



APPLICATION GUIDELINES

INNOVATION
AWARD Innovative Research
in Health Sciences

BLUEPHARMA
UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA
2023

Applications are open from

January 8th to March 11th 2024

www.bluepharmaucinnovationaward.pt

 **bluepharma**



UNIVERSIDADE D
COIMBRA

INNOVATION AWARD

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1. AWARD PRESENTATION

1.1. Bluepharma Indústria Farmacêutica, S.A. rewards every two years an innovative research project in Health Sciences according to the terms and conditions foreseen in the present application guidelines.

2. CANDIDATES

2.1. Application is open to Portuguese Researchers from National or Foreign laboratories, institutes and organizations developing innovative research projects in Health Sciences. Research projects may engage groups from more than one institution. If the application is submitted by a group, a representative or lead investigator should be nominated and act on behalf of the group in the following situations:

- Representing the group before Bluepharma and the jury committee providing any requested information;
- Receiving the award.

2.2. Each candidate or group of candidates may submit several applications but each one must refer to a different research project.

3. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

3.1. The research work must have been partially or totally conducted by Portuguese Researchers in National or Foreign institutions.

3.2. The project must have been performed by the candidate(s) and cannot violate third parties' intellectual property rights. The candidates are solely responsible for collecting all respective authorizations if applicable.

3.3. The submitted project must have an original and innovative feature. IP protected or IP protectable projects are both very much welcome.

3.4. The submission of projects to the present award must have been authorized by the institute(s) / organization(s) where the work was performed.

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4. APPLICATION

- 4.1.** Applications are open from January 8th to March 11th 2024 and the award will be publicized through Bluepharma and University of Coimbra's website and promotional posters in universities, research centers and health institutions.
- 4.2.** The following application documents must be submitted electronically at www.bluepharmacinnovationaward.pt:
- The application form, available at www.bluepharmacinnovationaward.pt (the application form may be filled either in Portuguese or English language);
 - Curriculum Vitae of the candidate(s) involved in the project (2 pages maximum each);
 - Executive Summary of the project written in English describing the project and its main achievements (template available at www.bluepharmacinnovationaward.pt);
 - Declaration that must include acceptance to participate in all events related with the award attribution, acceptance of the award application guidelines and disclosure of any financial support granted to the project (template available at www.bluepharmacinnovationaward.pt);
 - Declaration nominating the group representative signed by all candidates (template available at www.bluepharmacinnovationaward.pt);
 - Declaration form of the legal representative of the institute(s) or organization(s) where the work has been performed authorizing the submission of the project to the Bluepharma | University of Coimbra Award (template available at www.bluepharmacinnovationaward.pt);
- 4.3.** After submission of the application forms, the jury may contact the candidates by email requesting additional information or explanation.

5. AWARD JURY

- 5.1.** Jury members are nominated by the board of Bluepharma Indústria Farmacêutica, S.A. and the University of Coimbra.
- 5.2.** The jury of the award consists of a President (Professor in the University of Coimbra) and a distinguished panel of 4 outstanding national professionals.
- 5.3.** The president is chosen by mutual agreement between Bluepharma and the University of Coimbra, with two members being nominated by Bluepharma and the remaining two by the University of Coimbra.

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6. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

- 6.1.** The selection of the award winner will be based on the evaluation of the scientific merit of the proposed project (originality, relevance for the scientific area where the project is inserted, work execution through collaborations with national institutions, public interest in promoting the project, patentability) and on the competence of the proposed candidate(s). A short presentation of the project by the applicants might be required by the Jury.
- 6.2.** The president of the jury has the responsibility of evaluating if the submitted projects comply with the eligibility criteria during the 30 days after the application deadline. The candidates responsible for the applications that are considered not eligible will be formally notified of that decision.
- 6.3.** The jury decision must be taken by the majority of the members. In case of a deadlock, the jury president has the deciding vote.
- 6.4.** The president of the jury must communicate the jury's decision to the award winner no later than 90 days after the application deadline.

7. AWARD

- 7.1.** The name of the award winner project will be published on Bluepharma's and the University of Coimbra's website no later than May 2024. The jury's decision is not subject to any kind of appeal.
- 7.2.** The Bluepharma | University of Coimbra Award consists of a money prize up to € 20.000 to fund a proof of concept project, and a diploma.
Following the proof of concept, if the promoters are interested in the creation of a spin-off company based on the project, Bluepharma may invest up to € 30.000, depending on the project's merit and market viability. This is assessed by Bluepharma.
- 7.3.** The winner candidate(s) will be able to present the awarded project in the official public ceremony of the award attribution at a date to be announced. The organization of this event will be under the responsibility of Bluepharma Indústria Farmacêutica, S.A. and of the University of Coimbra.
- 7.4.** Bluepharma Indústria Farmacêutica, S.A. and the University of Coimbra have the right not to attribute any award in a particular year if there are no applications or if the jury considers that the submitted projects do not meet the required quality to be publicly awarded.

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8. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

8.1. Intellectual property rights will comply with internal guidelines of the institute(s) or organization(s) where the awarded project was performed.

9. PERSONAL DATA

9.1. Bluepharma and the University of Coimbra will hold in confidence, and shall not disclose to any person outside the organization of the award, any submitted information by the candidates which only will be used for the purpose for which it was disclosed. Furthermore, Bluepharma and the University of Coimbra shall not use or exploit such information for its own benefit or benefit of another without the prior written consent of the applicants. The organization shall disclose information only to the members of the jury in the course of the performance of their duties who are bound to protect the confidentiality of such information.

10. MISCELLANEOUS

10.1. Any situation omitted in this Regulation will be clarified by the jury.



