Fundación Biofisica Bizkaia
Biofisika Bizkaia Fundazioa

MINISTERIO DE CIENCIA, INNOVACIÓN Y UNIVERSIDADES

Cofinanciado por la Unión Europea

AGENCIA ESTATAL DE INVESTIGACIÓN

FUNDACIÓN BIOFÍSICA BIZKAIA/ BIOFISIKA BIZKAIA FUNDAZIOA

Offer: **Predoctoral contract in Structural Biology**

Publication date: August 5, 2024
Application deadline September 30, 2024

A predoctoral position in Structural Biology is available in the **Membrane Trafficking Laboratory** lead by **Dr. Aitor Hierro** within the **Instituto Biofisika** (https://www.biofisika.org/en/research/membrane-trafficking) at the University of the Basque Country in Leioa, Spain. This is a full-time, four-year position funded by The Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities. The contract will be part of the grant PID2023-151986NB-I00, funded by MCIU/AEI/10.13039/501100011033 and funded by the FSE+.

Description of the project
The research will focus on the organization of **membrane coat complexes** playing essential roles in protein recycling with direct implications in **neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases**. To achieve this, the lab employs advanced techniques in structural biology like cryo-electron microscopy and cryo-electron tomography, alongside traditional X-ray crystallography. These methods are complemented by functional characterization and in vivo studies, aiming to reveal new mechanisms in protein organization and their links to diseases.

The Ph.D. student will have access to state-of-the-art research facilities such as the Basque Resource for Electron Microscopy (BREM) equipped with a ThermoFisher´s Titan Krios G4 and K3 detector as well as local core facilities. The Doctoral program also includes a mentoring plan and a wide range of courses, workshops and transversal activities to expand the scientific skills and career prospects.

Application procedure
We are an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity. Motivated candidates holding a Master's degree in Sciences are asked to apply through the Biofisika website https://www.biofisika.org/en/join-us, adding the following subject: [Job Application: ***126_AHierro FPI.***]

A background in biochemistry and/or biophysics, along with good written and oral communication skills in English, will be valued.

Selected candidates will be invited to a personal interview during the first week of October.

Evaluation criteria
Criterion 1 will assess the candidate's academic and scientific track record (up to 50 points), including scientific contributions (up to 45 points) and the impact of stays at prestigious institutions (up to 5 points).
Criterion 2 will evaluate the candidate's suitability for research activities (up to 50 points), considering their prior training, experience, and the added value they will bring to the research project.