

Call for Ph.D. Research Scholarships

The Center for Social Research and Intervention at ISCTE-IUL (CIS_Iscte) hereby opens the Call for 2 Ph.D. Research Scholarships, hereinafter referred as Ph.D. Scholarships, in Psychology, under FCT's Regulation for Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) and FCT's Research Fellowships Holder Statute (EBI).

The scholarships will be financed by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) under the Collaboration Protocol for the Financing of the Multiannual Plan for Research Scholarships for Doctoral students, signed between FCT and the R&D CIS_Iscte (UIDP/03125/2020).

1. APPLICATION

The present Call is open from the 9th October 2020 to 23 h 59 (Lisbon time) of the 26th October 2020.

Applications and supporting documents indicated in this Call must be submitted in non-editable format (.pdf) by email to cis@iscte-iul.pt, with the subject "Applications CIS_Iscte PhD Scholarships".

Each candidate may submit only one application, under the penalty of exclusion of all applications submitted by the candidate.

Applications providing false statements, and/or plagiarism, can be excluded without prejudice to other means of sanctioning.

2. TYPE AND DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Ph.D. Scholarships are intended to finance research-related activities leading to the academic degree of Doctor in Portuguese universities.

Research-related activities leading to the academic degree of Doctor will take place at CIS_Iscte, the host institution of the scholarship holders. The work plan to be carried out by the scholarship holders can also be conducted in collaboration with other institutions.

Research-related activities leading to the academic degree of Doctor must fit CIS_Iscte's activities and strategy plan, and must be conducted within the scope of Iscte-IUL's Doctoral Program in Psychology.

The work plan may take place entirely or partially in a national institution (national or mixed scholarship, respectively).

The duration of the Ph.D. scholarships is, in general, annual and can be renewed up to a maximum of four years (48 months). However, Ph.D. scholarships cannot be awarded for less than 3 consecutive months.

Mixed Ph.D. scholarships require that part of the work plan takes place in a foreign institution. This period however cannot be longer than 24 months.

3. RECIPIENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Ph.D. scholarships are intended for candidates enrolled, or candidates who meet the necessary conditions to enroll, in the 1st academic year of Iscte-IUL's Doctoral Program in Psychology and who intend to conduct research-related activities at CIS_Iscte that lead to obtaining the academic degree of Doctor

4. ADMISSIBILITY

4.1 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE CANDIDATE

Candidates can apply if they are:

- National citizens or citizens from European Union member countries;
- Citizens of third countries;
- Stateless;
- Citizens benefiting from political refugee status.

To apply for these Ph.D. scholarships, candidates must:

- Hold a Bachelor's and/or Master's in Psychology or in other scientific domains that are recognized by the evaluation panel as adequate to conduct the work plan.
- Reside in Portugal permanently and regularly if the work plan associated with the Ph.D. scholarship is, partially, carried out in foreign institutions (mixed scholarship). This requirement is applicable to both national and foreign citizens.
- Not having benefited from a Ph.D. scholarship or a Ph.D. scholarship in companies directly funded by FCT, irrespective of its duration.

4.2 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE APPLICATION

Candidates must submit the following documents, under the penalty of exclusion of the application:

- A copy of the identity card /citizenship card/passport;
- *Curriculum vitae* of the candidate;
- Certificates of the academic degrees obtained specifying the final classification and, if possible, the classifications obtained in all subjects.

If the candidate is waiting on the certificates/diplomas for the obtained degree to be issued, he/she can submit a declaration of honor clarifying that he/she will complete the bachelor's and/or master's degree by the end of the application period;

- If the academic degrees and diplomas are awarded by a foreign higher education institution, it is necessary to submit proof of registration and recognition of these academic degrees and record of the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale.

If the candidate has already requested but is waiting on the recognition academic degrees issued by a foreign higher education institution, he/she can alternatively submit a declaration of honor clarifying that he/she will obtain the recognition for his/her bachelor's and/or master's degree by the end of the application period;

- Research work plan to be conducted. Please use template A, attached;
- Justification of the relevance and fit of the research work plan to the strategic plan and research areas of the host institution. Please use template B, attached;
- Signed statements from all members of the supervision team, clarifying the acceptance of the supervision and indicating: a) the name of the candidate; and b) the title of the research work plan;
- All candidates must have as their main supervisor a Doctor of Psychology, professor and/or researcher full member at CIS_Iscte/Iscte-IUL, with a relevant scientific Curriculum to the area in which candidates intend to conduct their research Ph.D. project and that meets the following criteria:
 - 1) Have published at least 3 articles (or 2 if the supervisor defended his/her Ph.D. thesis in the last 4 years) in international journals indexed in Scopus.
 - 2) The maximum number of simultaneous supervisions by the supervisor is four.
- CV of each member of the supervision team;
- The application and all associated documents, including letters of motivation and recommendation (when applicable), must be submitted in Portuguese or in English.

