Call for PhD Candidate – FI-STEP2025 Application

Our Group

The **MoBioFood Research Group** at the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili focuses on studying the **molecular bioactivity of food components in the gastrointestinal tract**, particularly in **metabolic stress conditions such as obesity and aging**. Our research explores the **interaction between dietary compounds and the enteroendocrine system** and their **impact on gut barrier integrity and immune modulation**, aiming to understand how these processes influence overall health.

Our main research lines include:

- **Targeting taste receptors with natural food components to extend healthspan.**
- **Investigating the intestinal bioactivity of alternative protein sources**, such as **insect- and plant-based proteins (e.g., lupin).**

To address these research questions, we combine **in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo models**, using both **animal and human samples**. This integrative approach allows for a comprehensive understanding of how these compounds impact intestinal physiology and overall health..

More information about our research group: https://www.bioactivity-food.recerca.urv.cat/en/

What We Offer

By joining **MoBioFood**, you will become part of a **dynamic and multidisciplinary research team**. You will receive **hands-on training** in in vitro, ex vivo, and in vivo experimentation, applying cutting-edge molecular biology techniques. Our group offers **interdisciplinary training** and opportunities to collaborate with national and international research groups, along with **support for career development**, including participation in conferences and scientific networking. You will be part of a **stimulating and collaborative research environment** that fosters scientific growth and innovation.

Requirements

- Holding a **Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry, Biotechnology, Biology, or a related field**, and a **Master's degree** (or currently completing it)
- Academic record with a **grade point average higher than 8.5**
- Strong motivation to pursue a scientific career
- Knowledge of bioinformatics and statistics
- Excellent English skills

How to Apply

If you are interested in applying for this position, please send your **curriculum vitae (CV)** and a **motivation letter before March 28** to mobiofood@urv.cat. Email subject: **Candidate for FI-STEP – MoBioFood Research Group**