

NOVA University of Lisbon

NOVA School of Science and Technology

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Deadline: 29/04/2025

**Opening of an international open competition for the recruitment of 1 Researcher Assistant
for a scientific research career on a private law basis**

Professor José Júlio Alves Alferes, Dean of the **NOVA School of Science and Technology** of NOVA University of Lisbon, under the powers delegated by Order no. 181/2023, of 4 January, makes it known that, by order of de 12/02/2025 of the Rector of NOVA University of Lisbon, Prof. João Sàágua is open, for a period of 30 working days from the day immediately following the publication of Notice in the Official Gazette, an international documentary competition, with internal reference "**Inv.Aux.32-DM**", for the recruitment of an Assistant Researcher, in the scientific area of **Mathematics**, with emphasis on Analysis, under the terms of an open-ended individual employment contract, in accordance with Law no. 7/2009, of 12 February, which approves the Labour Code, with its successive amendments, and under the terms of Regulation no. 393/2018, of 28 June.

Position open under the FCT TENURE programme - 1st edition, with reference 2023.11076.TENURE.041, within the scope of the strategic objectives of the research centre -Center for Mathematics and Applications (NOVA Math), and whose researcher will become an integrated member of this Research Unit.

In compliance with paragraph h) of article 9 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, NOVA University of Lisbon, as an employer, actively promotes a policy of equal opportunities between men and women in access to employment and professional progression, scrupulously providing in order to avoid any and all forms of discrimination. In this sense, terms such as "candidate", "selected", "recruited", "hired", "author", "researcher", among others that refer to the people applying for the competition, are not used in this Notice to refer to their gender.

I - Workplace:

The place of work will be at facilities of the NOVA School of Science and Technology of NOVA University of Lisbon, located on the Caparica Campus, in the Department of Mathematics and the Center for Mathematics and Applications (NOVA Math).

The employee will make all the journeys, in Portugal or abroad, inherent to their duties or necessary to carry out their activity.

II – Main functions and activities:

The selected candidate will work as an Assistant Researcher at NOVA FCT and will be responsible for the design, development and execution of scientific research work that is aligned with NOVA Math's strategy and the sustainable goals of the 2030 Agenda.

The selected candidate should have skills in the interface between Mathematics and Biological Sciences, to join the dynamic team of the research centre, in particular the Analysis group and the Biomathematics Thematic Line.

The candidate will be responsible for conducting cutting-edge research in Mathematical Biology, with a specific focus on Epidemiology. The main tasks include modelling pathogen dynamics, including human

response to outbreaks, vaccination, spatial dynamics and model validation using modern statistical techniques.

The researcher will contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge and the development of innovative solutions in the field.

Responsibilities include:

1. Modelling disease dynamics using Markov chains, ordinary differential equations, equations with partial derivatives and finite difference schemes, according to the specifics of the problem;
2. Consider the effects of human behaviour during outbreaks, studying the effect of lockdowns, vaccination and voluntary and imposed prophylactic measures, according to the specifics of the problem;
3. Investigate the mathematical properties of the model and implement the model from a numerical point of view;
4. Validate the model with real data;
5. Collaborate with interdisciplinary teams to integrate results into broader research initiatives with applications to real-life situations;
6. Contribute to the publication of research results in reputable scientific journals;
7. Keep up to date with the latest developments in Mathematical Biology and related areas;
8. Be involved in NOVA Math's research activities, including supervision of students, and actively seek new sources of funding.

III - Remuneration position and exclusivity:

The initial positioning of the researcher under a private law regime within one of the salary levels of the category is subject to negotiation with the employer, in accordance with the researcher's profile and experience, as stipulated in Article 15 of Regulation No. 393/2018, of June 12.

The Assistant Researcher will be recruited on a full-time basis, which implies renouncing the exercise of any remunerated function or activity, whether public or private, including the exercise of a liberal profession, and the rules set out in article 52 will apply on a full-time basis under private law.

IV – Contracting modality

The recruitment of the Assistant Researcher in the form of an individual open-ended contract will take place under the terms of the Regulation on the careers, recruitment and employment contracts of researchers under an employment contract at NOVA University of Lisbon - Regulation no. 393/2018, of 28 June.

Everything not included in this notice will be referred to Regulation no. 393/2018, of 28 June.

V - Applicant admission requirements

1. Under the terms of the Statute of the Scientific Research Career, approved by Decree-Law no. 124/99, of 20 April (ECIC), as amended, it is a general requirement to hold a doctoral degree and have a relevant scientific curriculum in the area of the competition.
2. National, foreign and stateless candidates who hold a doctoral degree in the scientific area of Mathematics or related areas. If their qualifications were obtained abroad, they must provide proof of

recognition, equivalence or registration of the degree, under the terms of the applicable legislation. This formality must be completed by the date the contract is signed.

