Call for PhD Studentships 2025

Highlights – *What's New in This Call*

MARCH 17, 2025

Highlights of the Call for PhD Studentships 2025

This document summarizes key information regarding the most significant changes in the 2025 Call for PhD Studentships compared to the previous edition.

Reading this document **does not replace** the need for a thorough review of the **Notice of the Call** and its Annex (**Evaluation Guide**), as well as the **Application Guide**. Additionally, applicants should consult the applicable legislation, namely the **FCT Regulation for Studentships and Fellowships (RBI)** and the **Research Fellowship Holder Statute (EBI)** in their current versions. It is also recommended to review the FAQs related to this edition of the call.

All documents are available on the FCT web pages dedicated to the two funding lines of the call.

https://www.fct.pt/en/concursos/concurso-bolsas-de-doutoramento-2025-linha-de-candidatura-geral

https://www.fct.pt/en/concursos/concurso-bolsas-de-doutoramento-2025-linha-de-candidatura-especifica-em-ambiente-nao-academico

In the 2025 Call for PhD Studentships, most of the rules established for the 2024 edition apply, with the following key changes.

PHD STUDENTSHIPS UNDER THE FCT-TENURE PROGRAM – NON-ACADEMIC CHAIRS

Considering the total number of studentships to be awarded in 2025, additional PhD research studentships in a non-academic environment will also be granted under the Non-Academic (NA) Chairs funded through the FCT-Tenure program. These studentships will be awarded to all eligible candidates covered by this program, whose applications receive a final evaluation score of three (3.000) or higher, as stipulated in section 5.2 of the Call for Applications of the FCT Tenure – 1st Edition.

These candidates may only apply under the specific non-academic track and must indicate, in the designated field of the application form, the reference of the FCT-Tenure position proposed for funding.

Candidates must ensure that the PhD researcher hired to fill the NA Chair under the FCT-Tenure program is associated as their scientific supervisor. Additionally, they must indicate the Research Unit and/or the proposing institution as their academic host institution, as well as the non-academic institution associated with the Chair.

Failure to meet these requirements will result in the application not being admitted.

MOST REPRESENTATIVE DOCUMENT (*DOCUMENTO MAIS REPRESENTATIVO*)

In the 2025 call, the most representative document of the applicant's scientific/professional path is no longer required as an admissibility requirement (see the Notice of the Call, point 4.2 Application's admissibility requirements). Thus, the corresponding field has been removed from the application form.

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION FOR CONTRACTING AND MANAGEMENT OF PHD STUDENTSHIPS HAS CHANGED

From this edition of the call onwards, the procedures regarding the contracting phase and the management of PhD studentships funding are changed. The responsibility for these phases now lies with the contracting institution that the applicant indicates in the application form.

The contracting institution – with which FCT will sign the program contract – must be Portuguese and correspond to one of the institutions listed in the application. It can be an academic host institution or the institution that will grant the PhD degree, as long as it has the legal capacity to sign contracts. For admissibility purposes, for both application lines, this requirement is mandatory, as well as the formal association of the contracting institution, within 10 working days, taking place after the application submission period and before the evaluation begins. This 10 working days period will be published on the FCT website for this call, so regular consultation is recommended.

Applications for studentships fully abroad (*bolsas no estrangeiro*), as well as studentships under the FCT-Tenure Chairs, will continue to be contracted and managed directly by FCT (see the Notice of the Call, point 10. Requirements for Studentship Granting).

Payments due to the studentship holder will be made by the contracting institution of the studentship via bank transfer to the account identified by the studentship holder, including the payment of the monthly maintenance allowance and the personal accident insurance related to research activities (see the Notice of the Call, points 12. Studentships Components and 13. Payments of Studentship Allowance).

The personal data of studentship holders will be transmitted to the contracting institution of the PhD studentship and may, in whole or in part, be transmitted to structures responsible for co-financing by the European Union (see the Notice of the call, point 16. Personal Data Processing and Protection).

CHANGE IN STUDENTSHIP DURATION

Regarding the duration of the studentships, please note that the period requested by the applicant **will be final and cannot be changed**. Therefore, extension requests will not be possible at the time of contracting or later during its execution.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP HOLDER STATUTE

(*ESTATUTO DO BOLSEIRO DE INVESTIGAÇÃO*)

The Research Fellowship Holder Statute (*Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação*) was subject to changes in August 2024. Consult at https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/lei/40-2004-480705

REPÚBLICA PORTUGUESA
fct Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
PESSOAS 2030
PORTUGAL 2030
Cofinanciado pela União Europeia