

**Announcement of a RESEARCH GRANT (BI)
IIA – Licenciado – TRANSFORM: Forest Knowledge Academy (FKA)**

Reference: PRBI/5/2024

An open call for a research grant is being launched under the project "**PRR 02/C05-i01/2022/34 - TRANSFORM WP5 Forest Knowledge Academy (FKA)**", of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, financed by the Recovery and Resilience Plan under the following conditions:

Generic scientific area: *Forestry*

Specific scientific area: *silviculture and forest management*

Admission requirements:

According to Article 3 of the Research Scholarship Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, approved by Dispatch No. 5963/2020, published in the 2nd series of the Official Gazette on June 1, 2020, the candidate must:

- Hold a Bachelor's degree in forestry;
- Be enrolled in a master's program in the field of forestry.
- If the candidate holds a foreign higher education degree, they must have the respective degree recognition, if applicable.
- Oral and written proficiency in Portuguese and English languages.
- Knowledge and experience in forest inventory.
- Knowledge in using new technologies in forest inventory or forest operations.
- Proficiency in geomatic applied to forest management.
- Driver's license.

Work plan:

The work plan to be developed includes the following components:

Collection of photographic and video material at designated locations for documenting the use of new technologies in forest monitoring.

Participation in the elaboration of manuals demonstrating the use of new technologies.

Organisation and monitoring of demonstration actions.

Preparation of reports, scientific articles, and other dissemination material of project results

Scholarship Period:

The scholarship lasts for 6 months, renewable for an equal period, on an exclusive basis, according to the Research Scholarship Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, which are in force starting on May 1, 2024..

Monthly Maintenance Allowance:

990.98 euros, according to the table of values of the Research Grants in the Country awarded by FCT, I.P. (www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores), being the payment made monthly by bank transfer.

The voluntary social insurance corresponding to the first level is added to this amount if the candidate opts for the respective registration. There is also personal accident insurance.

Host institution and scientific supervision:

The work will be carried out at ESAC – Coimbra Polytechnic Agriculture School and several field places in forest stands located in the central region under the scientific supervision of Professor Beatriz Fidalgo.

Selection criteria:

Evaluation, focusing on the merit of the candidates, will be carried out through the weighted linear sum of a set of criteria assessed on a scale of 0 to 10, using the weight vector indicated below:

- 1- Oral and written proficiency in Portuguese and English languages (weight 0.1);
- 2- Knowledge and experience in Forest Inventory or forest operations (weight: 0.3);
- 3- Knowledge of the use of new technologies in Forest Inventory or forest operations (weight: 0.3 points);
- 4- Proficiency in Grammar applied to forest management (weight: 0.2);
- 6- Interpersonal skills and experience in organizing and performing teamwork (weight: 0.1).

In case of a tie among the candidates with the best scores in the evaluation of the previous criteria, an interview will be conducted to refine the evaluation of the following criteria: candidate motivation, verbal and written fluency in the English language, autonomy and initiative, analytical skills, and critical thinking.

Jury Composition:

The jury responsible for the selection process will be composed of:

Prof. Maria Beatriz Machado Fidalgo (President); Prof. Raúl Salas González (Member); Dr. Érica Geraldês Castanheira (Member), and as alternate members Prof. José de Jesus Gaspar (Alternate Member); Prof. José Manuel Serras Tavares (Alternate Member).

Documents to be submitted:

Applications must include the following information:

- Duly completed application form, available on the website dedicated to this competition procedure - https://www.ipc.pt/bupc/concursos/form/concursos_bolseiros ;
- Residence, identification, identification document number and tax identification number.
- Documents proving that the candidate meets the conditions defined in the admission requirements, namely, 1) certificate of qualifications of the Bachelor's degree certificate 2) Enrolment or registration certificate in the master's program; 3) Candidates holding foreign qualifications must prove their academic degree and foreign degree in accordance with Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16;
- Candidate's Curriculum vitae.
- Letter of motivation.
- Letter(s) of reference or recommendation, including the contacts of the authors of the recommendations.

The above-mentioned documents, to be submitted with the application, must be presented within the deadline outlined in this notice.

Deadline for receipt of applications:

It will be 10 days, between 10/04/2024 and 23/04/2024.

Candidates must access and register on the website: https://www.ipc.pt/bupc/concursos/form/concursos_bolseiros to submit the application, selecting the procedure for which they intend to apply.

Applications must be delivered exclusively in digital format, in portable document format (pdf), with the exception of documents whose delivery is scheduled in other digital formats.

Application instructions are completed by filling in the sections available at the aforementioned link.

When formalizing the application, if it contains a classified document that reveals commercial or industrial secrets, or secrets relating to literary, artistic or scientific property, the candidate must expressly indicate such reservation, under penalty of the work in question being freely accessed by any one of the other candidates, in consultation with the process.

When submitting the application, the candidate must provide the data strictly necessary for the purpose, under the terms of this public notice, and must hide personal data that may exist in the documentation submitted, otherwise these data may be freely accessed by any of the other candidates, in the process query.

Legislation and applicable Regulation:

The award of this scholarship is based in the Law 40/2004, of the 18th of August (Statute of the Scientific Research Fellow), changed and republished by the Decree-Law 202/2012, of the 27th of August, updated by: Decree-Law 233/2012, Law 12/2013, Decree-Law 89/2013 and Decree-Law 123/2019; the Regulation of the research scholarships from the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I. P. and the Regulation of the Research Scholarships from Coimbra Polytechnic no. 12709/2016, published on the DR, 2nd serie, of 21/10/2016.

The model of the scholarship contract and that of the final reports to be prepared by the scholarship holder and the scientific supervisor are those set out in the annexes to the above-mentioned Statute for Scientific Research Scholarship Holders.

Information of Results:

The evaluation results will be published within 90 working days from the deadline for submission of applications by sending a communication to the candidates via email. After the results have been published, candidates will be notified to, if they wish, give their opinion in a prior hearing within a maximum of 10 working days after that date. After this deadline, the selected candidates must declare their acceptance in writing. Unless a justifiable reason is provided, failure to make the declaration within the deadline will be considered a waiver of the scholarship. In case of resignation or withdrawal of the selected candidate, the immediately best-ranked candidate will be notified.

For more information, contact the President of the Jury by e-mail: bfidalgo@esac.pt.

Coimbra, March 2024