3. Candidates for this recruitment procedure must have a relevant scientific CV in the field of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, proven by scientific publications, with a strong focus on Biomathematics and must have or have had a professional affiliation that demonstrates strong activity in a Mathematics research centre.

VI – Application instructions

1. The application must be instructed by filling in the respective application form, which is available at <https://www.fct.unl.pt/en/faculdade/concursos/investigadores>.
2. The application process must be accompanied by documentation in Portuguese or English.
3. The application should be submitted preferably by email, containing the following documents:
 - a) Certificate proving the Doctor's degree in the disciplinary area to which the competition relates;
 - b) Curriculum vitae of the candidate, which must include:
 - i) The identifications “Researcher ID”, “Scopus Author ID” and “Google Scholar ID”.
 - ii) Research and development activities and all other activities considered relevant to this tender procedure, in accordance with the terms of this announcement.
 - iii) Scientific and technological development plan (max. 5 pages A4).
 - c) In the Curriculum Vitae, the 5 works that the candidate considers to be the most representative should be marked, namely in terms of their contribution to the development and evolution of the scientific area in which the competition is open. This selection must be accompanied by a brief justification in which the candidate explains their contribution;
 - d) Declaration, under oath, that if the jury chooses to request the documentation indicated in the previous paragraphs or any other scientific documentation mentioned in the candidate's curriculum vitae, it will be delivered within 10 working days;
 - e) Other documents that candidates deem relevant for the analysis of their application.

VII – Presentation of the application

1. The documents supporting the application must be submitted by the 30th working day, counting from the day following the publication of this Notice in the Diário da República.
2. Candidates will submit their application documents, in a single PDF file, by email to the following address: concursos.investigadores@fct.unl.pt.
3. Only applications confirmed by electronic message from the services are valid.

VIII - Evaluation parameters

1. In this call the candidates' ability and performance will be evaluated in the various parameters under the terms of article 16 of ECIC.
2. The curricular evaluation of the various candidates in each of the parameters described below shall take into consideration the scientific area in which the call is open.
3. The parameters to be taken into consideration in the curricular evaluation of the candidates, in each of the sections, are as follows:

- a) Quality of Scientific and Technical Work (QSTW);
- b) Professional Experience and Training (PET);
- c) Contributions in Scientific Supervision Activities (CSA);
- d) Participation in Management Bodies (PMB);
- e) Provision of Services to the Community (PSC);
- f) Scientific and Technological Development Plan (STDP).

IX - Interview

1. The Jury will deliberate at the first meeting on the need to carry out an interview with all the candidates.
2. The interview, which does not constitute a selection method and is not graded, aims to obtain clarification or explanation of elements contained in the candidates' Curriculum vitae.

X - Classification by absolute merit of candidates

1. In accordance with paragraph 1 of article 27 of the Statute of the Scientific Research Career, approved by Decree-Law no. 124/99, of 20 April (ECIC), the jury will deliberate on the admissibility on absolute merit of the candidates, expressed by the formulas Rejected or Approved.
2. Candidates who have an overall curriculum that the jury considers appropriate for the job to be filled are approved on Absolute Merit, namely, merit of the candidates' scientific and technical work, as well as experience and professional training, compatible with the category and scientific area(s) and subarea(s) for which the competition is open, always taking into account, for this assessment, the following reference criteria:
 - a) Have evidence of scientific quality expressed by a minimum scientific productivity of 10 articles indexed in WoS;
 - b) Have at least 100 citations in Scopus;
 - c) Have published at least 7 (seven) articles in journals classified as Q1 or Q2 in the WoS impact factor in the field of Mathematics or related areas.
3. The following will also be valued
 - a) Proven experience in modelling, analysis and validation of models in epidemiology; extensive knowledge of real-world problems in disease dynamics;
 - b) A strong record of publications in renowned scientific journals, demonstrating the ability to contribute new points of view to the field;
 - c) Excellent communication and collaboration skills, with the ability to work effectively in a team environment;
 - d) Proven ability to attract competitive funding.
4. The candidate who succeeds in obtaining a favorable vote of more than half of the members of the jury is considered approved on absolute merit.

XI- Ordering and voting methodology

1. Once the candidates who have passed in absolute merit have been identified, the jury will proceed to rank them in relative merit.

2. Each member of the jury shall perform a curricular evaluation of the candidates by presenting a written opinion, to be later included in the minutes, in which they propose the ordering of the candidates based on the evaluation criteria indicated in this notice, scoring each candidate for each criterion on a numerical scale from 0 to 100 points.

