in this type of scholarship, consecutive or interpolated;
- Not to have previously held a post-doctoral scholarship contract with the same I&D Unit. Once the BIPD contract has ended, no new scholarship contract can be signed between the same host organization and the same scholarship holder.

Candidates who do not cumulatively meet the requirements described will be excluded.

* This includes different I&D Units, even if they are based in the same Organic Unit (UOEI) of UMinho (according to n° 4 and 5 of the Article 7° of the FCT I.P. Research Grants Regulations in force).

Applicants' eligibility:

Candidates who meet the conditions set out in Article 9 of the Research Grant Regulations, No. 950/2019, of 16-12-2019, of FCT I.P. are eligible.

Nationals or citizens of other European Union member states, third-country nationals, stateless persons, and citizens with political refugee status are eligible to apply for this competition.

Candidate eligibility requirements:

- a) Candidates must have, at the time of application, a PhD's degree in one of the areas: Physics, Physical or Chemical Engineering, Materials Engineering or Biomedical or Biological Engineering;
- b) Proof of academic qualifications completed at the deadline for applications, including those resulting from academic degree recognition processes;
- c) Preference is given to candidates with prior research experience in production and characterization of biomaterials and/or nanomaterials for biomedical applications; Namely in electrospinning, hydrogel production, 3D printing, nanoparticle synthesis or related techniques;

Workplan and objectives to be achieved:

The work plan involves the development of multifunctional wound dressings combining electroactive electrospun membranes, 3D printed hydrogels and pH-responsive nanoparticles for chronic wound management. The candidate will be involved in the production and optimization of biomaterials incorporating bioactive compounds and sensing agents, as well as in their physicochemical, morphological and biological characterization. The work will also include the evaluation of the electroactive and biological performance of the developed materials using in vitro skin cells, aiming to obtain multifunctional platforms for infection control, wound monitoring and chronic wound healing.

The BIPD are restricted in time in order to stimulate scientific employment and the use of researcher contracts as a rule for hiring them - according to n° 2, article 7° of the FCT I.P. Research Grants Regulation (2019).

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellow Statute (EBI), approved by Law n°. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current wording and FCT Research Fellowship Regulation, approved by Regulation n° 950/2019, published in the Diário da República, 2nd series, of December 16, 2019, in its current wording, and Scientific Research Fellowship Regulation (RBIC) of the University of Minho, approved by order n° 4998/2025, published in the Diário da República, 2nd series, n° 81, of April 28, 2025 Amended and republished through amendment statement no. 634/2025/2, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd series, no. 132, of July 11.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out in the Physics Center of Minho and Porto Universities, located in the Gualtar Campus, University of Minho, Braga, under the scientific supervision of the Dr. Sylvie de Oliveira Ribeiro, PhD Researcher initial level, Centre of Physics, School of Sciences of the University of Minho; and Dr. Senentxu Lanceros-Mendez, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, School of Sciences, University of Minho.

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of 12 months, with a provisional starting date on the September of 2026. The fellowship is non-renewable.

Amount of the research grant: The amount of the grant corresponds to 1901,00 €/month, according to the table of FCT grants in the country (<https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf>) and the table of values of the Scientific Research Scholarships of the University of Minho, updated annually by decision of the Management Board.

Payment is made on the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Insurance, if the candidate chooses to receive it, corresponding to the 1st step of the contribution base (for scholarships of 6 months or more) and Personal Accident Insurance.

Exclusivity regime: The grantee will perform the activities under exclusivity, as foreseen in article 5º of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel:

President: Senentxu Lanceros-Mendez, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, School of Sciences, University of Minho;

Effective member: Sylvie de Oliveira Ribeiro, PhD Researcher initial level, Centre of Physics, School of Sciences of the University of Minho; Clarisse Marta de Oliveira Ribeiro, Assistant Researcher, Centre of Physics, School of Sciences of the University of Minho.

Substitute member: Pedro Libânio de Abreu Martins, Assistant Researcher, Centre of Physics, School of Sciences of the University of Minho; Pedro Filipe Ribeiro Costa, Assistant Researcher, Centre of Physics, School of Sciences of the University of Minho

The first effective member will substitute the President of the selection panel in case of impediment, being nominate the first substitute member in the place of the first effective member.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit, following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 0 to 5 values:

Applicant Merit - AM (100%):

- a) Academic path (considering the classifications of academic degrees), with a weighting of 30%;
- b) Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 50%;

- c) Motivation letter, with a weighting of 20%.

