

Call for Applications for PhD Research Grants

CLUP hereby opens this Call for Applications for 2 (two) research grants, hereinafter called PhD Research Grants, in the field(s) of Language Sciences, in compliance with the provisions of the FCT Regulations for Research Grants and Fellowships (RBI) and the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (EBI).

The scholarships will be financed by the Foundation for Science and Technology (*Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia*) (FCT) under the Collaboration Agreement of the Multiannual Financing Plan for Doctoral Research Grants, signed between FCT and the R&D Research Unit CLUP – Centro of Linguistics of the University of Porto (R&D Unit FCT no. 22).

1. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The Call for Applications is open from **August 1 until September 16, 2022 (11h59 pm, local time)**.

Applications and all the supporting documents described in this Call must be submitted on https://sigarra.up.pt/flup/pt/CNT_CAND_GERAL.CONCURSOS_LIST

Each applicant can only submit one application, under penalty of cancellation of all the applications submitted.

Please note that false declarations or acts of plagiarism from the applicants will lead to the exclusion of the application notwithstanding the need to take other corrective or punitive disciplinary measures.

2. TYPE AND DURATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS

The PhD scholarships are intended to finance research activities carried out by the doctoral candidate that will lead to the attainment of the academic degree of doctor in Portuguese Universities.

The research activities leading to the attainment of the academic degree of doctor will take place at the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto which will be the candidates' host institution, notwithstanding that the research work may be carried out in collaboration with more than one institution.

The research activities leading to the attainment of the academic degree of doctor of the selected applicants must be framed within the activity plan and strategy of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto, and should be conducted as part of the third cycle (Doctoral) degree in Language Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto (https://sigarra.up.pt/flup/pt/cur_geral.cur_view?pv_ano_lectivo=2019&pv_origem=CUR&pv_tipo_cur_sigla=D&pv_curso_id=5921).

The work programme may be entirely or partially carried out in a national institution (national or blended scholarships, respectively). As a rule, PhD scholarships are annual, renewable for up to the maximum of four years (48 months), and cannot be granted for a period less than three consecutive months.

3. RECIPIENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS

PhD scholarships are intended for candidates who are enrolled or who comply with the requirements to enrol in the third cycle (Doctoral) degree in Language Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto, and who aim to undertake

research activities required to obtain their doctoral at the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto, or at host institutions associated with the research unit.

4. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Admission requirements for applicants

The following candidates may apply to this Call:

- National (Portuguese) citizens or citizens from other member states of the European Union;
- Third-country nationals;
- Stateless individuals;
- Citizens with political refugee status.

To apply for a PhD grant, applicants must comply with the following requirements:

- Hold an undergraduate or Master's degree in Language Sciences or in a related area that meets the requirement to access the Third Cycle (Doctoral) degree in Language Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto;
- Reside permanently and habitually in Portugal at the beginning of the work plan at a foreign institution, in cases in which the work plan includes a research period at foreign institutions (blended scholarships); this requirement is applicable to both national and foreign citizens;
- Has not benefited previously from a PhD scholarship or a PhD in Industry scholarship directly funded by FCT, regardless of its duration;
- Not hold a prior doctoral degree.

4.2 Application requirements

The following documents are mandatory, under penalty of exclusion from the Call:

- Data from ID card / Citizen's card / Passport;
- Candidate's Curriculum Vitae;
- Certificates of all the academic degrees obtained, indicating compulsorily the final grade and, if possible, the grades obtained in each of the individual course units or, alternatively, a declaration signed by the candidate stating that the undergraduate or Master's degree will be concluded by the end of the application deadline;
- Registration of recognition of the academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions and registration of the conversion of the respective final average grade to the Portuguese grading scale. Alternatively, the candidate can provide a declaration of honour that the Bachelor's or Master's degree will be concluded by the end of the application deadline;
- Motivation letter;
- Recommendation letters, (two);
- Provisional research plan (maximum length: 12,000 characters, including spaces, and excluding references), where the candidate states, by providing an appropriate justification: the area in which they aim to conduct their doctoral research; the theoretical background supporting the research questions to be addressed in their doctoral dissertation;

an identification, explanation and justification of the main research methods to be explored in their doctoral dissertation.

- Documents that attest to the allocation of bonus, as per the criteria stated in no. 6.2 of this Call, should the candidates wish to be granted those bonuses.
- To prepare and submit the application and all required documents, including motivation and recommendation letters, in Portuguese or in English.

