

Notice of the Call for Doctoral Research Fellowships

The University of Évora (UÉvora) opens a call for 20 (twenty) research grants, hereinafter referred to as PhD Research Grants, in any area of knowledge covered by UÉvora's doctoral programmes, under the Research Grants Regulation (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and the Research Grant Holder Statute (EBI).

The grants will be funded by FCT, under the Collaboration Protocol for the Financing of a Multiannual Program of PhD Research Grants, signed between FCT and the University of Évora, within the scope of the EU GREEN Alliance, in which UÉvora participates.

1. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

The call is open between February 20, 2026 and March 19, 2026 (11:59 p.m., Lisbon time).

Applications and supporting documents provided for in this Call Notice must be submitted by e-mail to vicereitora.3i@uevora.pt, with the indication in the subject "Application for a PhD Research Grant, BID_FCT_EUGREEN".

Each candidate may submit only one application, under penalty of cancellation of all applications submitted.

The provision of false statements or the performance of acts of plagiarism by candidates is grounds for cancellation of the candidacy, without prejudice to the adoption of other sanctioning measures.

2. TYPE AND DURATION OF GRANTS

The doctoral research grants are intended to finance the grantee's carrying out of research activities leading to the award of a doctoral degree at UÉvora, preferably in co-supervision with one of the following institutions that are part of the EU GREEN Alliance, namely:

- University of Extremadura;
- University of Angers;
- Atlantic Technological University;
- University of Parma;
- Otto von Guericke University of Magdeburg;
- University of Gävle;
- University of Oradea;
- Wroklaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences.

Research activities leading to the achievement of the PhD degree of the selected fellows should enhance the creation of synergies between the Alliance partners and promote the sharing of research environments between the Alliance entities involved.

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

The duration of the scholarships is, as a rule, annual, renewable up to a maximum of four years (48 months), and a scholarship cannot be awarded for a period of less than 3 consecutive months.

In the case of a mixed fellowship, the period of the work plan that also takes place in one of the foreign institutions may not be less than 12 months nor more than 24 months, consecutive or interpolated.

3. RECIPIENTS OF THE GRANTS

The PhD Research Grants are intended for registered candidates enrolled or candidates who meet the necessary conditions to enroll in a Doctoral Program at UÉvora and who wish to develop research activities leading to the academic degree of PhD at UÉvora, framed in the plan of activities and strategy of one of the R&D Units of UÉvora evaluated by FCT, preferably in co-supervision with one of the Universities that are part of the EU GREEN Alliance.

4. ADMISSIBILITY

4.1 Candidate eligibility requirements

The following may apply for this call:

- National citizens or citizens of other member states of the European Union;
- Third-country nationals;
- Stateless persons;
- Citizens benefiting from political refugee status.

To apply for a PhD Research Grant, it is necessary:

- Hold a Bachelor's or Master's degree;
- Not have previously benefited from a PhD scholarship or a PhD scholarship in a company directly funded by FCT, regardless of its duration;
- In the case of a mixed scholarship, reside permanently and habitually in Portugal on the date of the beginning of the period of the work plan abroad, a requirement applicable to both national and foreign citizens;
- Not hold a PhD degree.

4.2 Application eligibility requirements

It is indispensable, under penalty of not being admitted to the Competition, to attach the following documents to the application:

- Elements of the identity card/citizen card/passport;
- Curriculum vitae of the candidate imported from the CIÊNCIAVITAE platform;
- Curriculum vitae of the supervisors (up to 3);
- Proposed work plan, which must consist of the following fields:
 - i. Summary of the Work Plan including:
 - The title of the work plan;
 - Abstract / Summary of the work plan to be developed (with mention of the doctoral program you are attending or intend to attend at UÉvora) – maximum 250 words;
 - Four to six keywords that best identify the content of the work plan;
 - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. - Select 1-3 of the 17 sustainable development goals present in the United Nations 2030 agenda that fall within the scope of the work plan (maximum 150 words);
 - Framework in the objectives of the EU GREEN Alliance (maximum 150 words);
 - Doctoral Program in which you are enrolled or to which you intend to apply;
 - Reception Unit (R&D Unit of the University of Évora);
 - Framework in the objectives and strategy of the Host Unit (maximum 150 words);
 - Name of the supervisor(s) at the University of Évora;
 - Other institution(s) when applicable and Name of the supervisor(s) in this institution(s);
 - ii. State of the art (maximum 500 words);
 - iii. Objectives (maximum 300 words);
 - iv. Detailed description (maximum 1000 words);
 - v. Timeline and other attachments (maximum 10MB);
 - vi. Bibliographic references (maximum 30 references);
 - vii. Ethical issues – clearly identify the ethical issues related to the work plan and explain how they will be addressed (maximum 500 words).