Regarding the above mentioned admissibility requirements, the following should be considered:

- In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and in order to secure the principles of equal treatment of candidates who hold foreign and national academic degrees, it is mandatory to recognize those degrees and convert the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale.

The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas as well as the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale may be requested in any public higher education institution, or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, only in the case of automatic recognition). Regarding this matter, we suggest taking a look at the following website: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

- Awarding the Ph.D. scholarships is always dependent on the presentation of proof of academic degrees required to award the scholarship.

5. RESEARCH WORK PLAN AND SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISION OF SCHOLARSHIPS

The candidate will conduct his/her research work plan leading to a doctoral degree by Iscte-IUL at the Center for Social Research and Intervention (CiS_Iscte). If the candidate is awarded a mixed Ph.D. scholarship, part of the candidate's research work plan will be conducted in a foreign co-host institution.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND BONUSES

6.1 Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation of applications takes into account the merit of the candidate, the merit of the research work plan, and the merit of the fit of the research work plan within the host institution.

Admissible applications will be evaluated on a scale from 0,00 to 5,00 in each of the following criteria:

- Criterion A – Merit of the candidate, 45% of the overall classification:
 - Subcriterion A1 – Academic degrees, 50% of criterion A;
 - Subcriterion A2 – Academic and professional curriculum of the candidate, 50% of criterion A;
- Criterion B – Merit of the research work plan, 45% of the overall classification;
- Criterion C – Merit of the fit of the research work plan within the host institution, 10% of the overall classification:
 - Subcriterion C1 – Scientific merit and experience of the supervision team, 50% of criterion C;
 - Subcriterion C2 – Relevance and fit of the research work plan to the strategic plan and research areas of the host institution, 50% of criterion C.

For the purpose of deciding on the awarding of the Ph.D. scholarships, candidates will be ranked according to the weighted average of the classification obtained in each of the 3 criteria, translated by the following formula:

$$\textbf{Final Classification} = (0.45 \times A) + (0.45 \times B) + (0.10 \times C)$$

For tie-breaking purposes, the ranking of the candidates will be based on the classifications assigned to each of the evaluation criteria in the following order of precedence: Criterion B (Merit of the research work plan), criterion A (Merit of the candidate), and Criterion C (Merit of the fit of the research work plan within the host institution).

Applicants whose application is evaluated with a final classification below 3.5 points are not eligible for the scholarship.

6.1.1 Merit of the Candidate

The candidate's merit assessment will focus on the following sub-criteria:

A1) Academic degrees:

The score for subcriterion A1 is calculated based on the final classifications displayed in the academic degree certificates presented by the candidate: Bachelor + Master / Integrated Master (Table 1)

Table 1. Reference table for setting the subcriterion score A1.

Bachelor + Master (pre- ou post-Bologna) or Integrated Master (300-360 credits)	
Classification	Score A1
>= 18	5,0
17	4,5
16	4,0
15	3,5
14	3,0
< 14	2,5

Note: The classification to be considered is that contained in the respective degree certificates submitted at the time of application. In the case of certificates of academic degrees whose final classification is presented with decimal places, it will be rounded to the unit by following the rule: When the decimal place is equal to or greater than 5, it will be rounded up in excess; when the decimal point is less than 5, the value will be maintained. In the case of calculating the simple arithmetic average between the Bachelor's and the Master's classification, the classifications on the certificates (even if they have decimal places) will be considered, rounding the result of such average.

