

[in ENGLISH]

Position: Researcher (m/f/d) ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE OPENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL SELECTION TENDER PROCEDURE FOR POSTDOCTORATE HIRING

Job Reference: DB PD 2022.01

General research area: Health and Medical sciences

Specific scientific areas:

- Science and technology
- Life Sciences
- Neuroscience

Job summary: The Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology (CNC), of the University of Coimbra, is opening a selection tender for the recruitment of 3 PhD-holders to carry out research activities in the area of Health and Medical Sciences - systems, behavioural and computational neuroscience, under H2020 project DYNABrain (grant agreement No 952422).

1. The Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology opens an international call for 3 postdoctoral position for the exercise of scientific research activities in the scientific area of Health and Medical Sciences, specifically in Systems and Behavioural Neuroscience, under an uncertain term employment contract, for the purpose of carrying out research and technological development functions within the project DYNABrain - “DYNAMIC BRAIN FUNCTION: Towards the Understanding and Treatment of Brain Disorders” (<https://dynabrain.cnc.uc.pt/>), funded by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.

2. Applicable Legislation: the Portuguese Labor Code, approved Law no. 7/2009, of February 12, under its current version. The contracts are celebrated in the context of the grant agreement No 952422 signed between the European Commission and the Centro de Neurociências e Biologia Celular in 2020, for the project entitled “DYNAMIC BRAIN FUNCTION: Towards the Understanding and Treatment of Brain Disorders”. The contract’s maximum foreseen duration is 4 years, never going beyond the project’s end date.

3. The selection panel will have the following composition: Cristina Márquez (Chairman of the jury); João Peça (juror), Ana Luísa Carvalho (juror), Carlos Duarte (alternate juror) and Mónica Santos (alternate juror).

4. Place of work: Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology, University of Coimbra, UC-Biotech, Parque Tecnológico de Cantanhede (Cantanhede, Portugal).

5. The monthly salary will be adjusted to either Junior Researcher or Assistant Researcher level, depending on the candidates' experience: Junior level applies to PhD holders with limited post-doctoral research experience in the scientific area of the application, while the Assistant level applies to PhD holders for over 3 years with relevant curriculum in the scientific area of the application and already exhibiting some scientific independence. Accordingly, for Junior Researcher the monthly salary corresponds to the remuneration level 33 of the Single Remuneration Table (TRU) approved by Decree no.1553-C/2008 of December 31, currently set at 2.134,73 Euros gross on an exclusive basis regime; for Assistant Researcher, the monthly salary corresponds to the remuneration level index 195 of *Investigador Auxiliar* as provided in the table in annex 3 of Decree-Law no. 408/89, of November 18, in its current wording, currently set at 3.230,21 Euros gross on an exclusive basis regime.

6. Applicants may be Nationals, Foreign or Stateless candidates who hold a doctorate degree in Biological Sciences, Neuroscience, Psychology, Physics or related fields. Applicants should hold a scientific and professional curriculum that reveals a profile appropriate to the activity to be developed. In case of doctorate degrees awarded by a foreign higher education institution, the degree must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law no. 341/2007 of October 12, and all formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the deadline for application submission.

7. General admission requirements:

Applicants must hold a PhD Degree in Biological Sciences, Neuroscience, Psychology, Physics or related fields.

8. The selection of the PhD holders to be hired will be carried out through assessing the academic and curricular path of the candidates for the positions in question. In general terms, this evaluation will concern relevance, quality and state of the art of:

a) the scientific production considered more relevant by the candidate, with an emphasis in the past 5 years;

b) the activities of applied research considered more relevant by the candidate;

c) the involvement in activities of extension and knowledge dissemination which promote the practice and scientific culture, considered more relevant by the candidates and related with the position.

9. These positions are designed to carry out a plan of research activities and knowledge dissemination, as detailed below:

Within the scope of project DYNABrain - "DYNAMIC BRAIN FUNCTION: Towards the Understanding and Treatment of Brain Disorders" (H2020 grant agreement No 952422), including activities focused on performing either in vivo experiments with socially behaving rodents, electrophysiology in behaving animals, calcium imaging in behaving animals, optogenetic manipulation of brain circuits in behaving animals AND/OR data analysis and computational analysis of behaviour and neural activity.

10. Specific evaluation criteria:

10.1 – Consistency and quality of the CV (C1) – 45%,

Evaluation based on an integrated perspective of the path and scientific and curricular merit of the candidate, considering the diversity of scientific indicators relevant for the position, such as quality of the scientific contributions to the field, scientific papers in journals, and respective metrics (including number of publications and number of citations), books, book chapters, patents and selected or invited communications in national and international conferences; science management and leadership, evaluated by the performance of the candidate in science management, involvement and leadership in financed scientific projects and research teams; laboratorial experience relevant for the scientific project (in particular, experience with quantitative approaches to behavior, social behavior, electrophysiology, calcium imaging, optogenetics and/or data analysis and computational approaches to behavior and neural activity); international internships and prizes; knowledge of English (oral and written); holding an animal experimentation course, accredited by DGAV (Direcção Geral de Alimentação e Veterinária) for the performance of procedures in animals, will be valued for experimental profiles.

