

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Reference: NewSpace 04/2024

Number of vacancies: 1 (one)

A call for applications is open for one (1) Research Grant - Master's Student - within the scope of the 'Agenda NewSpace Portugal' project (no. 02-C05-i01.02-2022.C632305114-00466915), financed by national PRR (Recovery and Resilience Plan) funds, through IAPMEI - Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation, under the following conditions:

Scientific area: Geospatial Engineering / Remote Sensing

Category of recipients: Students who, at the time of recruitment, can prove that they are enrolled in a master's degree or integrated master's degree in the area requested in the notice.

Requirement for granting the fellowship: Candidates must have a completed and recognised higher education degree at the time of application.

Scholarships will only be awarded to successful candidates who present valid proof of enrolment in a master's degree or integrated master's degree in the area requested in the notice, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, respectively indicating the academic year in progress or its duration.

Candidates profile:

a) Mandatory Requirements

- Proven and recognized academic qualifications in Higher Education;
- Proof of academic qualifications completed by the deadline for applications or declaration of honour by the candidate;
- Knowledge of Geospatial Engineering/Remote Sensing;
- Knowledge of Python;
- Knowledge of satellite image processing;
- Knowledge of QGIS;
- Fluency in spoken and written English.

b) Preferred Factors

- Experience in research projects in scientific areas related to the project;
- Participation in extracurricular internships;
- Knowledge of CEiIA's organisational structure.

Applicants Eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions in Article 9 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (2019).

Workplan and objectives to be achieved: The work plan is part of WP4 - ‘Constellation of the Atlantic—Digital Planet’, in PPS3, with the same name. It aims to develop and test an experimental product for evaluating, analysing, and choosing sites for installing photovoltaic parks based on the latest advances in artificial intelligence and data fusion, using remote sensing techniques.

Applicable legislation and regulations: The Research Fellowship Holder Statutes, approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current version published by Decree-Law no. 123/2019 of August 28, and the Regulation of Research Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P., are in force.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The work plan will be developed at CEiIA - Centre for Engineering and Product Development, located at Avenida Dom Afonso Henriques, 1825, Matosinhos, under the scientific guidance of Master André Delgado Martins Dias, Aerospace Engineer and responsible for the Space area at CEiIA.

Research Grant duration: The scholarship will last 6 months, starting in January 2025. The scholarship contract may be renewed up to the maximum duration of the project and/or the applicable legislation, in the case of students enrolled in a master's/integrated master's programme, 24 months.

Amount of the research grant: The MMS amounts to 990.98 euros/month, according to the table of values for FCT I.P. grants in Portugal (Annex I—Table of monthly maintenance allowances of the FCT I.P. Research Grant Regulations).

The payment is made by the last business day of each month through a transfer to the grantee's IBAN provided during the contracting process.

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Security (Social Security contributions), corresponding to the 1st level of discounts and personal accident insurance.

Exclusivity regime: The grantee will perform the activities under exclusivity, as foreseen in article 5º of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel: The jury is composed of the following elements:

President:

- Dr. Jorge Miguel Nunes dos Santos Cabral, Electronic Engineer, and Administrator of CEiIA

Effective members:

- Master André Delgado Martins Dias, Aerospace Engineer and Head of Space at CEiIA

- Dr Paula Cristiane Pinto Mesquita Pardal, Space Engineer at CTI AEROESPACIAL

Substitute members:

- Dr. António José Linhares da Silva, Computer Engineer and Image Processing and Computer Vision Engineer at CEiIA

- Master Alberto José Rajão Barbosa, Computing Engineer, and Data Scientist at CEiIA

In case of impediment, the first influential member will substitute for the President of the selection panel; they will be nominated as the first substitute member instead of the first influential member.

Criteria, sub-criteria and evaluation and selection procedures: The evaluation of applications will focus on the Merit of the Applicant, applying the following evaluation criteria and sub-criteria, valued on a scale of 0 to 20:

Merit of the Candidate (MC) – 100%

- A. Knowledge of Geospatial Engineering or related areas, weighted at 30%;
- B. Knowledge of automation and detection using satellite images, weighted at 20%;
- C. Knowledge of programming (Python), weighted at 20%;
- D. Use of GIS software (namely QGIS), weighted at 20%;
- E. Fluency in oral and written English, weighted at 10%.

