**“THERMO FISHER SCIENTIFIC BALTICS” NOMINAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**COMPETITION TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**2021**–**2022**

1. UAB “Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics” (thereinafter, the Company) in cooperation with Vilnius University (thereinafter VU) invites prospective 1st-year MSc programme students of the VU Life Sciences Center, Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics to do their final MSc thesis at the Company.
2. The students selected to write up their final MSc thesis at the Company will receive “Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics” nominal scholarship (thereinafter, the Scholarship).
3. The main goal of the Scholarship is to promote active participation in scientific research, manufacturing operations processes and advance perspective VU students’ career in biotechnology sector.
4. Applicants’ BSc final thesis (or examinations) and the main study field subjects assessed have to average no lower than 8 (eight) to qualify for the Scholarship competition.
5. “Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics” nominal scholarship is 1 800 EUR per single academic year, payed out to students in equal parts each academic month.
6. VU students who are doing their final thesis at the Company for two academic years and if study results do not worsen, are entitled for a second-year scholarship, therefore the total scholarship will amount to 3 600 EUR.
7. This nominal scholarship does not influence students’ chances to receive other scholarships from the State, “Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics” etc.
8. Applicants Final thesis topic should correspond any of the following research areas:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Group manager | Research Area |
| Dr R. Skirgaila | * DNA polymerase research and applications * Protein *in vitro* evolution application in improvement enzyme characteristics * New generation solutions for RNA sequencing platforms |
| Dr A. Lagunavičius | * Research of nucleic acid hydrolysis and modification enzymes * Changes of proteins properties by chemical modifications |
| Dr V. Šeputienė | * Molecular biology enzymes application in New generation sequencing technology improvement * Enzymes’ new formulations development for molecular biology methods |
| Dr J. Šiurkus | * Cell engineering * Protein/enzyme research for biopharmacy applications |
| Dr L. Zaliauskienė | * Bispecific antibody development and application feasibility study * T cell activation and differentiation dependency on functionalized magnetic bead characteristics * Investigation of recombinant antibody expression systems * T cell activation-based model reporter system development |
| Dr L. Taujenis | * Development of chromatographic & mass spectrometric (LC-MS) consumables and their applications research * Chromatographic media for HPLC synthesis and characterization |
| Dr D. Motiejūnas | * Development of software tools for automated QC data trending and reporting |
| M. Laimė | * Development of new analysis methods and improvement of the existing ones * Product’s composition critical components analysis * Automatization of analysis methods |
| B. Gagilienė | * Solutions for faster, easier and more robust virus detection and genomic surveillance​ * Development of next generation polymerases for virology research, new generation sequencing (NGS), single cell and gene editing technologies |
| D. Nekrašienė | * New analysis methods development and improvement of the existing ones * Validation of bioanalytical methods |
| Ž. Kapustina | * Improvement of RNA polymerase properties by using *in vitro* selection systems * RNA capping enzymes research * Novel modified nucleotides synthesis and application |

1. Applicant should choose no more than three research areas defined above.
2. Applicants have to be the first year MSc programme students studying natural sciences or other sciences related to the activities of the Company and aiming to do their final thesis at the Company, as well as the Company employees who are the first year MSc programme students and employed no more than 0.6 FTE.
3. Applications for the competition must be submitted by 15 September 2021.
4. Student applicants have to submit the following documents:

* Curriculum Vitae (CV);
* Motivational letter including preferred research areas from the list above;
* Copy of BSc studies diploma and its supplement;
* Copy of Secondary school graduation diploma;
* Copy of other achievements such as scientific and/or social activities (e.g. participations in scientific competitions, tournaments, etc.);
* Recommendation from VU Faculty or Employer would be additional benefit.

1. Application documents should be submitted to VU Studies Administration Department via e-mail [jurgita.alonderyte@cr.vu.lt](mailto:jurgita.alonderyte@cr.vu.lt) and UAB “Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics” via e-mail [stud@thermofisher.com](mailto:stud@thermofisher.com) titled “Thermo Fisher Scientific Nominal Scholarship”.
2. Students’ applications are evaluated by an appointed Selection Commission. This Commission evaluates application documents provided and, if needed, may ask applicants to meet prior to making a decision.
3. The Commission evaluates applicant’s study results: BSc final thesis (or examinations) and the main study field subjects assessed no lower than 8 (eight), motivation, achievements and practical research capabilities.
4. Decision regarding the Scholarship will be communicated via applicant’s e-mail.
5. The Scholarship is reviewed each study semester and the Scholarship holder may lose it or it may be terminated or withheld according to the terms and conditions of the Scholarship defined in the Agreement between the Company and VU.
6. Terms and conditions of the Scholarship are defined in accordance with the Agreement between the Company and VU.
7. In exceptional cases, the Company or VU have a right to change terms and conditions of the Scholarship or to terminate the call for applications.

16 August 2021