

**OPEN CALL FOR RESEARCH GRANT APPLICATION WITHIN THE TERMS LAID DOWN OF THE
REGULATIONS FOR RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE**

TITLE: Research grant (Master)

It is now open a call for one Research Grant (Master) within the project COMPETE2030-FEDER-01465400 -Carob4All-18348 "Development of selected carob clones with tolerance to climate change", (10ID00254), funding by the European Union, with the following conditions:

Research Field: Biological Sciences

Admission Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Biology, Biotechnology, Biochemistry or related fields, Master's degree in Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Biology, Biotechnology or related fields, driving license for light vehicles, availability of own vehicle for field trips and fluency in Portuguese. Preferred conditions include training and proven experience in metagenomic analysis, in particular sequencing on the Oxford Nanopore Technology platform and respective bioinformatics analysis, proven experience in Microbiology techniques, as well as scientific rigor, organization and good teamwork skills; communication skills and expressed willingness to continue with training.

Work Plan: The work to be developed consists of supporting the execution of the work foreseen in the Carob4all project - "Development of selected clones of carob trees with tolerance to climate change", namely:

- Collection of soil and root samples, DNA extraction and metagenomic analysis of soil samples under cultivation of different varieties of carob.
- Characterization of the rhizosphere and root microbiome.
- Isolation and characterization of mycorrhizal microorganisms from soil and root samples.
- Participation in the preparation of technical and scientific reports and articles.
- Collaboration in other tasks to be carried out within the scope of the project.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Statute of the Scientific Research Fellow, approved by Law nº 40/2004, of August 18, in the current wording conferred by Decree-Law nº 123/2019, of August 28 and the Regulation for Research Grants of the University of Algarve (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2021/10/210000000/0013700149.pdf>).

Working place: The work will be developed at Laboratory of Microbiology of the Research Center ABC-RI from the University of Algarve, under the supervision of the Professor Maria Leonor Faleiro.

Duration of the grant: The grant will have a first contract of six months duration, beginning on September 2025. The contract may be renewed until the end of the project, considering the Regulation for Research Grants of the University of Algarve (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2021/10/210000000/0013700149.pdf>).

Value of monthly maintenance allowance: The monthly maintenance allowance corresponds to 1.309,64euros. The maintenance allowance will be paid monthly by bank transfer.

Selection criteria will be as follows: In accordance with nº2 of the article 11º of the FCT Research Grants Regulation, the selection criteria will be the following: curriculum evaluation and individual interview, with a maximum score of 20. In the first phase, the evaluation of candidates will focus on the following criteria: scientific area of training (30%), final average of the courses (bachelor's and master's degrees) weighted by ECTS (30%), and experience in research and experimentation (40%). If justified, candidates may be selected for an individual interview. In the case of an interview, the weighting for calculating the final grade will be: curriculum evaluation 80% and interview 20%.

The tender jury shall comprise the following members: The evaluation panel is composed of three full members and 1 substitute (all PhD holders):

Maria Leonor Faleiro, Associate Professor (President)

Pedro José Realinho Gonçalves Correia, Associate Professor (Effective member)

Amílcar Manuel Marreiros Duarte, Assistant Professor (Effective member)

Sandra Marisa Gomes Gonçalves, Assistant Professor (Substitute member)

Publication and notification of the results: Final results will be publicized through an ordered list according to the final grade and posted in a conspicuous and public local of Building 8 and communicated to the applicants by e-mail to the addresses indicated by each candidate.

Deadline for applications and submission forms: the call is open from **02/07/2025 to 15/07/2025**

Applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

Official identification document (simple copy or legal equivalent). If you have a nationality other than Portuguese, you should present a residence permit, permanent residence certificate or long-term resident status, valid on the scholarship start date, any of which may be replaced, in its absence, by a declaration of commitment. However, one of the previous must be delivered at the contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the granting of the scholarship;

Copy of the qualification certificates of the academic degrees held, specifying the final classification and, if possible, the classifications obtained in all subjects taken;

If the doctorate has been awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must conform to the rules established in Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of August 16, and all required formalities must be complied with up to the date of termination deadline for submission of the application. If the completed process is not found until the end of the application deadline, the candidate must prove that he / she has requested the recognition of the degree.

Curriculum Vitae;

Passport or identification card for European applicants (copy);

Taxpayer Identification Number (NIF), if you have a nationality other than Portuguese, it must be submitted during the scholarship contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;

Other documents considered important for the type of the fellowship

The Application Request, dated and signed, must be addressed to the President of the Evaluation Panel (<https://www.ualg.pt/sites/default/files/documentos/2022-12/anexo-iii-requerimento-para-candidatura-bolsa-en.pdf>) for the following address: Universidade do Algarve /Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia (a/c Prof. Leonor Faleiro, Campus de Gambelas, 8005-139 Faro, Ref.^a EDITAL N.º 036/2025 (BI-M) or by email to the Scientific Coordinator mfaleiro@ualg.pt. If the Application Request is sent by email, **the applicant must duly express his/her consent that all notifications regarding this application are sent to the given email address.**

-Supporting documents stating that the applicant gathers all the requirements for this grant, namely the enrolment certificate in an awarding degree study cycle or in a postgraduate course;

-Supervisor Declaration taking the responsibility for the Work plan supervision, according to article 5º-A of the Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, as well as assuring the necessary conditions for the development of the work plan and in compliance with article 13 º of the Statute of Scientific Research Fellow;

-Declaration of the Grant acceptance;

-Declaration of commitment stating the exclusivity regime

Complaints and Appeal Deadlines and procedures

On the decision for granting the Research Grant, candidates may, if they wish, comment on the hearing of interested parties, within 10 working days, under the terms provided for in the Administrative Procedure Code.

From the practice or omission of any act of the evaluation panel, candidates can complain to the body, within 10 working days.

The final decision of the evaluation panel can be appealed to the Rector within 15 working days after the respective notification.

Scholarship contract

With the applicant(s) selected, and after receiving all the required documentation, a scholarship contract will be signed in accordance with the attached model.

Assessment of the scholarship holder(s)

At the end of each period of duration of the scholarship contract, the activity developed by the scholarship holder(s) is evaluated by the supervisor, by applying the following criteria, in accordance with the attached model:

- a) Activity report detailing the activities carried out, their results and the milestones achieved.
- b) Supervisor's declaration.

University of the Algarve reserves the right to cancel this application procedure if by any means the contract celebration with the funding entity is not established.

University of Algarve, 11th June 2025

Scientific Coordinator

Prof. Doctor Maria Leonor Faleiro