



Reference: REQUIMTE 2025-49

Scientific area: Veterinary Sciences

Scientific sub-area: Veterinary Sciences

1. The REQUIMTE Board has decided to open an international selection competition for PhDs to carry out research activities, under a fixed-term employment contract, in accordance with the Labor Code. This announcement is intended to 1 (one) Junior Research position (**Reference REQUIMTE 2025-49**) to pursue scientific research activities in the project “Controlling the Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System (RAAS) to mitigate diabetic cardiac and gastrointestinal remodeling in companion animals” funded by the FEDER (COMPETE 2030) and national funds through FCT/MECI, operation no. 15280, with reference COMPETE2030-FEDER-00894900, in the scientific area of Veterinary Sciences under a fixed-term employment contract under the Labor Code, with a view to mitigating cardiac and gastrointestinal remodeling induced by diabetes, triggered by RAAS overactivation. Testing inhibitors of this system in diabetic rats will allow the selection of the most suitable drug for clinical trials in companion animals, increasing the well-being of all involved: cats, dogs and humans.

2. Applicable legislation

Decree-Law No. 57/2016, of 29 August, amended by Law 57/2017 and Regulatory Decree No. 11-A/2017, which approves a regime for hiring PhDs, aimed at stimulating scientific and technological employment in all areas of knowledge (Legal Regime for Scientific Employment - RJEC); Labor Code, approved by Law No. 7/2009, of 12 February, in its current wording.

3. In accordance with Article 13º of the RJEC, the competition jury is composed as follows: Prof. Margarida Duarte Cerqueira Martins de Araújo (Assistant Professor and Researcher in charge of the project, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences – University of Porto, (ICBAS-UP), Chair of the jury by delegation of the Director of REQUIMTE), Ana Patricia Nunes Fontes de Sousa (Associate Professor, ICBAS-UP), Cláudia Sofia Narciso Fernandes Baptista (Assistant Professor, ICBAS-UP), Patricia Carla Araújo de Faria Dias Pereira (Assistant Professor, ICBAS-UP) and Manuela Sofia Rodrigues Morato (Assistant Professor with aggregation, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Porto).

4. The workplace is mainly located at University of Porto.

5. The monthly remuneration to be awarded shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article 23º nº.3 of the RJEC, within the scope of Regulatory Decree No. 11-A/2017, corresponding to level 33 of the single remuneration table (TRU), approved by Ordinance No. 1553-C/2008, December 31, amounting to 2,351.53 euros.

6. The competition is open to Portuguese, foreign, and stateless candidates who hold a PhD in Veterinary Sciences or a related scientific field and have a scientific and professional background that demonstrates a profile suitable for the activity to be carried out. If the doctorate was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with the provisions of Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of

August 16, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of signing the employment contract.

7. The general requirements for admission to the competition are those defined in the previous point, and the special requirements are to have a course in laboratory animal science that allows the performance of procedures on animals, with experience in conducting *in vivo* tests. Laboratory experience in the collection and processing of biological samples and *in vitro* tests. Proficiency in statistical data analysis and writing scientific publications.

8. Under Article 5º of the RJEC, selection is based on an evaluation of the candidates' scientific and academic background.

9. The evaluation of the scientific and curricular background focuses on the relevance, quality, and timeliness of:

a) The scientific or technological production of the last five years considered most relevant by the candidate;

b) The applied or practice-based research activities developed in the last five years and considered to have the greatest impact by the candidate;

c) The extension and dissemination of knowledge activities carried out in the last five years, particularly in the context of promoting scientific culture and practices, considered most relevant by the candidate.

10. The five-year period referred to in the previous paragraph may be extended by the jury, at the candidate's request, when justified by suspension of scientific activity for socially protected reasons, namely, for reasons of parental leave, prolonged serious illness, and other situations of unavailability for work that are legally protected.

