

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR UP TO 12 DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2020/2021

Announcement

Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT) opens a call for applications for up to twelve **(12) Ph.D. Scholarships** (Bolsas de doutoramento - BD) in the framework of the CMU Portugal Dual Degree Ph.D. Programs in the following fields:

- [Computer Science \(CS\)](#)¹
- [Electrical and Computer Engineering \(ECE\)](#)²
- [Engineering and Public Policy \(EPP\)](#)³
- [Human-Computer Interaction \(HCI\)](#)¹
- [Language Technologies \(LTI\)](#)¹
- [Robotics \(CS/R\)](#)⁴
- [Software Engineering \(SE\)](#)¹

Successful candidates to the CMU Portugal Dual Degree Ph.D. Programs spend up to two years at CMU and up to three years at a University in Portugal and at the end of their successful program get two Ph.D. degrees, one awarded by CMU and the other by the partner University in Portugal. Details of the Dual Degree Ph.D. programs are available in the url's above, for additional information regarding each Dual Degree Ph.D. Program see the [CMU Portugal website](#)

Applications are submitted directly through the Ph.D. program admissions website of each Department at CMU (see above) and applicants should indicate their interest in the corresponding Dual Degree Ph.D. program in the framework of the CMU Portugal Program. The FCT Scholarship will only be granted if the candidates are accepted by a Ph.D. Program at CMU and by a partner Portuguese University. Successful applicants may have to submit additional documentation to be awarded the FCT scholarship, see full details below.

Regulations

The scholarships will be granted under the rules established by the **Research Fellowship Holder Statute** (approved by [Law 40/2004](#), of August 18, amended and republished by the [Decree-Law 202/2012](#), of August 27; [Decree-Law 89/2013](#), of 9 July; [Decree-law 233/2012](#), of 29 October; and [Law 12/2013](#)) and under the **Regulation for Studentships and Fellowships** of FCT, I.P. (approved by [Regulation 234/2012](#), of June 25; amended and republished by [Regulation 326/2013](#), of July 27; [Regulation 339/2015](#), of June 17; and [Regulation 137-A/2018](#), February 27). For the full requirements and regulations see these documents, you can find below the specific requirements of this announcement.

¹ Computer Science (CS), Human and Computer Interaction (HCI), Language Technologies (LTI), Software Engineering (SE): <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/doctoral-admissions>

² Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE): <https://www.ece.cmu.edu/admissions/index.html>

³ Engineering and Public Policy (EPP): <https://www.cmu.edu/epp/prospective/doctoral-studies/doctoral-application/index.html>

⁴ Robotics: <https://www.ri.cmu.edu/education/academic-programs/doctoral-robotics-program/how-to-apply/>

Funding and call deadlines

Scholarships awarded in the current will be financed by national funds through FCT and the Ministério da Ciência, Tecnologia e Ensino Superior.

The call deadlines will vary depending on the Ph.D. Program:

- Computer Science (CS): September 16th, 2019 - December 12th, 2019 (Noon, EST)
- Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE): October 1st, 2019 - December 31st, 2019 (Noon, EST)
- Engineering and Public Policy (EPP): October 15th, 2019 - December 15th, 2019 (Noon, EST)
- Human and Computer Interaction (HCI): September 16th, 2019 - December 12th, 2019 (Noon, EST)
- Language Technologies (LTI): September 16th, 2019 - December 12th, 2019 (Noon, EST)
- Robotics: September 16th, 2019 - December 12th, 2019 (Noon, EST)
- Software Engineering (SE): September 16th, 2019 - December 12th, 2019 (Noon, EST)

Applications submitted before the call deadlines and until a specific date may present reduced application fees. More information is available in the CMU applications page of each Ph.D. Program.

