

NOTICE NO. 54/2025

COMPETITION FOR THE AWARD OF A GRANT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE RESEARCH GRANT REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE

Title: **One Post-Doctoral Research Grant**

A competition is open for the award of one Post Doctoral Research Grant within the scope of the R&D project "4500146323: Participation in the MANGAN 2026 expedition and investigation of the ecotoxicological variables of benthic megafauna in their spatial variability", (reference 10PS00146), funded by BGR - Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe, under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Environmental Sciences or similar area.
2. **Admission Requirements:** PhD in Ocean, Earth and Environmental Sciences or similar area, preferentially with experience in marine ecotoxicology and transcriptomics.
3. **Project Objectives:** The grant holder will participate in the different tasks of the project, including: ecotoxicological bioassays, biomarkers analysis, transcriptomic analysis, data integration and policy recommendations, with the objective to assess the ecotoxicological risk of deep-sea mining in the BGR area of the CCZ, Pacific. The grant holder should be involved in writing reports and scientific publications, presenting results in conferences, and in co-supervising students and research fellows involved in the project.
4. **Applicable Legislation and Regulations:** Research Fellow Statute, approved by Law No. 40/2004 of August 18, as amended by Decree-Law No. 65/2024 of October 1, and the University of Algarve Research Grant Regulations (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2021/10/210000000/0013700149.pdf>).
5. **Workplace:** The work will be carried out at Centro de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (CIMA) from the University of Algarve, under the scientific supervision of Doctor Nélia Cristina da Costa Mestre.
6. **Duration of grant(s):** The grant will last 12 months, with the start date scheduled September of 2025. The grant contract may be renewed until the end of the project, which is expected to be 30/11/2026, taking into account the University of Algarve Research Grant Regulations. (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2021/10/210000000/0013700149.pdf>).
7. **Monthly maintenance allowance amount:** The monthly maintenance allowance is €1,851.00. The maintenance allowance will be paid monthly by bank transfer. (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf).
8. **Candidate evaluation:** In accordance with the provisions of Article 11.2 of the University of Algarve Research Grant Regulations, the evaluation of candidates will be based solely on the following criteria: merit of the candidate (70%); motivation letter (30%). In the applicant's merit, in order to define the adequate profile for the activity to be developed, the following criteria will be valued: scientific merit (30%), experience in methods of marine ecotoxicology and physiology (20%), experience in conducting bioassays with marine organisms, in particular with sea anemones (15%), experience in conducting bioassays with marine organisms under high-hydrostatic pressure (15%), experience in transcriptomic analysis (10%) and experience in statistical analysis using R (10%).
9. The evaluation process may include an interview with the candidates, in case a draw in the classification of the best candidates (in the 1st position) is found which will have a maximum weighting of 20%.

10. Composition of the Application Evaluation Board: The Application Evaluation Board is composed of three full members and one alternate (all PhDs):

- Nélia Cristina da Costa Mestre (President) (Researcher, Centro de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (CIMA) of the University of Algarve);
- Cármen Sofia Vieira de Sousa (Full Member) (Researcher, Centro de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (CIMA) of the University of Algarve);
- Joana Raimundo Pimenta (Full Member) (Researcher, Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera);
- Tainá Garcia da Fonseca (Alternate Member) (Researcher, Centro de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental (CIMA) of the University of Algarve).

11. Publication/Notification of Results: The final evaluation results will be published on the Ualg website, in a list ordered by the final grade obtained, and the successful candidate will be notified via email.

12. Application Deadline and Submission Method: The competition is open from **12/08/2025 to 26/08/2025**.

13. Applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

- a) Official identification document (simple copy or legal equivalent). Applicants of non-Portuguese nationality must present a residence permit, permanent residence certificate, or long-term resident status, valid on the scholarship start date. Any of these may be replaced, in its absence, by a declaration of honor by the candidate. However, this must be submitted during the scholarship contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;
- b) Curriculum Vitae;
- c) Motivation letter, with 500 words maximum;
- d) Copy of the qualification certificates for the academic degrees held, specifying the final grade and, if possible, the grades obtained in all courses taken;
- e) Other documents deemed relevant due to the type and modality of the scholarship.
- f) The Application for Application to the Competition, dated and signed, must be addressed to the President of the Competition Evaluation Panel, <https://www.ualg.pt/sites/default/files/documentos/2022-12/anexo-iii-requerimento-para-candidatura-bolsa-pt.pdf>, by email to ncmestre@ualg.pt with the reference Edital N.º 54/2025. In the aforementioned application, **you must expressly consent to all notifications related to the bidding process being sent to the indicated email address.**

14. Documents to be submitted for the scholarship agreement:

- a) Individual Taxpayer Registry (INV) information, if the applicant is a nationality other than Portuguese, must be submitted during the scholarship agreement process, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;
- b) Documents proving that the applicant meets the requirements for the respective type of scholarship, namely, proof of enrollment and registration and the study cycle or course that does not confer an academic degree;
- c) Declaration of the advisor(s) assuming responsibility for supervising the work plan, in accordance with Article 5-A of the Research Scholarship Statute, as well as guaranteeing the necessary conditions for the successful

development of the work and compliance with the duties set forth in Article 13 of the Research Scholarship Statute;

d. Declaration of Commitment to the Exclusive Dedication Regime.

15. Deadlines and Procedures for Complaints and Appeals:

Candidates may, if they so wish, comment on the draft decision to award the requested scholarship, at a hearing for interested parties within 10 business days, under the terms and for the purposes set forth in Article 121 of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

Candidates have the right to complain to the evaluation panel within 10 business days regarding the commission or omission of any act.

An appeal may be filed against the final decision of the application evaluation panel to the Rector within 10 business days of notification.

16. Scholarship Contract:

After receiving all required documentation, a scholarship contract will be signed with the selected candidate(s) in accordance with the attached template.

17. Evaluation of Fellow(s):

At the end of each fellowship contract period, the advisor will evaluate the fellow(s)' work by applying the following criteria, in accordance with the attached template:

- a) Fulfillment of objectives – assessment of the level of achievement of results by the grantee, taking into account the work plan (75%);
- b) Behavioral skills – assessment of personal characteristics highlighted during the assessment period, namely those related to professionalism and rigor in all activities carried out (15%);
- c) Personal attitude – assessment of the personal commitment and availability shown during the evaluation period, taking into account factors such as the effort made, the interest and motivation shown, as well as the receptivity of the guidance team's recommendations (10%). The University of Algarve reserves the right to cancel the fellowship award process, within the scope of the Project in question, whenever funding is not awarded.

University of Algarve, 06 of August of 2025.

The Principal Investigator

Doctor Nélia Cristina da Costa Mestre