When applying Table 1, the following is considered:

- The final average of bachelor's + master's degrees in a pre- or post-Bologna course results from the simple arithmetic average of the final grade obtained in the 1st cycle ([180 ECTS credits]) / degree and the final grade obtained in the 2nd cycle ([90-120 ECTS credits]) / Master.
- If the candidate applies with only the bachelor's degree, the master's will score zero points for the purposes of the arithmetic average indicated in a).
- In the case of integrated masters awarded by institutions that do not issue certificates with discrimination of the final grades of 1st and 2nd cycles, the final classification indicated in the degree certificate after the completion of the cycle of studies will be considered [300 to 360 credits (ECTS)]
- In the case of submitting an integrated master certificate [300-360 credits (ECTS)] and a pre-Bologna or 2nd cycle master's degree, the final classification of the integrated master will be considered.
- When candidates have more than one equivalent bachelor's degree and / or master's degree (equivalent

number of ECTS credits), it is up to the jury to decide which academic degree(s) is best suited to the work plan and which should, therefore, be considered when calculating the classification of the academic degrees (subcriterion A1). The jury will consider the other course(s) presented by the candidate in the evaluation of subcriterion A2, valuing their personal curriculum.

f) For the purposes of calculating subcriterion A1, certificates that specify only a qualitative classification (for example, pre-Bologna master's degrees), this classification will be converted according to Table 2 when calculating the final average (bachelor's degree + master's degree) and consequent determination of the classification of the academic path (according to **Table 1**).

Table 2: Qualitative classifications conversion table.

Qualitative classifications	Converted Classification
Excelent Very Good with Distinction Distinction and Praise <i>Magna Cum Laude / Summa Cum Laude</i>	18
Very Good Approved with Distinction Good with Distinction <i>Cum Laude</i>	16
Good Approved / Unanimously Approved	14
Sufficient	12

Subcriterion A1 will be assigned a minimum score of 2.5 in all cases that are not included in the situations provided for in Table 1. Some examples are:

- When qualification certificates are not submitted, as proof of either a bachelor's degree or a master's degree (national or foreign). That is, when a declaration of honor is submitted clarifying that the candidate will complete the degree of bachelor and / or master by the end of the application period.
- When both national certificates, bachelor's and master's, do not mention the final classification obtained (neither qualitative nor quantitative);

c) When both certificates issued foreign institutions, bachelor's and master's, are not recognized in Portugal and do not have the respective final classifications converted to the Portuguese classification scale. In other words, when a declaration of honor is submitted clarifying that the recognition of the academic degrees will be issued until the end of the application period.

In any case, scholarship contracts with candidates will only be signed upon presentation of bachelor's and/or master's certificates until the end of the application period or, in the case of certificates issued by foreign higher education institutions, upon the presentation of proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final classification until the end of the application deadline, as indicated above.

A2) Academic and professional curriculum of the candidate:

a) Participation in research projects:

- No participation: 0 points;
- Low participation (participation in scientific research projects without a scholarship, or as an intern at a research center): 2 points;
- Medium participation (participation in scientific research projects with a scholarship of up to 12 months part-time or up to 6 months full-time): 3 points;
- High participation (scholarship for 6 months or more full time, or 1 year or more part time, in scientific research projects): 4 points;
- High participation in the research area of the Ph.D. project (Participation with scholarship for 6 months or more full-time or 1 year or more part-time in scientific research projects related to the application): 5 points.

b) Scientific publication, up to a maximum of 5 points:

- 2 points for each scientific paper published in English and indexed in Scopus;
- 1.5 points for each scientific paper published in another language and indexed in Scopus;
- 1 point for each of other type of publications.

c) Professional curriculum, up to a maximum of 5 points:

- No relevance to the research work plan (professional area other than the area of studies): 0 points;
- Relevant to the research work plan and up to 6 months of experience (cumulative, full time): 1 point;
- Relevant to the research work plan and more than 6 months up to a year of experience (cumulative, full time): 3 points;
- Relevant to the research work plan and more than one year of experience (cumulative, full time): 5 points.

The evaluation of the candidate's merit will result from the following formula:

$$\text{Merit of the Candidate} = (0.5 \times A1) + \left\{ 0.5 \times \left[\frac{(A2a + A2b + A2c)}{3} \right] \right\}$$

6.1.2 Merit of the research work plan

The evaluation of the merit of the Ph.D. project (template A) will be carried according to:

- a) The Evaluation Panel appoints, from expert professors or researchers in the area of the work plan, a reviewer to evaluate the work plan. This reviewer may be internal or external to the host institution and will be considered in order to avoid potential conflicts of interest;
- b) The reviewer will approve or reject the work plan, providing feedback to justify his/her evaluation. Approved projects will be evaluated on a scale from 1 to 5 points.

