PUBLIC NOTICE FOR A RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

Reference PRBI/40/2026

A call for applications is open for a Research Grant within the scope of the "SEVEREFIRE" project, with operation code **2023.16253.ICDT**, of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, funded by national funds through the FCT – Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P., within the scope of the Portugal 2030 Program - PTDC FCT 2023, under the following conditions:

The grant will aim at the implementation and development of the following activities:

1) Data collection on fire severity;

2) Data analysis;

3) Scientific publications

Generic scientific area: Fire ecology

Specific scientific area: Fire severity

Requirements:

- Master's degree in Forest Sciences, Geography, or Biology;

- If the candidate holds a higher education degree obtained abroad, they must have the respective degree recognized, if applicable;

- Enrolment in a master's/doctoral program in Forest Sciences or in a non-degree-granting course;

- With experience in:

a) Fieldwork in forest ecology.

b) Data analysis, remote sensing, GIS, applied to forest ecology.

- With a driver's license and own car.

Work Plan:

The work plan consists of selection of study areas, data collection in the field, data processing and analysis, and dissemination activities.

Scholarship Length:

The scholarship has a duration of one year, renewable when permitted by regulation, on an exclusive basis, according to the Research Grant Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. in force, with a planned start date of December 7, 2026, and an end date of December 6, 2027.

Monthly Maintenance Allowance:

€1359.64, 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 will be added the voluntary social security contribution corresponding to the first tier, if the candidate chooses to register, and personal accident insurance will also be required.

Workplace:

The work will be developed at the School of Agriculture of the Polytechnic University of Coimbra, under the scientific supervision of Joaquim Sande Silva.

Selection Criteria:

The criteria for evaluating applications are as follows:

- Knowledge of fire ecology, 40%;
- Experience in fieldwork and data analysis, 30%;
- Interview, 30%.

Only the top three candidates will be interviewed.

Jury of Selection:

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

Full Members

Professor Joaquim Sande Silva, PhD

Professor Hélia Marchante, PhD

Professor Ernesto Deus, PhD

Alternate Members:

Professor Teresa Vasconcelos, PhD

Professor José Tavares, PhD

Documents needed to apply:

The application must be accompanied by the following documents:

- Application form available on the internet page for this competition at https://www.ipc.pt/bupc/concursos/form/concursos_bolseiros
- Letter of motivation from the candidate;

- Curriculum vitae;

- Document(s) proving the academic degree and/or diploma(s) required for the competition. Candidates holding foreign qualifications must prove their academic degree and foreign diploma in accordance with Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of August 16;

- Proof of enrolment and registration in a master's/doctoral program or non-degree course.

Deadline of Application Submission:

The application period will be of 10 working days, from **17/11/2026 to 30/11/2026**.

Candidates must access and register on the website https://www.ipc.pt/sobre/rh/a-decorrer-bolseiros/ to submit their application, selecting the scholarship they wish to apply for.

The application must be submitted exclusively digitally, in portable document format (pdf), except for documents whose submission is foreseen in other digital formats.

The application process is carried out by filling out the sections available at the aforementioned website.

When formalizing the application, if it contains a confidential document that reveals a commercial or industrial secret, or a secret relating to literary, artistic or scientific property, the candidate must expressly indicate this reservation, otherwise the work in question may be freely accessed by any of the other candidates during a process consultation.

In submitting the application, the candidate must provide only the data strictly necessary for this purpose, in accordance with this notice, and must conceal any personal data that may exist in the submitted documentation, otherwise this data may be freely accessed by any of the other candidates during a process consultation.

Legislation and applicable Regulation:

The granting of scholarships is based on the following legal instruments:

- Law No. 40/2004, of August 18, in its current wording (Statute of the Scientific Research Scholarship Holder);

- Scholarship and Research Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology, in force;

- Order No. 5963/2020, of June 1, in its current wording (Research Scholarship Regulations of the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra).

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

Information of Results:

The evaluation results will be published within 90 working days from the application deadline, by sending a communication to the candidates via email. After the publication of the results, the candidates will be notified and given 10 working days after that date to express their opinion in a preliminary hearing, if they wish. After this period, the selected candidates will have to declare, in writing, their acceptance and communicate the effective start date of the scholarship. Unless there is a justifiable reason, failure to declare within the aforementioned period is equivalent to renunciation of the scholarship. In case of renunciation or withdrawal by the selected candidate, the next highest-ranked candidate will be notified.

For more information, please contact: Joaquim Sande Silva via email: jss@esac.pt

Coimbra, November 2026