



Reference: REQUIMTE 2025-64

Main research field: Agricultural Sciences

Sub research field: Agricultural and food biotechnology

1. The Board of Directors of REQUIMTE – Rede de Química e Tecnologia – Associação, has decided to open an international call for positions of PhD holder Researchers, under a work contract for a non-fixed term. This announcement is intended to 1 (one) research position (Reference **REQUIMTE 2025-64**) on the project “IMMUNOGATE - IMMUNOmodulation of allergenic Gut barrier to exploit the interactions of food processing, digestibility, Absorption, and Transport phenomena towards protein allergenicity mitigation”, funded by FEDER funds (COMPETE 2030) and national funds by FCT/MECI, operation no 14906, with reference COMPETE2030-FEDER-00848700, to pursue scientific research activities in the area of agricultural sciences and sub-area of agricultural and food biotechnology under a work contract for a non-fixed term, in order to work in the development of strategies to assess and modulate/mitigate the allergenicity of processed foods.

2. Applicable Legislation:

Decree-Law no. 124/199 of April 20; Portuguese Labour Code, approved by Law 7/2009 of February 12, in its actual form and Articles 17th, 19th and 28th of the REC, published in Diário da República under the number 607-A/2017 of November 22.

3. Pursuant to article 13 of RJE, the tender selection panel is to be formed by: Joana Sofia Barros Costa (Researcher at REQUIMTE by delegation of the President of REQUIMTE, acting as chairperson), Isabel Maria Sousa Gomes Mafra (Researcher at REQUIMTE) and Caterina Machado Villa (Researcher at REQUIMTE).

4. The workplace shall be at Faculdade de Farmácia da Universidade do Porto.

5. Monthly remuneration to be paid is the one set by article 23 (3) of RJE, corresponding to level 33 of the Single Salary Table, approved by Order no. 1553-C/2008 of December 31st, i.e. 2.351,53 Euros.

6. Application can be submitted by any national, foreign and stateless candidate(s) holding a doctorate degree in Chemistry and related fields and a scientific and professional curriculum whose profile is suited for the activity described below (item 7). In case the doctorate degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it must comply with the provisions of Decreto-Lei n.º 66/2018, de 16 de Agosto, and all formalities established therein must be complied with at the signature of work contract.

7. The tender admission requirements are those defined in the previous point 6, and specific requirements are:

- I. Background and/or relevant experience in food science.
- II. Proven experience in protein extraction and analysis by immunochemical (SDS-PAGE, ELISA, immunoblotting) and chromatographic methods.
- III. Proven experience in cell assays, namely intestinal transport.
- IV. Proven experience in *in vitro* digestion protocols for food allergens.

V. Proven experience in DNA and RNA extraction, as well as development of molecular biology techniques for the detection and quantification of food allergens (PCR, real-time PCR, gene expression).

VI. Proven experience as principal researcher of a national or international scientific project.

8. Pursuant to article 5 of RJEC, the selection is to be made based on the evaluation of the scientific and curricular career of the candidate.

9. Scientific and curricular career evaluation focuses on relevance, quality and up-to-datedness:

a) of scientific, technological, cultural or artistic production in the last five years, considered most relevant by the candidate;

b) of research activities, fundamental or applied science, developed in the last five years, considered of higher impact by the candidate;

c) of knowledge extension and dissemination activities developed in the last five years, namely under the scope of the promotion of culture and scientific practices, deemed most relevant by the candidate.

d) of activities of science management, technology and innovation programs, or of experience in observing and monitoring the scientific and technological system or higher education, in Portugal or abroad.

10. Evaluation criteria are the following:

The evaluation of the CV of the candidates, in particular the scientific merit and research experience will take into consideration the elements presented for the last five years of activity falling within the scope of the specific areas of the tender (see Point 1) and will be performed according to the following criteria:

10.1 Integrated assessment of the curriculum trajectory of the candidate, based on an overview of their scientific merits, namely:

I. Overall scientific coherence of the CV – 15%

II. Diversity and quality of scientific indicators, including relevant published peer-reviewed articles and abstracts in the specific areas of announce (see point 1) - 25%

III. Participation/coordination of national and international research projects - 10%

10.2 Relevant experience, proved in CV, in:

I. Detection and quantification of allergens in complex matrices – 20%

II. Protein analysis by immunochemical (ELISA, immunoblotting, SDS-PAGE) and chromatographic (LC-MS/MS) methods - 10%

III. Cell assays studying intestinal absorption – 5%

IV. *In vitro* digestion – 5%

V. Development of molecular biology techniques applied to food analysis (DNA extraction from processed foods, PCR, real-time PCR, HRM analysis, sequencing) - 10%

Only candidates who obtain a classification equal to or greater than 50% in the parameters indicated at points 10.1 and 10.2 will be eligible.

11. In the case of admitted candidates whose evaluation does not differ more than 10% from that obtained by the best positioned candidate, the jury will interview these candidates. This will be aimed at obtaining clarifications and explanations about the curricular elements and additional information as well as to evaluate the attitude profile and motivation of the candidate.

The final score of each jury member is obtained by the following assessment: 90% scientific and curricular career evaluation and 10% interview.

12. Candidate final classification system shall be given based on a scale 0 to 100.

13. The panel shall deliberate by means of roll-call vote justified under adopted and disclosed selection criteria, with no abstentions allowed.

14. Minutes of panel meetings shall be executed and include a summary of all occurrences of said meeting, as well as of all votes casted by the members and respective reasoning and shall be provided to candidates whenever required.

15. After selection criteria application, the panel shall prepare a sorted list of approved candidates and respective classification.

16. Panel's final decision shall be validated by the leader of the institution, who is also in charge of deciding about the hiring.

17. Application formalization:

17.1 The applications are formalized at the electronic address <https://www.requimte.com/> with following documents in a digital form, in PDF format:

- i) Curriculum vitae;
- ii) Motivational Letter;
- iii) Qualifications Certificate;
- iv) Other relevant documentation.

17.2. The application period is from **15/10/2025 to 28/10/2025**.

18. All candidates who formalize their applications in an improper way or fail to prove 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.

19. False statements provided by the candidates shall be punished by law.

20. Both admitted and excluded candidate list and final classification list shall be published at the address of REQUIMTE (Praça Coronel Pacheco nº 15-6º andar, Porto), in the website of the Institute and the selected candidate shall be notified by email.

21. Preliminary Hearing and Final Decision Deadline: After publication, all candidates have 10 working days to respond. Panel's final decisions are pronounced within a period of 90 working days, from response period deadline.

22. This tender is exclusively destined to fill this specify position and can be terminated at any time until approval of final candidate list, expiring with the respective occupation of said position.

23. Non-discrimination and equal access policy: REQUIMTE actively promotes a non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt of any duties based on their ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, instruction, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

24. The panel has approved this announcement in meeting held on 10/10/2025.

25. According to Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, disabled candidates shall be preferred in a situation of equal classification, and said preference supersedes any legal preferences. Candidates must declare, on their honour, their respective disability degree, type of disability and communication/expression means to be used during selection period on their application form, under the regulations above.

26. The selection of candidate to be hired is determined by orientations and regulations issued by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia upon verification of all legal requirements. REQUIMTE is entitled to cancel the present process in case the legal requirements are not fulfilled.