6.1.3 Merit of the fit of the research work plan within the host institution

The evaluation of the merit of the fit of the research work plan within the host institution will consider the following subcriteria:

- C1) Scientific merit and experience of the supervision team, on a scale from 0 to 5 points;
- C2) Relevance and fit of the research work plan to the strategic plan and research areas of the host institution, on a scale from 0 to 5 points.

The evaluation of the merit of the fit of the research work plan within the host institution will result from the

$$\text{Merit of the Fit of the Research Work Plan within the Host Institution} = (0.5 \times C1) + (0.5 \times C2)$$

7. EVALUATION

The evaluation panel includes the following members:

- Fernanda Paula Martins Castro, CIS/Iscte-IUL, Coordinator of the Evaluation Panel;
- Margarida e Sá de Vaz Garrido, CIS/Iscte-IUL, Effective Member of the Evaluation Panel;
- Cecília do Rosário da Mota Aguiar, CIS/Iscte-IUL, Effective Member of the Evaluation Panel;
- Sónia Gomes da Costa Figueira Bernardes, CIS/Iscte-IUL, Effective Member of the Evaluation Panel;
- Diniz Marques Francisco Lopes, CIS/Iscte-IUL, Substitute Member of the Evaluation Panel;

The evaluation panel will assess applications by following the evaluation criteria presented in this Call, and considering the feedback provided by invited reviewers to decide on the evaluation of the candidates.

All panel members, including the coordinator, will respect and follow a set of essential responsibilities to the evaluation process, such as impartiality, declaration of any potential conflict of interest, and confidentiality. At all times during the evaluation process, confidentiality is fully protected and ensured in order to guarantee the independence of all produced feedback.

Panel members, including the coordinator, cannot be supervisors or co-supervisors of candidates with submitted applications.

For each application, a final evaluation form will be provided by the panel in which the assessment that led to the classification assigned to each evaluation criteria and sub-criteria will be presented in a clear, coherent and consistent manner.

Hearing minutes for all meetings of the evaluation panel will be produced.

Hearing minutes and concomitant appendices must include the following information:

- Name and affiliation of all evaluation panel members;
- Identification of all excluded applications and respective justification (if applicable);
- Adopted methodology to evaluate applications considered particular by the evaluation panel (if applicable);
- Final evaluation forms for each application;
- A list of preliminary results and ranking of candidates, in a descending order of the final classification, of all applications evaluated by the panel;
- Conflict of interests by all panel members;
- Possible voting delegations and powers due to justified absence (if applicable).

8. RESULTS

The results of the evaluation will be communicated via e-mail to the e-mail address used by the applicant to send the application/indicated in the application.

9. DEADLINES AND PROCEDURES FOR PRIOR HEARING, CLAIM AND APPEAL

After being notified of the results, the candidates have 10 working days to request a hearing according to articles 121⁹ of the Code of Administrative Proceedings.

The final decision will be provided after the assessment of the pronouncements presented at the preliminary hearing of interested parties. The final decision may be filed within 15 working days, or, alternatively, an appeal may be filed within 30 working days, both counted from the respective notification. Candidates who choose to submit a complaint must address their pronouncement to the member of the FCT Board of Directors with delegated competence. Candidates who choose to submit an appeal must address it to the FCT Board of Directors.

10. REQUIREMENTS TO SIGN SCHOLARSHIP CONTRACTS

Research scholarship contracts are signed directly with FCT

The following documents must be submitted, when the grant is awarded, for the purposes of signing the contract:

- a) Copy of the civil, tax and, where applicable, social security identification document ¹;
- b) Copy of proof of residence in Portugal (mandatory document for granting a mixed grant). To make proof of permanent residence in Portugal: 1) National citizens must present a residence certificate issued by the Parish Council of the area of residence; 2) Citizens of other European Union countries must present a European Union citizen registration certificate issued by the City Council or a permanent residence certificate for the European Union issued by the *Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras*; 3) Citizens of Third States must present a permanent residence permit, issued by the *Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras*;
- c) Copy of certificates for academic degrees;
- d) Presentation of the recognition record of foreign academic degrees and conversion of the respective final classifications to the Portuguese classification scale, if applicable;
- e) Document proving registration and enrollment in one of the Doctoral Programs identified in this Call;
- f) Statement by the supervision team assuming responsibility for supervising the work plan, pursuant to Article 5-A of the Research Fellow's Statute (declaration form to be made available by FCT);
- g) Document proving the candidate's acceptance by the institution where the research activities will take place, guaranteeing the conditions necessary for its good development, as well as the fulfillment of the duties provided for in article 13 of the Research Fellow's Statute (draft declaration to be made available by FCT). In the case of a mixed scholarship, proof of acceptance of the candidate by the (foreign) institution must also be submitted in accordance with the above
- h) Updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime (draft declaration to be made available by FCT).

