# PNRR fully funded PhD position available

## The project

We are offering a 3-years fully funded PhD position focusing on the characterization of a novel retinal degeneration zebrafish model caused by mutations in the IMPG2 gene, that faithfully recapitulates the human disease. The successful candidate will elucidate the molecular mechanisms leading to photoreceptor cell loss in order to identify novel druggable targets, with the final goal of developing novel therapeutic approaches by candidate drug screening.

The project will be developed in the Neural Development and Regeneration Lab at CIBIO Department, University of Trento (<a href="https://www.cibio.unitn.it/222/laboratory-of-neural-development-and-regeneration">https://www.cibio.unitn.it/222/laboratory-of-neural-development-and-regeneration</a>), that has extensive experience on the characterization of animal models for neurodevelopmental and neurodegenerative disorders. Within the project there will be the possibility of spending a period in a pharma company and abroad in one of our collaborators labs.

#### **Department overview**

The Department of Computational and integrative Biology (CIBIO), founded in 2007, is a cutting-edge and top-ranked academic biomedicine institute within the University of Trento, organised as a hybrid research centre/university department. CIBIO has recently grown to 46 Research Laboratories headed by successful, independent and international Principal Investigators, and supported by a high level of research services through Core Facilities operated by highly skilled staff scientists.

## **Qualifications/requirements**

We are seeking enthusiastic and highly motivated candidates, who have a keen interest in neuroscience and candidate drug screening, and to work with animal models. Applicants should hold a degree in life science and previous experience with zebrafish is highly desirable. Knowledge in the field of zebrafish neuroscience, retinal development and molecular biology/microscopy is preferred but not mandatory.

## **Applications**

Interested candidates should submit their application including CV, a motivation letter describing how their expertise fits this position, why they are interested and which are their team-working collaborative competences, and the contact information of at least two referees. Please send all documents to Simona Casarosa <a href="mailto:simona.casarosa@unitn.it">simona.casarosa@unitn.it</a>