

# PhD student position in the Laboratory of Protein Metabolism

The Laboratory of Protein Metabolism [pokrzywalab.com](https://www.iimcb.gov.pl) at the International Institute   
of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw, headed by Prof. Wojciech Pokrzywa is looking   
for a **PhD student**.

You will join the project entitled “Targeting Proteinopathies: Understanding and Mitigating the Effects of Pathogenic Mutations in Cullin-RING Ubiquitin Ligase Receptor” carried out as the Opus grant (2024/53/B/NZ3/02882) of the National Science Centre, Poland led by Prof. Wojciech Pokrzywa.

**Aim of the project:** The project seeks to develop and implement advanced *Caenorhabditis elegans* models enabling tissue-specific analysis of E3 ubiquitin ligase substrate networks. By establishing precise genetic tools and applying them across diverse biological contexts, we aim to uncover fundamental mechanisms governing substrate recognition and proteostasis *in vivo*. These models will serve as valuable resources for the broader research community and will facilitate new insights into the role of ubiquitin-mediated proteolysis during development, aging, and cellular stress responses.

As a **PhD student** you will be responsible for the design, generation, and characterization of *C. elegans* models for tissue-specific identification of E3 ubiquitin ligase substrates. Your main tasks will include performing genetic crosses to generate and validate transgenic strains, conducting phenotypic, molecular, and biochemical analyses, and applying proteomic approaches to identify E3 ligase substrates in different physiological contexts such as development, aging, and stress responses.

Your role will also include conducting literature reviews to contextualize your findings, actively participating in lab meetings, presenting your work at national and international conferences, and contributing to the writing of research publications and your PhD thesis.

### **The admissions process is conducted through the Doctoral School website system. The PhD student can apply to this specific project carried out as part of the Warsaw-4-PhD doctoral school via website** <https://shorturl.at/cJKQY> **(the application system will be activated from** **19th of May 2025; deadline for sending application** **is 1st of June, 2025).** For more information, please follow the link <https://shorturl.at/mvxOR>

Candidates will be selected according to the procedure complying the rules for granting scholarships for young scientists in research projects funded by the National Science Centre (NCN Council Resolution No. 25/2024 dated March 4, 2024 r.), recruitment procedure for the Warsaw-4-PhD and the procedure complying with the rules of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers as a part of HR Excellence in Research Strategy <https://bit.ly/3U0dydP>

**Requirements for the candidate:**

* Master's degree in biology, biotechnology, biochemistry or related field
* Good knowledge of basics of molecular and cell biology
* Basic hands-on experience in at least one of the fields: molecular biology, cell biology, genetic engineering, fluorescent microscopy, proteomics
* Knowledge of the biology and maintenance of *C. elegans* will be an advantage
* Written and spoken fluency in English
* Willingness to learn and take new challenges, ability to work independently, analytical thinking
* Good interpersonal skills and a collaborative attitude

**We offer:**

1. Full-time PhD scholarship 4 years (8 semesters) in amount:

a) before the mid-term evaluation 4800 pln net/month;

b) after mid-term evaluation 5300 pln net/month

1. Position with 100% focus on research (no teaching obligations)
2. Benefits including reduced-rate for an individual private medical care package   
   and membership in MultiSport programme
3. Full technical, administrative and organizational support from professional English-speaking personnel
4. Participation in courses, scientific training, support from peers, and academic mentoring

Deadline for applications is **1st of June, 2025.** The winter semester at the Doctoral School shall begin on **1st of October, 2025.**

**How to apply:**

* Apply via website <https://shorturl.at/cJKQY> (the application system will be activated from   
  19th of May, 2025; deadline for sending application is 1st of June, 2025). If you have   
  any enquiries about the recruitment process or the project, please send your request   
  to [wpokrzywa@iimcb.gov.pl](mailto:wpokrzywa@iimcb.gov.pl)
* Please include the following statement in your email: *“I hereby agree to the processing   
  of my personal data, included in the application documents by the International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw, 4 Księcia Trojdena Street, 02-109 Warsaw, for the purpose of carrying out the* *current recruitment process.”* Your personal data will be processed for the purpose of the recruitment procedure by the International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology in Warsaw. Full information is available under the link <https://bit.ly/3UFWpY2>
* Procedure for reporting irregularities, taking follow-up actions, and protecting whistleblowers: <https://shorturl.at/u2mww>