3. The evaluation criteria indicated shall be weighted as follows:

a) Quality of Scientific and Technical work (QSTW): 50%

Scientific publications are considered, taking into account their relevance to the advancement of knowledge in the areas of Mathematics or Applied Mathematics, with emphasis on the 5 works indicated by the candidate as being their most significant contributions;

b) Professional Experience and Training (PET): 22%

Extension activities and dissemination of scientific knowledge in the organisation of courses, seminars and guest speakers at international conferences. Participation in relevant scientific projects in the fields of Mathematics or Applied Mathematics;

c) Contributions to Scientific Orientation Activities (CSOA): 7%

Experience in teaching and advanced training, particularly in the areas of Mathematics or Applied Mathematics;

d) Participation in Management Bodies (PMB): 3%

Participation and performance in tasks assigned by management bodies of the institutions to which he was linked;

e) Provision of Services to the Community (PSC): 3%

Carrying out tasks to economically and socially valorise knowledge, in particular by managing and providing services to the community;

f) Scientific and technological development plan (STDP): 15%

Career development plan, relating to the lines of research in the area of Mathematics or Applied Mathematics, complying with the following requirements:

- i) Presentation of the main problems to which you intend to devote your future research, contextualising them within the state of the art in these areas;
- ii) Systematised and succinct description of the research strategies that the candidate proposes to adopt in order to carry out their research and solve or contribute to solving the problems they have set out;
- iii) Explanation of the reasons and motivations for his/her choices.

The career development plan may not exceed 5 A4 pages written in 12 pt font size.

4. The ordering of the Approved candidates is done by voting of the members of the jury, respecting the ordering presented in the opinion referred to in the previous number, in the following terms:

a) The first vote is intended to determine the candidate to be placed in first place;

b) In the voting referred to in the previous paragraph, if a candidate obtains more than half of the votes to be placed in first place, he will be ranked in this position;

- c) If the situation referred to in the previous paragraph does not occur, a new vote is held, only among the candidates who obtained votes for 1st place, after removing the candidate least voted for that place in the previous vote;
- d) If there is more than one candidate to be withdrawn, due to an equal number of votes, with a minimum of one vote each, a vote is held only on these candidates to determine the candidate to be withdrawn from the next vote; in this voting, each member will vote, among the candidates with equal votes, for the candidate who occupies the lowest position in the ordering contained in his/her opinion;
- e) If there is a tie, the tiebreaker is done through the tiebreaker vote or casting vote of the president of the jury, under the terms of paragraph 3 of article 19 of the ECIC.
- f) Voting is repeated until it is determined, by the procedure described above, which candidate to rank first. If there are only two candidates left and each one of them gets half of the votes, the tiebreaker is done through the casting vote of the president of the jury;
- g) Once the candidate for first place is chosen, he is removed from the voting and the whole process is repeated for second place and so on until an ordered list of all candidates is obtained.

XII – Notifications and Hearing of Interested Parties

1. There is a prior hearing, under the terms of the Code of Administrative Procedure, of candidates who have been rejected, and of candidates ordered in place of the ordering list of candidates that cannot be provided in the job position in the competition. All candidates are notified of the homologation of the jury's final deliberation.
2. Notifications are made by email.
3. The tender process can be consulted by the candidates, at the Human Resources Division of NOVA FCT, under the terms indicated in the aforementioned notification.

XIII – Jury composition

1. Under the terms of Regulation no. 393/2018, of 28 June, the assessment of applications will be carried out by a jury and will follow the procedure set out in articles 16, 18, 19, 20, paragraphs 1 and 2, 21 to 23, 24, 26 and 27 of the Scientific Research Career Statute (ECIC).
2. Under the terms of Article 19 of the Scientific Research Career Statute, the jury must be composed of a minimum of five and a maximum of nine members:
3. It must include Researchers or Professors not belonging to the Institution for which the competition is open or national or foreign specialists, in a number not less than half minus one of the members of the jury.
4. The members of the competition jury are:

President:

Doctor José Júlio Alves Alferes, Full Professor and Dean of the NOVA School of Science and Technology of NOVA University of Lisbon, by delegation of competences.

Vowels:

Doctor Delfim Fernando Marado Torres, Full Professor of Universidade de Aveiro;

Doctor Maria Luísa Ribeiro dos Santos Morgado, Full Professor of Escola de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro;

Doctor Ana Maria Ribeiro Ferreira Nunes, Associate Professor with Aggregation of Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa;

Doctor Fábio Augusto da Costa Carvalho Chalub, Associate Professor with Aggregation of Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade NOVA de Lisboa;

Doctor Ana Luísa da Graça Batista Custódio, Associate Professor of Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade NOVA de Lisboa;

Doctora Maria Gabriela Miranda Gomes, Coordinator Research of Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia da Universidade NOVA de Lisboa;

XIV - Non-discrimination and equal access policy

NOVA FCT actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, ensuring that no applicant is favored, disadvantaged, or deprived of any rights on the grounds, namely, of ancestry, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, religion, or political beliefs.

XV - Data Protection

In accordance with the RGPD – General Data Protection Regulation, the data collected will be processed exclusively for the processing of the application.

And for the record this Notice is published

March 14, 2025 - The Dean, Prof. Doutor José Alferes