Regarding the aforementioned admission requirements, the following should be noted:

- In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and to guarantee the principle of equal treatment among applicants with national and foreign academic degrees, the applicant must submit proof of recognition of such degrees and the conversion of the respective final average grade to the Portuguese grading scale.
- The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas and the conversion of the respective final average grade to the Portuguese grading scale, can be issued by a Portuguese public higher education institution, or by the Directorate-General for Higher Education (*Direção Geral do Ensino Superior*, DGES: only in the case of automatic recognition). Candidates should consult the DGES portal for more information at <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en>
- Only applicants who have completed the cycle of studies leading to a Bachelor's or Master's degree until the application deadline will be admitted. Applicants who have not yet received their degree certificate/diploma must submit a declaration of honour stating they will conclude the Bachelor's or Master's degree by the end of the application period. Granting the scholarship will depend on the presentation of proof of the academic qualifications required at the contracting stage.

5. WORK PLAN AND SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISION OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS

Candidates who are selected in this call commit themselves to pursuing research activities required to be awarded a PhD degree, and are required to observe all the following conditions:

- a) to include their research in the scientific activity of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto, as part of the Third Cycle (Doctoral) Degree in Language Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto, as instructed by the Scientific Coordinator of the Centre, the Course Director and their PhD supervisor(s), once one is formally appointed;
- b) to actively participate in the scientific and pedagogical activities undertaken by the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto and of the Third Cycle (Doctoral) Degree in Language Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto, and contribute to the organization of such activities;
- c) to follow the research plan established by the grant holder and their supervisor(s), and approved after public presentation of the thesis, further to the curricular unit Thesis Preparation of the Third Cycle (Doctoral) Degree (PhD) in Language Sciences of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto;
- d) to publish at least 3 peer-reviewed scientific articles during the course;
- e) to deliver at least 3 oral presentations in peer-reviewed scientific events.

NOTES:

1 - During the curricular year of the Doctoral Degree, the Director of the Doctoral Course or a researcher designated by them shall be the provisional supervisor of the grantees.

2 – A definitive thesis supervisor shall be appointed by the end of the curricular year of the Doctoral programme, according to the chosen research topic and other criteria established by the Director and the Scientific Committee of the Doctoral programme.

3 - At the end of each grant year, the grant holder shall submit to the Scientific Coordinator of the Centre of Linguistics and the Course Director a detailed report, approved by their supervisor(s), demonstrating that they have complied with the research plan established and, if applicable, duly justify any deviations from that plan. This report must be approved by the Director of the Third Cycle (Doctoral) Degree in Language Sciences and by the Scientific Coordinator of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND BONUSES

6.1 Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation considers the merit of the applicant and of the provisional research plan.

Applications considered admissible will be scored on a scale of 0 (zero) to 200 (two hundred) points in each of the following evaluation criteria:

- Criterion A - Merit of the candidate - weight of 70% in the overall final classification of the application:
 - Sub-criterion A1 - Final classification in the undergraduate degree - weighing 10% of the final classification of the application (the score to be awarded in this sub-criterion will result from the average grade obtained by the candidate in their graduation, multiplied by 10 (ten), should this average in case this average has been assigned based on a Portuguese quantitative scale from 0 (zero) to 20 (twenty); candidates who apply without a completed degree (undergraduate) will have a score of zero points in this sub-criterion;
 - Sub-criterion A2 - Final mark of the Master's Degree, weighing 20% of the final classification of the application (the points to be awarded in this sub-criterion will result from the average grade obtained by the applicant in their Master's Degree multiplied by 10 (ten), in case this average has been assigned based on a Portuguese quantitative scale from 0 (zero) to 20 (twenty); In the case of qualitative scales attributed by Portuguese institutions, the jury will convert this grade to the quantitative scale of 0 (zero) to 20 (twenty), and then apply this multiplication factor; candidates who apply before completing their Master's degree be awarded zero points in this sub-criterion; In the case of holders of integrated master's degrees, the final classification obtained will count towards both sub-criteria A1 and A2.
 - Sub-criterion A3 - Candidate's CV, which will be evaluated by the jury on the basis of the CV and of the letters of recommendation submitted by the candidate, with a weight of 30% of the final score of the application; in this evaluation, the jury will always award a stronger weight to the CV than to the letters of recommendation;
 - Sub-criterion A4 - Motivation of the candidate, evaluated by the jury based on the motivation letter submitted by the candidate; this letter weighs 10% of the final score of the application;

- Criterion B - Merit of the provisional Research Plan, weighing 30% of the final score of the application:
 - Sub-criterion B1 - Quality of the plan in terms of the contents to be addressed, with weighted factors such as the consistency between the proposed research and the general framework of the scientific mission of the Centre and the feasibility of the proposed plan within the scope of the Centre and the Course; this sub-criterion weighs 20% of the final score of the application;
 - Sub-criterion B2 - Quality of the writing and formal rigour of the plan, with a weight of 10% of the final score of the application.

