

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR 6 DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2019/2020

The Carnegie Mellon Portugal Program (CMU Portugal) with the support of Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT) is announcing a [call for applications for 6 doctoral scholarships](#) to start in 2019/2020 and the opening of admissions to top [dual degree Ph. D. programs](#) in cutting-edge areas of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Upon the Ph.D. program completion, graduates receive **two degrees**, one from CMU, and another degree from the partner university in Portugal. All courses are conducted in English, both in Portugal and at Carnegie Mellon. Scholarships are available on a competitive basis.

With an international education and diplomas, the CMU Portugal dual degree graduates are in an excellent position to be competitive in a global job market.

Dual Degree Ph.D.'s available and application deadlines

Below is a list of Dual Degree Ph.D.'s available through the CMU Portugal Program, and their respective **application deadlines**.

- Computer Science - December 10, 2018 (Noon EST)
- Robotics - December 10, 2018 (Noon EST)
- Software Engineering - December 10, 2018 (Noon EST)
- Language Technologies - December 10, 2018 (Noon EST)
- Electrical and Computer Engineering - December 31, 2018 (Noon EST)
- Engineering and Public Policy - December 15, 2018 (Noon EST)

Early deadlines with reduced application fees are available for the following Ph.D. Programs: November 30 (Noon EST) for Computer Science, Robotics, Software Engineering, and Language Technologies; December 15 (Noon EST) for Electrical and Computer Engineering.

CMU Portugal Scholarship Process Calendar

Phase	Milestone	Observations	Document Section
A. Application Phase	Take GRE and TOEFL and prepare other application documents	1 month prior to the applications deadline	1. How to apply and admission requirements
	Submit an online application form in the Ph.D. Program CMU website	Check the specific date for your program	2. Funding Support
B. Selection Phase	Selection of the candidates	January-April 2019	3. Selection process and results announcement
	Informing the candidates about the selection outcome	May 2019	
C. Scholarship Contract and Registration	Formal request for Ph.D. scholarships to FCT and publishing the selection results on the CMU Portugal Program website	June 2019	4. Scholarships request to FCT and announcement of the results
	Students registration at CMU and Portuguese University; scholarship contract	July-September	5. Students registration and scholarship contract
	CMU Portugal Scholarship Starting Date	September 2019	6. Scholarship starting date and beginning of the academic year

A. APPLICATION PHASE

1. How to Apply and Admission Requirements

The CMU Portugal Program has a decentralized applications process for admission in which each Ph.D. program manages its own application process. **Applications are submitted directly to CMU.** To apply, follow the next steps:

- 1- Determine which dual degree Ph.D. Program you are interested;
- 2- Go the “Admissions and Scholarships” page on the CMU Portugal Program website;
- 3- Select the Ph.D. Program and you will be directed towards that Ph.D.’s applications page in the CMU website.

As a general guideline, students are required to submit the following documents in order to successfully submit an application to a Ph.D. program (*Please note that the admissions requirements will vary from department to department and the information indicated below is general.*):

- Carnegie Mellon complete online application form for admission to graduate programs and payment of the non-refundable application fee;
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and TOEFL (if the candidate’s native language is not English);
- CV;
- Motivation letter;
- 3 recommendation letters;
- Official Transcripts of prior academic record, indicating first class or equivalent standing.

GRE and TOEFL tests

Click [here](#) to register in the GRE test. In Portugal, this test can be taken in Lisbon and Coimbra. To meet the application deadline, we recommend applicants to take the required tests with at least 1 month in advance. GRE Scores are valid for five years; older scores will not be considered. The TOEFL is required for international applicants whose native language is not English. More information can be found [here](#). The scores should be submitted directly to CMU.

2. Financial Support

2.1 CMU Portugal Doctoral Program Funding

The dual degree student’s funding is supported by FCT through the Carnegie Mellon Program and is available for a period of up to 5 years (2 years during the student’s stay at Carnegie Mellon University and 3 years at Portugal). The announcement of the call for scholarships is available in the [FCT Website](#).

Application Process

The applications for CMU Portugal Ph.D. scholarships take place **jointly** with the applications to the doctoral programs thus the application process is the same. Please see above, in section 1 more information on how to apply.

Research Topics

Research topics available for Ph.D. Scholarships, as well as the supervisors at both CMU and Portugal, are defined by the CMU Portugal Program. Hence, candidates do not need to present a work program or an adviser’s support letter and CV at the time of application. Financial assistance is granted on the basis of the student’s potential for scholarship and creative research, and their fit with the research topics available.