Applications

Pursuant to article 5 in conjunction with article 14 of the Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) of FCT, Portuguese citizens, citizens of other European Union member states, and third-country nationals holding the academic degree required to enroll in a Ph.D. Program, in accordance with the procedures adopted by Carnegie Mellon University, may apply to this call, taking into account the research areas specified by the CMU Portugal Program available in the CMU Portugal website. Individuals who have previously received an FCT-funded doctoral fellowship, for the same purpose, are not eligible for this call. The Ph.D. candidate's application should satisfy the requirements established in article 16 of the Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of FCT, in accordance with the procedures adopted by Carnegie Mellon University.

Applications are to be submitted directly to CMU, through the website of each Ph.D. Program. Research areas 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.

Candidates are required to present a CV, recommendation letters, and a motivation letter where they should justify the reasons for applying to one of these programs and their research topics selection. The candidates should also present a certificate with an official transcript for each higher education degree. If the degree was obtained in a foreign institution the candidate must require the equivalence or the recognition of the degree according to the Portuguese law, through DGES or a Portuguese higher education institution. Applicants must demonstrate good fluency and writing skills in English. Candidates should submit the results of both the "TOEFL" (Test of English as a Foreign Language) and the "GRE" (general exam of the Graduate Record Examination). While TOEFL is preferred the "IELTS" (International English Language Testing System) can also be submitted.

Other documentation apart the one mentioned may be required, thus it is strongly recommended a careful reading on the required documents for application in each Ph.D. Program page.

The scholarship will only be granted if the candidates are accepted by CMU and by one of the Portuguese Universities within one of the Ph.D. programs.

Evaluation panel and evaluation process

The application, selection, and admission of the candidates are in accordance with the procedures adopted by the corresponding Department at Carnegie Mellon University. Evaluation is based on the merit and motivation of the applicant as assessed through the application.

Once the set of students admitted for the dual degree program at CMU is found, then these candidates are ranked by the evaluation panel for awarding scholarships and admission in the Portuguese University in the scope of the CMU Portugal Program.

The evaluation panel will be composed by at least one professor from each one of the Ph.D. Programs available in this call. These professors must be affiliated to CMU or to a Portuguese University with a Dual Degree Ph.D. Program in the context of the CMU Portugal Program. The evaluation panel will be coordinated by the Directors of the CMU Portugal Program.

The evaluation panels will review the submitted applications, weighting the review elements, and ranking the candidates. The alignment of a candidate to one of the research projects funded by the CMU Portugal Program under the 2019 Call "[Large-scale collaborative research projects](#)", may constitute a preferable selection criteria. In this case, the evaluation panel will request to the project principal investigators an assessment on the candidate's adequacy to the scholarship. Individual interviews may also be considered in the final phase of the evaluation.

Scholarship Duration and Monthly Stipend amount

The scholarship has the duration of one year, renewable up to a maximum of 5 years with satisfactory progress, of which at most two years are at CMU and up to three years are at the partner University in Portugal. The start date is September 2020. While at CMU, the scholarship pays the going rate of a PhD student stipend and provides full tuition.

While in Portugal the student receives an FCT scholarship that in 2019 has a monthly stipend of 1.003,26 euros (see details on the [FCT website](#) for the actual current values of a Ph.D. Scholarship "Bolsa de Doutoramento – BD" and corresponding allowances; the scholarship may also support the monthly payment of the "Seguro Social Voluntário, 1º escalão"). While supported by the CMU Portugal program, students work on their doctoral program full time in exclusivity, in accordance with the terms established in Article 5 of the [Research Fellowship Holder's Statute](#).

Application submission

The applications should be submitted online through the website of each dual degree Ph. D program at Carnegie Mellon University, and using the url's provided. **To apply and to know in detail all the information required for each Ph.D. program application please visit the CMU Portugal Program website at "[Admissions and Scholarships](#)".**

Publication and Results Notification

The list of admissions will be published on the Carnegie Mellon Portugal Program website, and the admitted candidates will be notified through the electronic address provided in their Curriculum Vitae.

For additional information please contact us at apply@cmuportugal.org.
