

**PREAMBLE**

The worldwide research and innovation community faces an unprecedented challenge to provide solutions for the current COVID-19 pandemic. As such, it is within the interest of the i3S - Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde to:

- **Mobilize international researchers and highly qualified entrepreneurs** for actions aimed at dealing with the problems raised by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Articulate with relevant stakeholders** in the innovation ecosystem to **identify and promote** new and innovative solutions for fighting COVID-19, with innovative potential and high impact.
- **Support and enable the implementation** of innovations that deliver disruptive, game-changing solutions and that have high potential for economic valuation.
- **Transfer the results of scientific research and technological development** into added value innovation to answer unsolved health needs and generate revenues.

As such, i3S launches this year a special edition of the i3S Health Innovation Prize, with **international scope** and **expedite process**, as a means for **promoting excellence** and **mobilizing** innovation initiatives against COVID-19.

i3S will articulate one or more pecuniary awards with the “Sponsors of the Health Innovation Prize”. Other entities willing to participate in the award with “in kind” contributions join the initiative as “Partners”.

The members of the Knowledge Transfer Office of the Research and Innovation Units of the i3S are responsible for the implementation of actions related with launching and selecting the winners of the said Innovation Prize, which is governed by the Regulations set herein.

**Article 1**  
**Objective and Scope**

The competition (i3S HEALTH INNOVATION PRIZE) is public and aimed at the selection and promotion of projects proposing solutions that promote advances in the fields of health and biomedicine directed or applicable to the prevention, diagnostics, monitoring, therapy or other approaches that ultimately impact the problem of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Article 2**  
Promoting Entity

The Promoting entity is i3S, a Non-Profit Association, tax number 503828360, based at Rua Alfredo Allen, 208, 4200-135 Porto, Portugal. i3S was founded from a consortium comprising:

**IBMC – Instituto de Biologia Molecular e Celular**, tax number 503 808 360.

**INEB – Instituto de Engenharia Biomédica**, tax number 502 312 220.

**IPATIMUP – Instituto de Patologia e Imunologia Molecular**, tax number 502 246 308.

**UP - University of Porto**, tax number 501 413 197.

**Article 3**  
Selection Process

The evaluation process will involve two phases:

- **Phase 1: Selection** based on the information provided in the **application form**
- **Phase 2:** based on an **interview with the Jury**.

The Jury will consist of personalities of recognized expertise and merit in the field of research, medicine, health, entrepreneurship, innovation management and investment, having the following basic structure:

- President of the Jury, to be nominated
- Representatives of the Knowledge Transfer Office and Research and Innovation Unit of i3S
- A representative of each of the “Sponsors of the Health Innovation Prize”
- Independent personalities of outstanding qualification in the fields of the tender

**Article 4**  
Eligibility Criteria & Applicants

1. All applications must be based on results recognized by the scientific community that are aimed to implement and commercially explore new product(s), new application(s) of an existing product, new process(es), new service(s), or other that constitute or may prevention, diagnostics, monitoring, therapy or other approaches that ultimately impact the problem of the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Applications should refer to technologies of Technology Readiness Level 3 or above, and ideally have previously demonstrated feasibility at laboratory scale.
3. The applicants are responsible, in all legal terms, for their originality and authorship.
4. Applicants may include citizens of any nationality over the age of 18, individually or in teams.
5. Companies incorporated less than 3 years ago can also submit projects that have not yet entered the commercial exploitation phase or projects in commercial stage that find new

applicability towards addressing the scope of the competition (COVID-19).

6. The following are excluded from this Competition:
  - a. People belonging to the governing bodies of the Prize promoter (i3S);
  - b. People belonging to the governing bodies of the partners and sponsors;
  - c. All relatives in direct line of the elements of the Jury and of the members of the governing bodies of the promoter, partners and sponsors.

#### **Article 5**

##### Application deadline

The application period for the 2020 Special COVID-19 Edition of the i3S Health Innovation Prize starts on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 and ends on 6<sup>th</sup> May at midnight.

