

Call for PhD Research Candidate to study the effects of nanoplastics in fish

The **Evolutive Immunology Group** of the **Institute of Biotechnology and Biomedicine (IBB-Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)** is searching for a **candidate to apply for a PhD scholarship** (FPU, FI-AGAUR) to investigate the **effects of nanoplastics in fish**. Research is to be developed within the framework of the project “Mapping metabolomic and immune changes after chronic exposure to nanoplastics (NPs) in the gut and head kidney of *Sparus aurata*: defining adverse outcome pathways for NPs toxicity in fish (NanoPlasticFish)”.

This three-year project seeks to help fill the knowledge gaps on the effects of nanoplastics in one of the most relevant species for human consumption in the Mediterranean area (Gilthead seabream). The project will focus mainly of gastrointestinal and immune effects resulting from chronic exposures. Microplastic and nanoplastic pollution is a major ecological concern that is receiving increasing attention from the general public, the scientific community and governments and the effects of these particles urgently need further study, as contaminants of emerging concern.

The project NanoPlasticFish has a strong international character. It is expected that the doctoral student will visit collaborator laboratories in other countries in order to train on analytical techniques necessary for his doctoral thesis project.

The IBB is a multidisciplinary institute hosting 18 research groups from different disciplines; as well as different companies and spin-offs. The **Evolutive Immunology group** is particularly active, collaborating with up to 6 different groups within the Institute. This is a very rich and productive environment, important to favour the proactivity and responsibility of PhD students. Moreover, our group is composed by scientists coming from different backgrounds, such as biology, biochemistry, veterinary or engineering. Altogether, it is an enriching environment promoting personal and professional growth.

Requisites: Candidates must have a competitive CV (minimum of 8,25 as average mark in Spanish candidates, equivalent in international applicants), should be fluent in English, and with a strong background/interest in ecotoxicology and fish physiology. Master’s degree in relevant areas and knowledge in omics will be a plus.

Application: Candidates should apply by e-mail to mariana.teles@uab.cat, sending detailed CV, motivation letter and a recommendation letter/contact.

Deadline for expression of interest: September 30th.

*Dependent on a FI/FPU Individual PhD grant