Scholarships Support and Duration

The dual degree Ph.D. programs have a typical duration of 5 years, in order for the student to meet the requirements of both universities involved, thus spending three years in Portugal and two years in the United States of America. Typically, students start the coursework in a Portuguese university – currently there are six Portuguese universities involved (Aveiro, Coimbra, Lisboa, Minho, Nova de Lisboa, and Porto) – then spend a period of time at CMU, in Pittsburgh, in the United States of America, and finally return to Portugal to complete the Ph.D.

The Ph.D. students enrolled in the dual degree Ph.D. program will receive financial support in a form of a Carnegie Mellon Portugal Program Fellowship that will cover tuition fees paid directly to the institution and a monthly stipend. While staying in Portugal, the accepted candidate will receive the fellowship directly from FCT. While pursuing their studies at Carnegie Mellon, the Ph.D. students will receive the FCT funding through the home department of the doctoral program in which they are enrolled.

Once the candidate accepts the admission offer, instructions on the steps to be followed will be provided. Awarded scholarships shall start on the beginning of the 2019/2020 academic year.

2.2 Other Sources of Financial Assistance

As an alternative to direct funding from the CMU Portugal Program, candidates to the dual degree doctoral programs may be able to secure financial assistance through a regular FCT Ph.D. studentship supplemented by additional funding at CMU. Prospective students **apply directly** to the program they are interested in. Please see above, in section 1 more information on how to apply. Candidates interested in exploring this and other alternative sources of financial assistance should contact potential advisors in Portugal and at CMU. More information about FCT Ph.D. studentships, and the application process, in particular, is available [here](#).

To know more about other funding opportunities contact us at: apply@cmuportugal.org.

B. SELECTION PHASE

3. Selection process and results announcement

The evaluation panels will consist of at least three experts for each Ph.D. Program of this call. The evaluation panel should include one of the coordinators of the Ph.D. Program that will serve as the chair of the evaluation panel; one faculty member from Carnegie Mellon University that is associated with the Ph.D.; a faculty or research member associated with the Ph.D.

The evaluation panel gathers and analyzes the applications of the candidates including the CV, motivation letter, letters of recommendation, the GRE, and TOEFL scores as well as the transcripts of prior academic degrees. If the degree(s) were not conferred by a Portuguese University the candidate should request to a Portuguese higher education institution the recognition of the degrees according to the Portuguese law. Individual interviews are foreseen as a selection method for the final phase of the evaluation.

Afterwards, a ranked list of the candidates to be admitted is created, assigning to each candidate a level of recommendation for admission. At the end of the meeting, the evaluation panel writes and signs a report. The report will contain a list of the panel members and their institution, a list of all applicants, the criteria for the evaluation process, and the ranked list of candidates to be submitted for attribution of the FCT scholarship. The candidates with the best scores (level of recommendation) are the first to be contacted, until the proposed number of the scholarships is reached. The written and signed reports of the evaluation panel are sent to the CMU Portugal Coordination Office.

C. SCHOLARSHIP AND REGISTRATION

4. Scholarships request to FCT and announcement of the results

Based on the list of candidates to be admitted, CMU informs the prospective candidates of their admissions status. Each candidate will be given a deadline to accept or decline the admissions offer. The list of candidates who accepted the offer is sent to the Coordination of CMU Portugal, which then gathers all necessary items, including the evaluation panel reports and makes the submission of the formal request for Ph.D. scholarships to the President of FCT. After the FCT approval, results are published in the CMU Portugal website, under the "[Admissions and Scholarships](#)" page.

5. Students registration and scholarship contract

As soon as the CMU Portugal scholarship is approved, both CMU Portugal Coordination Offices in Portugal and at CMU will start the process of registration of the student and also formalizing the student funding in CMU and Portugal. We strongly recommend the reading of the [student guide](#) for all the information concerning the documents that are needed for the FCT contract.

Please note that the FCT scholarship contracts for the students starting at CMU will only be issued and signed when the student moves to Portugal. The student should send a communication to the CMU Portugal coordination office in Portugal 3 months in advance, stating that he/she is going to move from CMU to the Portuguese university.

6. Scholarship starting date and beginning of the academic year

The CMU Portugal scholarship starting date will be September 2019 for the most cases, which coincides with the beginning of the academic year in Portugal in most Universities.

We strongly recommend the reading of the [student guide](#) for more information on the required VISA if you are planning to start the Ph.D. in the United States or residence card if you are planning to start the Ph.D. in Portugal.

Thank you for your interest in the Carnegie Mellon Portugal Program!

Please take a look around to learn more about the CMU Portugal Program. If you have any questions, please visit our [F.A.Q.](#) and [News](#) pages. Should you still have any unanswered questions, feel free to contact us via email: info@cmuportugal.org.