11. The evaluation criteria are as follows:

In evaluating candidates' CVs, particularly their scientific experience and scientific merit, the elements presented for the last five years of activity covered by the specific areas of the competition (see point 1) will be assessed according to the following criteria:

11.1 Integrated assessment of the candidate's academic record (40%), based on an overview of their scientific merit:

a) Overall scientific consistency of the CV - 15%

b) Scientific articles published in indexed journals in the specific areas of the announcement - 15%

c) Oral and panel presentations at scientific conferences in the area covered by the call for applications - 10%

11.2. Relevant experience (50%), duly proven in the CV in:

a) Conducting *in vivo* trials with induced (in rodents) and spontaneous (in dogs and cats) animal models of diabetes – 10%

b) Collection and processing of biological samples – 5%

c) Conducting *in vitro* tests of gastrointestinal (GI) smooth muscle contraction – 5%

d) Determination of oxidative stress in biological samples – 5%

e) Histomorphometric evaluation of GI tract samples – 5%

f) Quantification of the levels and activity of the elements that make up the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS) – 10%

g) Statistical analysis of experimental data – 5%

h) Proficiency in English (written and oral) – 5%

11.3. Motivation letter (10%)

Only candidates who obtain a score equal to or higher than 50% in the above parameters will be eligible.

12. In the event that there are candidates with scores that are less than or equal to 10% of the score obtained by the best candidate, the jury will interview the highest-ranked candidate and the candidates in this situation. The purpose of the interview is to clarify aspects related to the results of the preliminary investigation.

The final score to be given by each member of the jury is composed of 90% based on the evaluation of the candidate's curriculum and scientific career and 10% based on the interview.

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

14. The jury deliberates by means of a reasoned roll-call vote in accordance with the selection criteria adopted and disclosed, with no abstention permitted.

15. Minutes are taken of the jury's meetings, containing a summary of what took place, as well as the votes cast by each member and their reasoning, which are made available to candidates upon request.

16. After applying the selection criteria, the jury shall draw up a ranked list of successful candidates with their respective classifications.

17. The jury's final decision shall be approved by the head of the institution, who shall also decide on the hiring.

18. Formalization of applications:

18.1 Applications must be formalized at the email address <https://www.requimte.com/> with the following documents in digital format, preferably in PDF format:

- i) Curriculum vitae;
- ii) Qualifications certificate;
- iii) Letter of motivation;
- iv) Two letters of recommendation;
- v) Other documents deemed relevant.

18.2. The application period is from **01/09/2025 and 12/09/2025**.

19. Candidates who incorrectly formalize their application or who do not prove that they meet the requirements of this competition will be excluded from admission to the competition. In case of doubt, the jury has the right to require any candidate to present documents proving their statements.

20. False statements made by candidates will be punished in accordance with the law.

21. The list of admitted and excluded candidates, as well as the final ranking list, will be posted at the premises located at Praça Coronel Pacheco nº 15-6º andar, Porto, published on the REQUIMTE website, and candidates will be notified by email with delivery receipt.

22. Preliminary hearing and deadline for the final decision: After being notified, candidates have 10 working days to make a statement at a preliminary hearing. The jury's final decisions will be announced within 90 working days from the deadline for the submission of applications.

23. This competition is intended exclusively to fill the vacancy indicated and may be terminated until the final ranking list of candidates is approved and expires with the respective occupation of the job position offered.

24. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: REQUIMTE – Chemistry and Technology Network – Association actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, whereby no candidate may be privileged, benefited, disadvantaged, or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty on the basis of, namely, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic

situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs, and union membership.

25. The jury approved this notice at its meeting held on 26/08/2025.

26. Under the terms of Decree-Law No. 29/2001 of February 3, candidates with disabilities have preference in the event of equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare on the application form, under oath, their degree of disability, type of disability, and means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, in accordance with the aforementioned law.

27. The selection of the candidate to be hired depends on the applicable guidelines and regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology, and verification of compliance with the administrative requirements contained therein. REQUIMTE reserves the right to cancel this competition if the aforementioned requirements are not met.