

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR A RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP FOR MASTER DEGREE
IPC-IIA/Phos4Cycle/BI_Mest.2**

Reference PRBI/8/2026

A call for applications is open for a Research Scholarship (BI) within the scope of the project “Phos4Cycle - Monitoring phosphates in agricultural activities for the sustainable use of soil and water”, with operation code S1/2.7/E0044, supported by the INTERREG SUDOE 2021-2027 Program co-financed by the European Union.

The purpose of the research scholarship will be to implement and develop the following activities:

1. Support the development of the Strategy and Action Plan to prevent and reduce water and soil contamination by phosphates from agricultural activities.
2. Establish and monitor experimental plots in two pilot areas of the project in Portugal, allowing the development of a contamination risk prediction model.
3. Perform laboratory analyses of water, soil, and sediment samples.
4. Collaborate in the capacity-building activities for project beneficiaries and other entities to contribute to the adoption of the phosphate contamination prevention Strategy and Action Plan.
5. Support the drafting of technical activity reports and scientific publications.
6. Support the project's dissemination activities and its results.

Generic scientific area: Agriculture, Environment, or similar.

Specific scientific area: Agriculture, Environment, or similar.

Requirements

- Master's degree in Agriculture, Environment, or related areas, enrolled in a PhD program in one of the mentioned areas or a non-degree course.
- Oral and written fluency in Portuguese
- With experience in:
 - a) Fieldwork
 - b) Laboratory work
 - c) Teamwork

d) Preparation of technical reports and scientific articles

Work plan

The work plan will be developed at the Escola Superior Agrária de Coimbra of the Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra and at two agricultural fields located in Montemor-o-Velho and Aveiro. The grant holder will assist and participate mainly in the following project work packages (WP): WP1: Strategy and action plan for the prevention and reduction of phosphate contamination from agricultural activities; WP2: Development of the pilot system for phosphate monitoring and risk prediction model; WP3: Capacity-building for the adoption of the strategy and action plan involving the national territory.

Scholarship length

The grant will last for nine and half months, on an exclusive regime, according to the Research Grant Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra – Order No. 5963/2020, of 01/06. The Scholarship is scheduled to begin on March 15, 2026.

Monthly Maintenance Allowance

€1,309.64 according to the table of values for Research Grants in Portugal awarded by FCT, I.P. (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf), with payment made monthly by bank transfer.

To this amount is added the voluntary social insurance corresponding to the first tier, and a personal accident insurance contract.

Workplace

The work will be developed at the Escola Superior Agrária de Coimbra, of the Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra, and at two study areas located in Montemor-o-Velho e Aveiro, under the scientific guidance of Professor PhD Carla Rodrigues, Researcher PhD Verónica Oliveira and Professor Specialist Filomena Miguens.

Selection Criteria

The criteria for evaluating applications are as follows:

- Curriculum evaluation (35%);
- Oral and written fluency in Portuguese (10%)

- Experience in laboratory work (15%);
- Experience in fieldwork (15%);
- Teamwork experience (5%);
- Experience in preparing reports and scientific articles (5%);
- Motivation of the candidate to participate in the project (15%).

There may be an interview if it is necessary to break a tie between candidates.

Jury Composition

The jury responsible for the selection process will be made up of Professor PhD Carla Rodrigues (President), Researcher PhD Verónica Oliveira, Professor PhD Daniela Santos and Professor Specialist Maria Filomena Miguens (Effective Members) and Researcher PhD Ana Sofia Fajardo and Researcher PhD Carla Ferreira (Substitute Members).

Documents to be presented

Applications must include the following documents:

- Application form available on the internet page for this competition at https://www.ipc.pt/bupc/concursos/form/concursos_bolseiros
- B2 or C1 level certificate, based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (not applicable to native speakers from Portuguese-speaking countries)
- Copy of qualification certificates;
- Applicants with foreign qualifications must provide proof of their foreign academic degree and diploma in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16 August;
- Proof (or declaration under commitment of honor) of enrollment in the PhD program or a non-degree course;
- Motivation letter addressed to the President of the jury;
- Dated and signed curriculum vitae;
- Identification, residence, identification document number, and tax identification number;
- Declaration under commitment of honour, in which, if enrolled in an ongoing not conferring academic degree, the applicant does not exceed, with the conclusion of the scholarship contract in question, including possible renewals, an accumulated period of one year in that type of scholarship, followed or interpolated, in accordance with Research Grant Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra – Order No. 5963/2020, of 01/06.

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 only the necessary data, according to this notice, and must hide personal data present in the documentation, as these data may be freely accessed by other candidates during the process consultation.

Deadline for applications submission

It will last 10 working days, **between 13/02/2026 and 26/02/2026.**

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. Applicable legislation and regulations:

The awarding of scholarships is based on Law No. 40/2004 of 18 August (Statute of Scientific Research Scholarships), amended and republished by Decree-Law No. 202/2012 of 27 August, updated by: Decree-Law No. 233/2012, Law No. 12/2013, and Decree-Law No. 89/2013; the Scholarship and Research Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology in force

(www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2015.pdf), Order No. 12709/2016 published in DR, II series of 21/10/2016, of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, regarding the IPC Scholarship Regulations.

The model scholarship contract and final reports to be prepared by the scholarship holder and the coordinator

are those contained in the annexes to the Scientific Research Scholarship Statute mentioned above.

Legislation and applicable Regulation:

The award of this fellowship is based on:

- Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, in its current wording (Statute of the Scientific Research Grant Holder);
- Order No. 5963/2020, of June 1, in its current wording (Research Grant Holder Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra);
- Subsidiarily, Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology

The grant contract template and the final reports to be prepared by the grant holder and the coordinator are those contained in the annexes to the Research Grant Holder Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, mentioned above.

Method of notifying results

The evaluation results will be published through an alphabetical list by final grade, displayed in a visible and public place at the Escola Superior Agrária de Coimbra of the Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra. All candidates will be notified for the purposes of prior hearing, via email.

For further information contact Professor PhD Carla Rodrigues, via email: carlar@esac.pt

Coimbra, February 2026