The final classification of the applicant's merit with the achieved through the following formula:

$$AM=(a*0.3) +(b*0.5) +(c*0.2)$$

Note: Candidates with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of the qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the Portuguese classification scale or a declaration in the terms indicated in the next point. Candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions will be given a mark of "0" for their degree. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open for a period of 10 working days from the date of publication on the Euraxess portal.

Applications must be submitted by email to sribeiro@fisica.uminho.pt, indicating the reference number of the competition in the subject line - **22/ECUM/CFUM/2026 – MuSSHeal (BIPD)**. Only applications submitted within the established deadline and accompanied by the following documents will be accepted:

- a) Candidate's updated curriculum vitae;
- b) Certificates of the academic degrees obtained for degrees obtained abroad, the record of recognition of the academic degrees and record of the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale must be presented;
- c) Letter of motivation;
- d) Other documents considered relevant by the candidate for the evaluation process.

Form of publication/notification of results: The results of the evaluation are published in a single list by final score obtained, posted in a visible and public place in the host unit, as well as by email to all candidates, attaching, for this purpose, the minutes of the jury's deliberations, within a maximum period of 90 working days from the deadline for submission of applications.

Candidates are informed, at a preliminary hearing, in accordance with Articles 121 and 122 of the Administrative Procedure Code, of the likely outcome of the final decision, and may comment within 10 working days of this notification.

An appeal may be lodged against the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal may be lodged with the highest executive body of the funding entity within 30 days, both after the respective notification (Article 12(n°6) of the FCT Research Grant Regulations).

Within 10 working days of notification of the grant award, the applicant must declare their acceptance in writing. In case of non-acceptance, the next highest ranked applicant will be notified immediately.

Fellowship contractualization: The scholarship is awarded through the signing of a contract between the University of Minho and the scholarship recipient, in accordance with point 2.4 of the Rules for the Award and Management of Scholarships

https://www.fct.pt/wpcontent/uploads/2022/03/Normas_de_Atribuicao_de_Bolsas_2021.pdf and the draft contract in Annex II of the University of Minho's Scientific Research Scholarship Regulations.

The contract can only be signed after receipt of all the documentation required for the type of scholarship, which must occur within a maximum period of 6 months, including proof of academic degrees or diplomas, as well as enrollment in non-degree study cycles or courses, as applicable.

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has 60 working days to sign the scholarship contract. Once received by the scholarship holder, the contract must be returned, duly signed, within 15 working days.

Term and cancellation of fellowship contracts: Without prejudice to the other grounds laid down in the University of Minho's Regulations for Scientific Research Scholarships and in the Research Fellow Statute, the scholarship will cease on completion of the contracted work plan, as well as on expiry of the period for which it was granted or renewed.

The **final report** must be submitted to the scientific advisor, in accordance with the defined objectives and evaluation criteria, no later than 60 working days after the end of the scholarship and must be drawn up in accordance with Annex I of the Regulations of the University of Minho.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: Universidade do Minho actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate may be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due, namely, to ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and trade union membership.

Declaration of Honor

Academic qualifications

I, (full name), candidate for the vacancy for the award of a (type of scholarship), within the scope of the project (name or reference of the project), published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference (ref. notice), declare on my honor that I have completed the academic degree of (academic degree), qualifying for the type of scholarship in the competition, namely the course (designation), by the (University conferring the degree), on the date XX/XX/XXXX, with a final average of XXXXX values on the YY scale.

As it is not possible for me to present proof of qualifications until the end of the competition, I declare that I undertake to present the aforementioned certificate at the moment of the scholarship contract, in the event that I am selected for the vacancy in the competition.

As this is true, I hereby date and sign this declaration.

(Place), (date).

(full name)

NOTE: The declaration may only attest to facts that occurred prior to the application.

In the event of a discrepancy between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for the purpose of contracting the scholarship, only the information contained in the latter will be taken into account.

Declaration of Honor

I, (full name), bearer of identification document number (XXXX), candidate for a research grant (type of grant), within the scope of the project (name or reference of the project), published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference (ref. call for proposals), declare on my honor that (I have not received any research grants to date / I have received the following research grants) under the Research Grant Holder Statute.

University	Funding Entity	Project	Type of Grant	Duration	Start	Term

As this is true, I hereby date and sign this declaration.

(Place), (date).

(full name)