- Adequacy of reception conditions;
- If applicable, declaration of commitment issued by the foreign entity for hosting for a period of not less than 12 months and not more than 24 months (consecutive or interpolated);
- Certificates of qualification of the academic degrees held, specifying the final classification and, if possible, the classifications obtained in all subjects taken;
- Registration of recognition of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions and registration of the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale;
- Motivation letter (maximum 750 words);
- Two letters of recommendation (maximum).

The application and all documents associated with it must be written in Portuguese or English.

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

- Only candidates who have completed the cycle of studies leading to a bachelor's or master's degree by the end of the deadline for applying for the doctoral scholarship will be admitted. If they do not yet have the certificate of completion of the course, a declaration of honour will be accepted from the candidates that they will complete the qualifications necessary for the purposes of the competition by the end of the application deadline. The granting of the scholarship is subject to the presentation, in the contracting phase, of proof of ownership of academic qualifications.
- In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and in order to ensure the application of the principle of equal treatment to candidates who hold foreign and national academic degrees, it is mandatory to recognize these 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, can be requested at any public higher education institution, or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, only in the case of automatic recognition). Regarding this matter, it is suggested to consult the DGES portal through the following address: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

5. WORK PLANS AND SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISION OF THE GRANTS

The work plan of the fellows will consist of the development of a research project leading to the award of a doctoral degree, under the scientific coordination of up to 3 supervisors. The data and affiliation of the supervisors must be indicated. At least one of the supervisors must be a professor or researcher at the University of Évora, integrated in an R&D Unit of the institution evaluated by FCT. The remaining supervisors may be professors or researchers from other institutions, preferably affiliated with the partner Universities mentioned in this notice, and must meet the necessary conditions to guide the respective work plan in accordance with the requirements of the intended Doctoral Program. The research activities leading to the obtaining of the academic degree of PhD of the selected fellows must be framed in the strategic plan of the R&D Unit(s) of UÉvora involved, fostering the creation of synergies between the members of the EU GREEN Alliance and promoting the sharing of research environments between the entities involved.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND BONUSES

6.1 Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation takes into account the merit of the candidate, the work plan to be developed and the reception conditions, including the complementarity between the institutions involved in the supervision. Applications considered admissible will be ranked according to a weighted average of the classification obtained, from zero (0.00 minimum) to five (5.00 maximum), in each of the three criteria, according to the following weighting, in each of the following evaluation criteria:

- Criterion A – Merit of the candidate, with a weight of 55%;
- Criterion B – Merit of the work plan, with a weight of 30%;
- Criterion C – Adequacy of the reception conditions, with a weight of 15%.

Expressed by the following formula:

$$\text{Final Grade} = (0.55 \times A) + (0.30 \times B) + (0.15 \times C)$$

6.1.2 Criterion A – Candidate's merit

The merit of the candidate, criterion A, is evaluated based on two sub-criteria:

- A1. Academic background (with a weighting of 60% of the candidate's merit);
- A2. Personal and professional curriculum (with a weighting of 40% of the candidate's merit).

The classification of criterion A – merit of the candidate will be obtained by applying the following

formula: $\text{Criterion A} = (0.60 \times A1) + (0.40 \times A2)$.