10.2 – Participation in activities of dissemination and exploitation of knowledge (C2) – 5%

Including the organization and active participation in courses and scientific meetings, activities of science communication, scientific supervision of students, master and PhD theses and participation in theses jury.

10.3 – Motivation letter (C3) – 20%

Evaluated by the view of the candidate of its own contributions to the field and the proposed fit in the research lines of the host laboratory

10.4 - Interview (C4) – 30%, for the ten (10) top-ranking candidates of those scoring above 60 points in total in the previous criteria.

The final classification (FC) will be determined by the following equation: $FC = 0,45 \cdot C1 + 0,05 \cdot C2 + 0,20 \cdot C3 + 0,30 \cdot C4$

11. The final classification system for candidates is expressed on a scale of 0 to 100.

12. The jury shall deliberate by means of a nominal vote based on the selection criteria adopted and published, and abstentions shall not be allowed.

13. The panel meetings will be documented in written minutes, containing a summary of what has taken place, as well as the votes cast by each of the members and their reasons, being provided to the candidates whenever requested.

14. After applying the selection criteria, the panel will prepare a sorted list of approved candidates with their classification.

15. The final decision of the jury is approved by the ERA Chair holder of the DYNABrain project jointly with the CNC director that is also in charge of deciding about hiring.

16. Formalization of the applications:

16.1 – Applications are formalized in English and by uploading the required documents into the application form in the online system DYNABrain - Join us: https://dynabrain.cnc.uc.pt/?page_id=1198.

16.2 – Applicants should merge the required documents into a single pdf and name it with the name of the applicant and job reference.

16.3 – The application shall include all supporting documents for the admission requirements encompassed by section 6 and 7, namely: a) Copy of Doctorate certificate or diploma and animal experimentation course (if applicable); b) Detailed curriculum vitae, structured in accordance with the criteria set in section 10; c) Other documents relevant for the evaluation of the qualifications in related scientific area (English language levels will be evaluated taking into account the documents sent by the applicant as well as in the interview); d) Motivation letter, explaining the interest for the projects of the host laboratory, a brief description of the most relevant scientific activities of the last 5 years relevant for the current call and possible fit of the candidate in the current research lines or possible lines of expansion (max. 2 pages), according to item 10 of this announcement; e) contact of 3 persons willing to give references about the candidates.

16.4 – Applicants should send their applications through the online portal, until the deadline of this tender, which is set for the 10th January 2023. For questions related to the call, applicants can contact raquel.rodriques@cnc.uc.pt.

17. All candidates who do not formalize their applications according to the rules set forth, or fail to provide the requirements imposed by this tender, are excluded from admission. In case of doubt, the panel is entitled to request any candidate to present further documentation supporting their statements.

18. False statements by candidates shall be punished by law.

19. The list of admitted and excluded candidates, as well as the final classification list, are posted in the project's website (<https://dynabrain.cnc.uc.pt/>) and the selected applicants will be notified to their specified email contact with receipt of delivery of the notification.

20. Preliminary Hearing and deadline for Final Decision: After notification of the results, the candidates have 10 working days to respond and exercise their right-to-act (rebuttal). In the following 2 working days, counted from the deadline for submitting the rebuttal, the final decisions of the jury about eventual complaints shall be published on the DYNABrain website: <https://dynabrain.cnc.uc.pt/>. The final decision of the jury shall be published no longer than 90 days following the deadline for application submission.

21. The present tender is exclusively destined to fill the vacancies indicated, may be terminated until the homologation of the final ranking list of candidates and expires with the respective occupation of the job on offer. The jury may decide to terminate the present tender at any time, if no candidates are deemed suitable for the position on offer.

22. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: The CNC actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, beneficiary, disadvantaged or private of any right or exemption from any duty owing, in particular, to ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, 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 beliefs and trade union membership.

23. Under the terms of D.L. No. 29/2001, of February 3, a candidate with disability has preference in case of equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare and provide proof of their respective degree of disability, the type of disability and the means of communication / expression to be used in the selection process, under the terms of the aforementioned diploma, on the application form.

24. Under the terms of the RU 2016/679 27/04/2016 and Law nº 67/98 26/10 the personal data collected by the entity is for recruitment purposes only. Personal data collected by the entity by means of this application are intended to assess whether candidates are suitable for the positions on offer and for the preliminary calculation of the remuneration, bonuses and perks of the candidates who are admitted to the recruitment. The data entered in the application are essential data in the weighting of the selection of candidates, which may affect the efficiency and the result of the respective application if the candidates do not provide them. Personal data of unsuitable candidates will be retained by the entity for a period of five years for subsequent recruitment. Applications by prospective candidates may be transferred by the entity to its own premises or to the entities of the consortium where there are job openings during the abovementioned period. Candidates shall enjoy, in accordance with the law, the rights of access and rectification of their personal data. For exercising the right of access, they must submit a request in writing to the person in charge of the data protection office at the entity.