#### **Article 6**

##### Application procedure

1. The entry in the Competition is free of charge, and the application will be formalized through a description of the project, to be presented in its own form, available on the i3S Health Innovation Prize website.
2. The application process will consist of the correctly filled application form, along with the promoters' curriculum and any other documents that can demonstrate the degree of innovation of the project, its potential impact in terms of competitiveness, its originality and added value.
3. Applications must be subscribed by all tenderers, who will assume full responsibility for their participation. In the case of the applicant being a legal person, the proposal must be authorized by its legal representatives.
4. Applications must be submitted until the day and time stated in the announcement of the Contest. In the evaluation stage, the jury may request additional information.
5. Any doubts, namely on the eligibility of projects, the submission of applications, their evaluation, or other, may be clarified through contact with the Coordinator of the Knowledge Transfer Office of the Research and Innovation Unit of i3S.

#### **Article 7**

##### Rating criteria

1. The evaluation of the projects will be done by the Jury and will take into account the following criteria and weights:
  - A. Degree of Innovation - 25%
  - B. Scientific and technological excellence of the solution - 25%
  - C. Feasibility for expedite implementation - 30%
  - D. Curricula and Motivation of promoters/team - 20%
2. Upon submission the applications will be checked for verification of the eligibility conditions,

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alignment with the scope and objectives of the call and compliance with the deadlines and established. Afterwards, each application will be subject to a rating process by the Jury and in accordance with the criteria set out in the preceding paragraph.

3. The top 8 rating projects (up to) will be evaluated and called for further assessment based on an interview with the Jury.
4. The candidates selected finalists to defend the application of which they are authors agree to attend an interview with the Jury, to be scheduled according to Jury availability, desirably before June 15th. The Jury is not bound to any confidentiality agreement, so the contents of any disclosure are of the full responsibility of the applicants. Based on the application, presentation and performance in a question and answers interview session, the Jury will select the winner of the Awards, which will be announced in the same day.
5. The decision of the Jury will be recorded on a minute of a Jury decision meeting signed by all its members.
6. The decisions of the Jury cannot be appealed.

#### **Article 8** Awards

1. **Sponsor Awards:** the following prizes will be awarded to projects classified with the highest score by the Jury. (Includes tax if due and intended to build the equity of the project):
  - Up to €20,000 in monetary prize, to be awarded to the winner selected by the Jury.
  - In case the Jury does not reach unanimous decision, each Sponsor is free to select and award it's preferred project and, in this case, the prize may be split into more than one winner.
  - The monetary prize shall be spent in activities related with project implementation.
  - I3S will further award consultancy services within the Resolve-Health Innovation Accelerator Program, valued in €20,000 and comprising up to 200 hours, to be executed according to specific project needs, which may include:
    - IP assessments and support to patent searches, writing and fillings
    - Regulatory issues review on the awarded technology/solutions
    - Project-implementation or go-to-market plan execution with the team
    - 1 support to create the company that will explore the winning technology
    - 1 coaching training for a pitch to investors
    - introduction to investors and industry partners within i3S network, given project needs.
2. **Partners Awards:** Each of the "Partners" will award it's "in kind" prize to one or more of the up to 8 finalist projects, according to Partners own criteria.
3. **Honorable Mentions:** The Jury may assign Honorable Mentions to one or more Projects that it considers deserving.

4. The winners of the aforementioned prizes shall sign a declaration of discharge of the value received.
5. The Jury reserves the right not to award the prizes provided, if it considers that the applications submitted do not meet the criteria set out in these Regulations.

**Article 9**

**Final dispositions**

1. i3S, Sponsors and Partners guarantee the confidentiality of the information received during the entire application and evaluation process, with exception of the interview presentation. The applications do not constitute any licensing or transfer of intellectual property rights on the projects brought to competition.
2. The disclosure in any form, by any of the winners, including but not limited to oral presentations, posters or publications should contain a reference to the i3S and the Sponsors and Partners.
3. The organization reserves the right to modify the Rules and Regulations, as well as the composition of the Jury, for reasons of force majeure.