6.1.2.1 Sub-criterion A1 - Academic Path

The candidate's score in this sub-criterion results from the final grades of the grades obtained, according to the following reference table:

Table 1 – Reference table for the definition of the score of sub-criterion A1 – Academic Path

<u>Licenciatura + Mestrado</u> (pré- ou pós-Bologna)		<u>Licenciatura (180 créditos)</u> (pré- ou pós-Bologna)		<u>Mestrado (90-120 créditos)</u> (pré- ou pós-Bologna)	
ou					
<u>Mestrado Integrado (300-360 créditos)</u>					
Classificação	Pontuação A1	Classificação	Pontuação A1	Classificação	Pontuação A1
≥ 18	5,0	≥ 17	3,5	≥ 17	3,0
17	4,5	16	3,0	16	2,5
16	4,0	15	2,5	15	2,0
15	3,5	14	2,0	14	1,5
14	3,0	<14	1,5	< 14	1,0
<14	2,5				

a) The final average of "bachelor's degree + master's degree" (first column of the Table), in a pre- or post-Bologna path, results from the weighted average of the final grade obtained in the 1st cycle/bachelor's degree and the final grade obtained in the 2nd cycle/master's degree, by applying the following formula:

Final average (bachelor's degree (1st. Cycle) + Master's Degree (2nd Cycle))= 3/5 final grade 1st Cycle + 2/5 final grade 2nd Cycle.

b) In the case of Integrated Master's Degrees awarded by institutions that do not issue certificates with a breakdown of the final grades of the 1st and 2nd cycles, the final grade is considered to be included in the degree certificate after completion of the cycle of studies (300 to 360 credits).

c) For the application of the scoring system presented in the table, it is mandatory to send all certificates of academic degrees obtained, with an indication of the final classification, otherwise only the classifications of the certificates sent will be considered (c.f. point 6.1.2.1e).

d) When candidates present more than one bachelor's and/or master's certificate (with an equivalent number of ECTS), the evaluation panel must decide which of the academic degrees is the most appropriate to the work plan, which must be used to calculate the score of sub-criterion A1.

e) Sub-criterion A1 is classified as zero (A1 = 0):

- When no certificate, bachelor's or master's degree (national or foreign) is presented;
- When the bachelor's and/or master's certificates do not indicate the final classification;
- When the certificates of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions are not recognized, as well as the failure to convert the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale.

6.1.2.2 – Sub-criterion A2 – Personal and professional curriculum

The candidate's curriculum will be analysed and weighted in an integrated manner, through a global view of the merit of their personal, scientific and professional career, according to the

Curriculum vitae submitted. In this sub-criterion, the evaluation of the motivation letter, where the candidate expresses the reasons why he is applying, as well as the letters of recommendation will be considered.

6.1.3 Criterion B – Merit of the work plan

The merit of the work plan, criterion B, is evaluated based on three sub-criteria:

B1. Reasoned relevance of the object of study (with a weighting of 40% of the merit of the work plan) and its framework in the strategy of the Research Units and the EU GREEN Alliance – the clear definition of the objectives and research issues will be valued, as well as the originality and potential contribution of the research project to the knowledge and advancement of science and technology, towards a fairer society, a more balanced economy and a more viable environment (objectives of the EU GREEN Alliance);

B2. Scientific quality of the state of the art and methodology of the work plan (with a weighting of 40% of the merit of the work plan) – clarity, consistency and coherence will be valued, in accordance with internationally accepted standards;

B3. Feasibility of the work plan (with a weighting of 20% of the merit of the work plan) – the adequacy of the methodologies to the tasks and objectives set out in the work plan will be valued, as well as the respective deadlines and schedule of the proposed activities, including the risks inherent to the various phases of the proposed plan and the corresponding contingency measures to be adopted.

The classification of criterion B – merit of the work plan will be obtained by applying the following formula: $\text{Criterion B} = (0.40 \times B1) + (0.40 \times B2) + (0.20 \times B3)$.

6.1.3 Criterion C – Adequacy of reception conditions

The adequacy of the reception conditions, corresponding to Criterion C, is evaluated based on the conditions offered by the host institution(s) for the implementation of the proposed work plan, the experience and suitability of the supervision team in the scientific area of the application, as well as their complementarity, the ability of the candidate and the supervisors to carry out the proposed project and the relevance of the collaborations established. The participation of supervisors from partner Universities belonging to the EU GREEN Alliance will be valued.