Signing the scholarship contract is also dependent on the:

- compliance with all requirements of this Call;
- result of the scientific evaluation;
- the absence of unjustified non-compliance with the grantee's duties under a previous scholarship contract financed, directly or indirectly, by FCT

¹ The availability of these documents can be replaced, at the option of the candidate, by the presence in person at the financing entity, which will keep the elements contained therein that are relevant for the validity and execution of the contract, including the civil, tax and security identification numbers as well as the validity of the respective documents.

- FCT budget availability.

Failure to deliver any of the documents required to complete the scholarship contracting process, within 6 months from the date of communication of the conditional grant decision, implies the expiration of the said grant and the termination of the process.

11. FINANCING

Payment of scholarships will begin after the applicants have returned the duly signed scholarship contract, which must occur within a maximum period of 15 working days from the date of receipt.

The scholarships awarded under this call will be financed by the FCT with funds from the State Budget and, when eligible, with funds from the European Social Fund, to be made available under PORTUGAL2020, namely through the Northern Regional Operational Program (NORTE 2020), The Regional Operational Program of the Center (Centro 2020) and the Regional Operational Program of the Alentejo (Alentejo 2020), in accordance with the regulatory provisions established for this purpose.

12. COMPONENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship recipients receive a monthly maintenance allowance in accordance with the table in Appendix I of the RBI.

The scholarship may also include other components, under the terms set out in article 18 of the RBI and in accordance to the amounts provided in its Appendix II

All scholarship holders benefit from personal accident insurance for research activities, supported by FCT.

All scholarship holders who are not covered by any social protection regime can ensure the exercise of the right to social security through adherence to the voluntary social insurance regime, under the terms of the Contributory Schemes of the Social Security Social Security System, ensuring the FCT charges resulting from contributions under the terms and with the limits provided for in article 10 of the EBI.

13. PAYMENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMPONENTS

Payments due to the scholarship holder are made by bank transfer to the account identified by the scholarship holder. The payment of the monthly maintenance allowance is made on the first business day of each month.

Payments for the registration, enrollment or tuition relative to the Doctoral Program in which the scholarship holder is enrolled at are made by FCT directly to the national institution where the fellow is enrolled.

14. SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The renewal of the scholarship depends on an application submitted by the fellow, within 60 working days prior to the renewal start date, accompanied by the following documents:

- a) statements issued by the supervisor(s) and by the host institution(s) clarifying the evaluation of the work developed by the scholarship holder;
- b) updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime;
- c) document proving renewal of enrollment in the cycle of studies leading to the degree of doctor.

15. INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY OF FINANCING

in all R&D activities directly or indirectly financed by the scholarship, namely, in all communications, publications and scientific creations, as well as theses, carried out with the support provided for in the scholarship, the mention of financial support from FCT and the Fund must be expressed European Social Program, namely through the Northern Regional Operational Program (NORTH 2020), the Regional Operational Program of the Center (Centro 2020) and the Regional Operational Program of Alentejo (Alentejo 2020). For this purpose, the FCT, MCTES, FSE and EU insignia must be inscribed in the documents relating to these actions, in accordance with the graphic rules of each operational program

The dissemination of results of research funded under the RBI must comply with the rules for open access to data, publications and other research results at the FCT.

In all scholarships, and in particular in the case of actions supported by community financing, namely from the ESF, monitoring and control actions may be carried out by national and community bodies in accordance with the applicable legislation in this matter, with mandatory support from scholarship holders collaboration and provision of the requested information, which includes carrying out surveys and evaluation studies in this area, even though the scholarship has already ceased.

16. NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL ACCESS POLICY

FCT promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate can be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due, namely, to ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic status, education, origin or social status, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic or race origin, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and affiliation union.

17. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

This application to Ph.D. scholarships is regulated by this Call, by the FCT Research Scholarship Regulation, approved by Regulation No. 950/2019, published in the II Series of the DR of December 16, 2019, by the Research Fellowship Statute approved by the Law 40/2004, of August 18, in the current wording, and by other applicable national and community legislation.