



# Call for PhD Studentships 2026

## Highlights – *What's New in This Call*

MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026



## Highlights of the Call for PhD Studentships 2026

This document summarizes key information regarding the most significant changes in the 2026 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.

[2026 Call for PhD Studentships – Regular Line of Application - FCT](#)

[2026 Call for PhD Studentships – Specific Line of Application in a Non-academic Environment - FCT](#)

In the 2026 Call for PhD Studentships, most of the rules established for the 2025 edition apply, with the following key changes.

### CHANGES IN THE ANNEX I TABLE OF THE EVALUATION GUIDE

In the main scientific area of Natural Sciences, and Secondary Scientific Area of **Biological Sciences**, the panel **Biological Sciences** is renamed **Animal and Plant Biology, and Mycology**, with the subareas remaining unchanged.

In the main scientific area of Social Sciences, and Secondary Scientific Area of **Social and Economic Geography**, the panel **Social and Economic Geography** is renamed **Geography**, with the subareas remaining unchanged.

The **Anthropology** panel is established as a Secondary Scientific Area – rather than as a subarea of Sociology – integrating now the following subareas: Physical Anthropology, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Anthropology – Other.

Within the **Sociology** panel, the subarea Demography has been added.

### NEW FORM FIELD UNDER WORK PLAN

Whenever the work plan submitted in the application is part of a broader research project, whether already funded or not, 'Yes' must be selected in the appropriate field of the form. In such cases, a specific field will appear for describing the original contribution of the proposed work plan within the project in which it is embedded, and of how it distinguishes itself from the objectives of that project (maximum 300 words).

### **FCT REGULATION FOR STUDENTSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS (RBI)**

The FCT Regulation for Studentships and Fellowships was amended and republished by Notice (extract) no. 412/2026/2, published in Series II of the DR of 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2026. Available at <https://diariodarepublica.pt/dr/detalhe/aviso-extrato/412-2026-996320857>