The final classification translated by the formula specified in this document will be rounded to the second decimal place, using the following rule: when the third decimal place is equal to or greater than 5 (five), it will be rounded up; if it is less than 5 (five), the value of the second decimal place will be maintained.

Candidates with a classification below 3.50 will not be considered eligible for the award of a scholarship, unless otherwise expressly justified by the evaluation panel. For tie-breaking purposes, the ranking of the candidates will be carried out based on the classifications assigned to each of the evaluation criteria in the following order of precedence: 1st criterion A (merit of the

candidate), 2nd criterion B (merit of the work plan), 3rd criterion C (complementarity between the two institutions).

Important notice for applicants with diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions:

- Candidates with diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions may apply and will be evaluated with the same criteria as candidates with diplomas issued by Portuguese institutions, provided that they submit, in their application, proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale under the terms of the applicable legislation.
- Scholarship contracts with candidates with diplomas issued by foreign institutions will only be concluded upon presentation of proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final classification, as indicated above.

7. EVALUATION

The evaluation Panel consists of the following effective elements:

Professor Dr. Maria João Tavares da Costa, Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Internationalization, President of the jury;

Professor Dr. Rui Paulo Vasco Salgado, Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies and Research (IIFA);

Prof. Dr. Tiago Filipe Navarro Frutuoso dos Santos Marques, Director of the School of Arts (EA)

Prof. Dr. Fernando Manuel Lucas Carapau, Director of the School of Science and Technology (ECT)

Prof. Dr. José Manuel Leal Zaragoça, representative of the School of Social Sciences (ECS);

Prof. Dr. Orlando de Jesus Semedo Mendes Fernandes, representative of the School of Health and Human Development (ESDH);

Prof. Dr. Isabel Maria Tarico Bico, Director of the Nursing School S. João de Deus (ESESJD)

The evaluation panel of candidates is composed of the following substitute elements:

Prof. Ana Paula Canavarro Teixeira, Vice-Rector for Education and Pedagogical Innovation;

Professor Salvador Pinto Abreu, President of the Scientific Council of the Institute for Advanced Studies and Research (IIFA).

The evaluation panel will assess the applications according to the evaluation criteria contained in this Call for Applications, weighing the elements of assessment.

All panel members, including the jury chair and potential external reviewers, commit to respecting a set of responsibilities essential to the evaluation process, such as the duties of impartiality, the declaration of any potential situations of conflict of interest and confidentiality. At all times of the evaluation process, confidentiality is fully protected and ensured in order to guarantee the independence of all opinions produced.

Panel members, including the Chair of the Jury and potential external reviewers, may not be supervisors of candidates with applications submitted to the competition.

For each application, a final evaluation form will be produced by the panel, where the arguments that led to the classifications attributed to each of the evaluation criteria will be presented in a clear, coherent and consistent way.

Minutes of the evaluation panel meetings will be produced under the responsibility of all its members. The minutes and their annexes must include the following information:

- Name and affiliation of all members of the evaluation panel;
- Identification of all excluded applications and respective justification;
- Final Evaluation Forms of each candidate;
- Provisional list of classification and ranking of candidates, in descending order of the final classification, of all applications evaluated by the panel;
- Declarations of conflicts of interest of all panel members;
- Any delegation of votes and powers due to justified absence (if applicable).

8. DISCLOSURE OF RESULTS

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

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

After communication of the provisional list of the results of the evaluation, candidates have a period of 10 working days to, if they wish, express their opinion at a prior hearing of interested parties, under the terms of articles 121 et seq. of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

The final decision will be issued after the analysis of the pronouncements presented at the preliminary hearing of interested parties. A complaint may be lodged against the final decision within 15 working days, or, alternatively, an appeal may be lodged 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. SCHOLARSHIP AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Research grant contracts are signed directly with FCT.