For the purposes of the grant decision, the candidates will be sorted according to the weighed average of the score obtained in each of the six sub-criteria, translated by the following formula:

$$\text{Final score} = (0,10 \times A1) + (0,20 \times A2) + (0,30 \times A3) + (0,10 \times A4) + (0,20 \times B1) + (0,10 \times B2)$$

For tie-breaking purposes, the candidates will be sorted based on the scores awarded in each of the evaluation criteria in the following order of precedence: Sub-criterion A2; Sub-criterion A3; Sub-criterion B1; Sub-criterion A1; Sub-criterion A4; Sub-criterion B2.

Important note for candidates holding a degree issued by foreign higher education institutions:

- In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions, and to guarantee the principle of equal treatment among applicants with national and foreign academic degrees, the applicants must submit proof of recognition of such degrees and the conversion of the respective final average grade to the Portuguese grading scale under the terms of the applicable legislation.
- Applicants with foreign academic degrees who do not submit a proof of conversion of the final average grade to the Portuguese grading scale will be evaluated with the minimum grade of 0 points in sub-criterion A1 and A2.
- In any case, scholarship contracts with applicants whose diplomas have been issued by foreign institutions will only be concluded upon presentation of proof of recognition of academic degrees and conversion of the final average grade, as indicated above.

Applicants whose application is scored with a final grade lower than 160 are not eligible for scholarship award.

6.2 Bonus points

Under criterion A, bonus points shall be awarded to candidates:

- a) who have been awarded an undergraduate degree in Language Sciences: additional 5 bonus points (sub-criterion A1);
- b) who have been awarded a Master's in the field of Language Sciences: additional 5 bonus points (sub-criterion A2);
- c) who, during their undergraduate or Master's degree, have been granted the status of student with special needs (should the candidates wish to be awarded these bonus points, a formal document attesting to this status must be included in the application): additional 5 bonus points (sub-criterion A3).

7. EVALUATION

The evaluation panel is composed of the following members:

Effective members:

- Rui Manuel Sousa Silva, Scientific Coordinator of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto – Panel Coordinator;
- João Manuel Pires da Silva e Almeida Veloso, Associate Professor with ‘Agregação’ of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Celda Maria Gonçalves Morgado, Coordinating Professor of the Higher School of Education of the Porto Polytechnical Institute and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Isabel Margarida Ribeiro de Oliveira Duarte, Associate Professor with ‘Agregação’ of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Thomas Juan Carlos Hüsgen, Associate Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Maria de Fátima Henriques da Silva, Associate Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Maria Clara Araújo Barros Greenfield, Assistant Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Ângela Patrícia Pinto Filipe Lopes, Invited Assistant Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto.

Alternate members:

- Maria Alexandra de Araújo Guedes Pinto, Chair of the Directive Committee of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Rogelio Ponce de León Romeo, Associate Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto;
- Isabel Maria Galhano Rodrigues, Assistant Professor of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto and Researcher of the Centre of Linguistics of the University of Porto.

The evaluation panel will assess applications based on the evaluation criteria described in this Call for Applications, considering the components of evaluation.

All panel members, including the coordinator, will make a commitment to respect the responsibilities of the evaluation process, such as the duties of impartiality, the declaration of any potential conflicts 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 opinions produced.

For each application, a final evaluation form will be produced by the panel, in which the arguments that led to the scores attributed to each of the evaluation criteria and sub-criteria will be presented in a clear, coherent and consistent manner.

Minutes of the meetings of the evaluation panel will be taken under the responsibility of all its members.

The minutes and their attachments must include the following information:

- Name and affiliation of all members of the evaluation panel;
- Identification of all excluded applications and respective reasons (if applicable);
- Methodology employed by the panel for particular cases;
- Final Evaluation Sheets for each application;
- Provisional list of the scoring and ranking of the candidates, in descending order of the final grade, of all applications evaluated by the panel;
- COI statements from all members of the panel;
- Delegations of voting and decision powers by reason of justified absence, (if applicable).

8. DISCLOSURE OF THE RESULTS

Evaluation results will be communicated by email to the address provided by the candidates in the application form.

9. DEADLINES AND PROCEDURES FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

Once the provisional ranked list of the evaluation results has been communicated, applicants may request a preliminary hearing with the interested parties, under the terms of Articles no. 121 and following of the Code of Administrative Procedures (CPA).

The final decision will be announced after the analysis of applicants' arguments presented in the preliminary hearing. Following the final decision, the applicant can file a formal complaint within 15 working days or, alternatively, file an appeal within 30 working days, counting after the communication of the final results. Applicants who choose to file a complaint should address their request to the member of the FCT Board of the Directors with the delegated competence. Applicants who choose to file an appeal must address their request to the FCT Board of Directors

10. REQUIREMENTS TO AWARD THE SCHOLARSHIPS

The research scholarship contracts are signed directly with FCT.

