Open Call for a research Fellowship for an Electron Microscopy Technician position in the Project UID/Multi/04555

The Instituto Gulbenkian de Ciência (IGC) is welcoming applications for a research fellowship for an Electron Microscopy Technician position funded by national funds through FCT/MCTES (PIDDAC) under the project UIDP/04555/2020 with the following conditions:

1. Duration: The fellowship maximum duration according to the IGC Research Fellowship Regulation approved by FCT is 12 months. The fellowship contract is expected to start by July 2022, under the exclusiveness regime as required by Research Fellowship Regulation of Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, IP (FCT).

2. Subject of Activities:
The successful candidate will join the Electron Microscopy Facility of the IGC, a service-based unit for IGC research groups (https://gulbenkian.pt/ciencia/electron-microscopy/).
The spectrum of activities include but are not limited to:
1) Biological sample processing for electron microscopy;
2) Data collection on a transmission electron microscope;
3) Providing assistance to researchers regarding experimental design, data collection and data analysis;
4) Quality control and quality assurance of all electron microscopes and technical equipment within the Electron Microscopy Facility;
5) Training of the Facility Users in basic concepts and instrument operations;
6) Participation in outreach activities directed to external people, such as courses, tours of the Facility or other electron microscopy-related demonstrations;
7) Development of new electron microscopy techniques or solutions to answer users’ needs;
8) General lab management and administrative tasks such as stock reagent preparation, project tracking and report generation for the users.

3. Academic Profile and Selection Criteria: The IGC Electron Microscopy Facility is seeking a highly motivated person, passionate for science and technology, who is eager to join a dynamic, fast-paced working environment. The selected candidate will learn new skills and have the opportunity to apply electron microscopy to explore many different biological research fields. This person must have the communication skills and mindset to work in a service-based environment, where good interpersonal skills, a high degree of organization, the ability to multi-task, and a high degree of personal initiative and flexibility are all essential. Attention to detail and a tendency towards perfection are useful personal traits in this kind of work. Extensive technical and soft skill training will be provided for the right candidate.

Minimum acceptable is a Graduate (BsC) degree in any relevant scientific discipline at the time of contract signature (final year students are welcome to apply as long as they will obtain their degree by August 31st, 2022). Additionally, candidates must have good communication skills, including a high level of spoken and written English.

Additionally, we will prefer candidates with:
1) Previous research lab experience;
2) IT skills (Microsoft programs) and knowledge of the common data analysis software programs (such as ImageJ and Fiji);
3) Capacity to work both independently and as a part of a team;
4) High commitment and a collaborative attitude;
5) Troubleshooting capacity and attention to detail;
6) Experience/Training in biomedical sciences will be considered a strong asset;
7) Experience/Training in electron microscopy will be considered a strong asset.
According to article 3, point 2 of IGC Research Fellowship Regulation, the selected candidate will have to be enrolled in non-academic degree course provided by IGC in one of its academic partners.


5. Subsidy Month Stipend: According to the IGC and FCT Research Fellowship Regulation: €875,98/month for the Bsc’s degree or €1,144,64/month for the Master’s degree fellowship plus the voluntary Social Security in both cases, according to http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores. The payment will be made by bank transfer.

6. Application Documents: The application, in English, should consist of one PDF file named “Applicant name_EMF_UID” including a motivation letter (max 1 page), proof of degree, CV (max 2 pages) and contact information for 2 references to the following address: etranfield@igc.gulbenkian.pt

All candidates (taxpayers in Portugal) are required to present evidence of the fulfilment of their individual obligations towards the Portuguese Tax Authority and Social Security. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered as a criteria for exclusion from the recruitment process.

7. Methods of Selection and Evaluation: The selection procedure shall be as follows: CV (60%), motivation letter (15%), references (15%), and interview, if considered necessary by the jury, of the selected candidates (10%). The Interview will focus on the research outcomes of the candidate.

8. Jury Selection: Chairman: Dr. Erin Tranfield. Other members: Dr. Marta Monteiro and Dr. Nuno Moreno. Substitute member: Dr. Maria Joao Amorim.

9. Form of Advertising / Notification of results: The assessment results will be sent to all candidates and to the FCT by email. There will be 10 working days for complaints/appeals after the date of publication of the Selection Minute, through the same application email.

10. Application Period: The period for the applications submission is from 03.05.2022 until 27.05.2022.