

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH GRANT FOR A MASTER STUDENT

Title: Research Grant for Master Student ECOFIRE-NIPE-BSC; 1 vacancy

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of one grant for MSc students within the scope of the R&D project “**ECO.FIRE - o valor económico dos incêndios florestais como suporte ao comportamento preventivo**”, reference PCIF/AGT/0153/2018, financed by national funds through Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: economics, management or similar areas

Recipient category: Research grants (BI) are intended for R&D activities by master students enrolled in a Master's programme or that have the necessary conditions to enrol in a Master's programme, or satisfy the condition to enroll in a non-award granting course at the Universidade do Minho.

Requirement for granting the fellowship:

- The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enrol in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship;
- Only fellowships whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrolment in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be contracted, according to the type of the fellowship, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, indicating, respectively, the academic year or its duration (start and term).
- Enrolment in non-certified courses (without curricular units) will not be considered as proof of enrolment.

Candidates profile:

- a) Enrolment in a Master's programme in Economics, Management, or similar area.
- b) Preferential factors: knowledge of statistical software; knowledge of English; knowledge of economic environmental valuation methods and knowledge in the area of forest resources and wildfires; experience with quantitative and qualitative data collection and treatment.

Requisites:

It is essential to include in the application the following documents:

- Curriculum vitae
- Certificates of previously held academic degree, specifying the final grade and if possible individual grades for each course. In alternative, the candidate can present a statement of honour, declaring they have completed the required degree at the time of application.
- For diplomas obtained abroad, proof of recognition of academic degrees by foreign institutions and registration of the final grade conversion to the Portuguese scale, or in alternative a statement of honour, declaring they have obtained the recognition of the degree equivalent to the required degree at the time of application.
- Motivation letter.

Applicants eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions laid down in article 9 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (2019).

Workplan and objectives to be achieved:

- Quantitative and qualitative data analysis;
- Support in the collection and treatment of quantitative and qualitative data
- Collaboration in the writing of reports
- Participation in communication tasks of the results of the project
- The work plan may be framed within the master dissertation.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellowship Holder Statutes, approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current version published by Decree-Law no. 123/2019 of August 28; Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021 and Regulation of Research Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. - in force.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The work plan will be carried out in the (*name of the host institution / UOE*) of University of Minho), located in the (*location of the host institution where the physical activities will be carried out*), under the scientific supervision of Doctor Marieta Valente (assistant professor).

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of 6 months, with a provisional starting date in May 2022

Amount of the research grant: The value stipend (Monthly Maintenance Allowance) is 875,98€ per month, in accordance with the stipends values published by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT I.P.) in the country (Annex I – Monthly Stipends Values for the maintenance allowances of the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships) and Annex II of the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, according to the applicable regulation.

Payment is made on the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

Other components of the research grant: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Security (Social Security contributions), corresponding to the 1st level of discounts, and personal accident insurance.

Exclusivity regime: The grantee will perform the activities under exclusivity, as foreseen in article 5º of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel: Doutora Marieta Valente (President), Doutora Lígia Costa Pinto (1st effective member), Doutora Rita Sousa (2nd effective member), Doutor João Cerejeira Silva (substitute member), Doutora Paula Veiga Benesch (substitute member).

The first effective member will substitute the President of the selection panel in case of impediment, being nominated as the first substitute member in the place of the first effective member.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit (MC), and an interview (ENT) for the top-ranked three candidates, according to the following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 1 to 5 values:

1 - Candidate's Merit - MC:

- a) Academic path (considering the classifications of academic degrees), with a weighting of 30%;
- b) Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 60%
- c) Motivation letter, with a weighting of 10%.

The final classification of the applicant's merit with the achieved through the following formula:

$$MC=(a*0,30)+(b*0,60)+(c*0,1)$$

2- For the top-ranked three candidates, there will be an interview (ENT) and the following criteria will be considered:

- a) Interpersonal skills (30%)
- b) Knowledge in the area of the Grant (40%)
- c) Motivation (20%)
- d) Linguistic competencies (10%)

The classification for the interview will be given by:

$$ENT=(ax0,3)+(bx0,4)+(cx0,2)+ (dx0,1)$$

The final classification of the candidate (CF) will be obtained by the following formula:

$$CF=(MC*0,6)+(ENT*0,4)$$

The jury reserves the right not to attribute the Grant in case there are no candidates with an adequate profile.

The academic degrees and diplomas documents, or their respective recognition when awarded by foreign higher education institutions are not mandatory in the application phase, being replaced by a declaration of honor of the candidate with the contents of academic results. The documents of academic qualification or respective recognition will be required in the contracting phase and must attest facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In situations of divergence between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for contracting the grant, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If the documents proving the ownership of the academic degree and diploma, or the respective recognition under the terms of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the evaluation of the academic path, which can change the candidate's ranking, the fellowship won't be contracted.

Notes: Applicants with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the Portuguese classification scale or declaration under the terms indicated in the previous point. For candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions, the

selection panel will assign “0” in the grade of the graduation and/or master’s course. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.

Disclosure of results: The provisional results of applications, based on the selection panel minutes, will be sent to the applicants by email until 90 working days from the applications deadline.

In case of unfavorable results, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment, if desired, in a prior hearing to interested parties, pursuant to articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL no. 4 / 2015 of January 7th).

Complaint and appeal procedures: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list (*alphabetically, by final grade obtained*), posted in a visible and public place of the host unit, as well as by email to all applicants, enclosing for that purpose, the minutes of the jury deliberations.

The selected candidate must inform his willingness to accept the grant, in writing. In case of rejection, the fellowship will be awarded to the next candidate in the ordered list of applicants.

The final decision can be contested within 15 working days, by sending to the President of the jury the corresponding claim. Interested parties may also submit an optional hierarchical appeal, addressed to the Pro-Rector for Research and Projects, Professor Sandra Paiva.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open from 07/04/2022 a 22/04/2022.

Applications must be formalized by sending an application letter with the following documents: curriculum vitae; qualifications certificate or declaration of the applicant; motivation letter; statement proving that the candidate meets the conditions for the grant typology, according to the application requirements; other documents important to the evaluation process.

Applications must be sent by email to nipe@eeg.uminho.pt, indicating the reference of the call for applications “ECOFIRE-NIPE-BSC” in Subject. Applications submitted by other means will not be accepted.

Fellowship contractualization: The fellowship will be attributed by signing a fellowship contract between the University of Minho and the fellow, accordingly to the contract minute (annex IV of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in *Diário da República, 2nd Série, no. 119*, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, as indicated in 2.4 of the FCT document: “Rules for Granting and Management of Grants within the scope of R&D projects, including infrastructure projects, the multi-annual financing program for R&D units and other FCT financing instruments (Version 2021)”.

The contract may only be concluded after all the documentation required is collected, which must take place within a maximum period of 6 months.

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has a period of 60 working days to conclude the scholarship contract. Once received, the fellow must return the contract duly signed within 15 working days.

The activities under the fellowship contract can only begin after proper authorization by the contracting entity.

Term and cancellation of fellowship contracts: Without prejudice to the other causes provided by the fellowship regulations (FCT and UMinho) and in the Statute of the Research Fellow, the fellowship ends with the completion of the work plan, as well as with the expiration date for which it was granted or renewed.

At the end of the fellowship, the grantee is obliged to present a Final Report of the work carried out, in accordance with the objectives and evaluation criteria defined by the scientific advisor, within 30 days after the end of the scholarship.

The **final report** must be prepared in accordance with Annex I of the Scientific Research Fellowships Regulation of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in *Diário da República, 2nd Série, no. 119*, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021.