The following documents are mandatory, upon conditional awarding of the scholarship for the purposes of contract preparation:

- a) Copy of the document(s) of personal identification, tax number and, if applicable, social security;¹
- b) Copy of the academic degree certificates held by the applicant;
- c) Recognition of the academic degrees obtained abroad and conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale, if applicable;
- d) Work Plan;
- e) Document proving acceptance and enrolment 3rd Cycle of Studies in Literary, Cultural and Interart Studies at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of University of Porto;

¹ Instead of providing these documents, the candidate may opt to present them in person at the financing body, which will store the data contained in them that are relevant for 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.

- f) Statement from the supervisor(s) declaring their acceptance to coordinate and supervise the work plan, as established in Article no. 5-A of the Statute for Research Fellowships (template will be made available by FCT);
- g) Institutional document supporting the applicant, issued by the institution where the work plan will be carried out, guaranteeing the necessary conditions to its successful development, as well as the fulfilment of the duties established in Article no. 13 of the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (template will be made available by FCT);
- h) Updated document proving the exclusive dedication regime (template will be made available by FCT).

The granting of the scholarship is still dependent on:

- The fulfilment of all the requirements listed in this Call for Applications;
- The results of the scientific evaluation;
- The absence of unjustified non-compliance of the fellowship holder during previous directly or indirectly funded FCT fellowships;
- The FCT's available budget.

The lack of any of the necessary documents to complete the contracting procedure implies the expiration of the scholarship granting and conclusion of the process; applicants have up to 6 months after the disclosure of the provisional granting to present all of the documents listed.

11. FUNDING

Scholarship payment will start after the signed contract is returned to FCT, which should happen within 15 working days after its delivery.

The scholarships granted in this call will be financed by FCT using the State Budget fund and, whenever eligible, using the European Social Fund (ESF), under the PORTUGAL2020 programme, in particular the *Programa Operacional Regional do Norte (NORTE 2020)*, as well as other approved funding schemes, according to the legal requirements of the regulatory provisions applicable for this purpose.

12. SCHOLARSHIP COMPONENTS

A monthly maintenance allowance is granted to the fellows in accordance with the table in Annex I of the RBI.

The scholarship may also include additional allowances, according to RBI's Article no. 18 and the values indicated in its Annex II.

All the scholarship holders have a personal accident insurance related to the research activities, which FCT will support.

All scholarship holders who are not beneficiaries of any social protection regime have the right to register for social security through the voluntary social insurance regime, under the terms of the Contributory Scheme of the Social Security System. FCT will ensure the charges resulting from contributions under the terms and the limits provided in Article no. 10 of the EBI.

13. PAYMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

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

Registration, enrolment and tuition fees are paid directly by FCT to the national institution where the scholarship holder has enrolled or is registered in a 3rd Cycle of Studies/PhD Programme;

14. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PhD SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL

The renewal of the scholarship always depends upon the applicant's request, within 60 working days prior to the renewal start date, which must include the following documents:

- a) Declaration(s) issued by the supervisor(s) and by the host institution(s) attesting the work plan development and the evaluation of the respective activities;
- b) Updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime;
- c) Declaration proving enrolment renewal in the study cycle leading to the doctoral degree.

15. INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY OF THE GRANTED FUNDING

All the R&D activities carried out by the grantee, directly or indirectly financed by the scholarship, namely, papers, publications and scientific creations, as well as the thesis, must include the reference to FCT and the European Social Fund (ESF) financing. In particular, these references should mention the following operational programmes *Programa Operacional Regional do Norte (NORTE 2020)*, *Programa Operacional Regional do Centro (Centro 2020)* and *Programa Operacional Regional do Alentejo (Alentejo 2020)*. Therefore, the FCT, MCTES, ESF and EU logos must be included in the documents referring to these actions, according to the graphic rules of each operational programme.

The disclosure of research results funded according to the RBI provisions must comply with the open access guidelines, publications and other research results in accordance with FCT rules.

For all the scholarships, in particular in case of European funded actions, namely the ESF, may be performed monitoring and controlling actions by national or European entities according to the applicable legislation. Grantees must therefore collaborate and provide all the required information, including answering to surveys and evaluation studies in this area, even though the scholarship might have already ceased.

16. NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL ACCESS POLICY

FCT promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, thus no applicant may be privileged, benefited, damaged or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty, due to ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic status, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic disease, nationality, ethnicity or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological beliefs or trade union affiliation.

17. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

The present call is governed by the FCT Regulations for Research Fellowships approved by the Regulation no. 950/2019 (published in the Series II of the DR, of 16th December), by the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (approved by Law no. 40/2004, of 18th of August, in its current version), and by other applicable national and European legislation.