The following documents must be sent, at the time of the eventual award of the grant, for the purposes of its contracting:

- a) Copy of civil, tax and, where applicable, social security identification document(s)1;

- b) Copy of the certificates of qualifications of the academic degrees held;
- c) Presentation of the record of recognition of foreign academic degrees and conversion of the respective final grades to the Portuguese grading scale, if applicable;
- d) Work plan;
- e) Document proving enrollment and enrollment in one of the Doctoral Programs of the University of Évora;
- f) Declaration of the supervisors, assuming responsibility for supervising the work plan, under the terms of article 5-A of the Research Grant Holder Statute (draft of the declaration to be made available by FCT);
- g) Document proving the acceptance of the candidate by the institution(s) where the research activities will take place, ensuring the necessary conditions for its proper development, as well as compliance with the duties provided for in article 13 of the Research Grant Holder Statute (draft of the declaration to be made available by FCT);
- h) In the case of a mixed scholarship, document proving permanent and habitual residence in Portugal, valid on the start date of the fellowship;
- i) Updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime (draft of the declaration to be made available by FCT).
- j) Document issued by the banking entity, containing the IBAN, proving the ownership of the account where the payments will be received within the scope of the exchange.

The granting of the scholarship is also subject to:

- compliance with the requirements set out in this Notice of Opening;
- the result of the evaluation;
- the absence of unjustified non-compliance with the duties of the grant holder under a previous grant contract funded, directly or indirectly, by FCT;
- FCT's budget availability.

Failure to deliver any of the documents necessary to complete the grant contracting process, within 6 months from the date of communication of the decision to conditionally grant the grant, implies the expiry of said grant and the closure of the process.

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

11. FUNDING

The payment of the scholarships will begin after the return of the duly signed scholarship contract by the candidates, which must occur within a maximum period of 15 working days from the date of receipt. The scholarships awarded under this call will be funded by FCT with funds from the State Budget and, when eligible, with funds from the European Social Fund, through the Demography, Qualifications and Inclusion Programme (PDQI), in accordance with the regulatory provisions established for this purpose.

12. SCHOLARSHIP COMPONENTS

Scholarship holders are awarded a monthly maintenance allowance under the terms of the table in Annex I of the RBI. The grant may also include other components, under the terms of article 18 of the RBI and for the amounts provided for in its Annex II. All grant holders benefit from personal accident insurance in relation to research activities, supported by FCT. All scholarship holders who are not covered by any social protection scheme can ensure the exercise of the right to social security by joining the voluntary social security scheme, under the terms of the Code of Contributory Schemes of the Social Security System, with FCT ensuring the costs resulting from contributions under the terms and with the limits provided for in article 10 of the EBI.

13. PAYMENTS OF THE COMPONENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

Payments due to the grantee are made by bank transfer to the account identified by him/her. The payment of the monthly maintenance allowance is made on the first working day of each month. Payments of the registration, enrolment or tuition fee components are made by FCT directly to the University of Évora, up to the maximum amount provided for in the RBI.

14. SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

In accordance with the provisions of article 15 of the RBI, the renewal of the grant always depends on a request submitted by the grant holder to the FCT, within 60 working days prior to the start date of the renewal, accompanied by the following documents:

- a) opinions issued by the supervisors and host entities on the monitoring of the work of the grant holder and the evaluation of his activities;
- b) updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime;
- c) Document proving the renewal of the registration in the cycle of studies leading to the doctoral degree.

15. INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY OF THE FUNDING AWARDED

In all R&D activities directly or indirectly funded by the grant, namely, in all communications, publications and scientific creations, as well as theses, carried out with the support provided for

in the grant, mention of financial support from FCT and the European Social Fund must be expressed, namely through the Demography, Qualifications and Inclusion Program (PDQI). For this purpose, the insignia of the FCT, MCTES, ESF and EU must be included in the documents referring to these actions, according to the graphic standards of each operational programme.

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

In all grants, and in particular in the case of actions supported by Community funding, namely from the ESF, monitoring and control actions may be carried out by national and community bodies in accordance with the applicable legislation on this matter, and the supported grantees are obliged to collaborate and provide 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 may be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty on the grounds of, namely, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs and trade union membership.

17. APPLICABLE LAW AND REGULATIONS

The Call is governed by this Call for Proposals, by the FCT Research Grants Regulation, approved by Regulation No. 950/2019, published in the II Series of the DR of December 16, 2019, by the Research Grant Holder Statute approved by Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, as amended, and by other applicable national and community legislation.