The final classification (MC), based on the applicant's merit, is achieved through the following formula:

$$MC = (A*0,3) + (B*0,2) + (C*0,2) + (D*0,2) + (E*0,1)$$

Candidates scoring less than 9.50 in any selection sub-criteria (A, B, C, D, E) will be excluded from the final assessment.

The academic degrees and diplomas documents, or their respective recognition when awarded by foreign higher education institutions, are not mandatory in the application phase but are replaced by a declaration of honor of the candidate with the contents of academic results. The documents of educational qualification or respective recognition will be required in the contracting phase and must attest to facts that occurred on a date before the application. In situations of divergence between the information in the declaration and the documentation submitted for contracting the grant, only the information in the latter will be considered. Suppose the documents proving the ownership of the academic degree and diploma, or the respective recognition under the terms of Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of August 16, do not

correspond to the classifications awarded in evaluating the academic path, which can change the candidate's ranking. In that case, the fellowship won't be contracted.

Notes: *Applicants with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the Portuguese classification scale or declaration under the terms indicated in the previous point. For candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions, the selection panel will assign a "0" in the grade of the graduation and/or master course. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.*

Disclosure of results: The provisional application results, based on the selection panel minutes, will be sent to applicants by email within a maximum period of 90 working days from the date the applications were submitted under Article 12 of the RBI of FCT.

In case of unfavorable results, the candidates have ten working days to comment, if desired, in a prior hearing to interested parties under articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL no. 4 / 2015 of January 7th).

Complaint and appeal procedures: The final evaluation results will be published in an ordered list by final grade obtained, posted in a visible and public place of the host unit, and emailed to all applicants, enclosing the minutes of the jury deliberations for that purpose.

The selected candidate must indicate their willingness to accept the grant in writing. If rejected, the fellowship will be awarded to the next candidate in the ordered list of applicants.

The final decision can be contested within 15 working days by sending the corresponding claim to the jury president.

Application deadline and submission: Once submitted to EURAXESS, the application process is open for ten days.

Applications must be formalized mandatorily by sending an application letter with the candidate's Curriculum Vitae, certificate of qualifications, or declaration of honor (if applicable). Optionally, the candidate can also send other relevant documents to the application.

Applications must be submitted through the following address: <https://smrtr.io/pm5-M>, indicating the competition's reference in the Subject line. Applications sent through other channels will not be accepted.

Please indicate the competition reference, include all required documents in the application, or submit/deliver it to a location other than the one stated above to avoid exclusion.

Fellowship contractualization: The fellowship will be attributed by signing a fellowship contract between the CEiIA and the fellow, according to 2.4 of the FCT document: “Rules for Granting and Management of Grants within the scope of R&D projects, including infrastructure projects, the multi-annual financing program for R&D units and other FCT financing instruments (Version 2021).”

The contract may only be concluded after all the required documentation is collected, which must take place within a maximum period of 6 months [including evidence of academic degrees or diplomas and enrolment in degree courses or non-conferring courses, depending on the type of scholarship].

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has 60 working days to conclude the research grant contract. Once received, the fellow must return the duly signed contract within 15 working days.

The activities under the fellowship contract can only begin after proper authorization by the contracting entity.

Term and cancellation of fellowship contracts: Without prejudice to the other causes provided in the fellowship regulations (FCT) and the Statute of the Research Fellow, the fellowship ends with completing the work plan and the expiration date for which it was granted or renewed.

At the end of the fellowship, the grantee must present a Final Report of the work carried out, according to the objectives and evaluation criteria defined by the scientific advisor, within 30 working days after the end of the research grant.

The Final Report must be submitted electronically and include the activities undertaken and results obtained, including any communications, publications, and scientific creations resulting from the activities, along with their respective URLs. It should be accompanied by the supervisors' opinion and by the provisions of paragraph 1 of article 24 of the Research Grants Regulation, no. 950/2019 of 16-12-2019, from the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: CEiIA promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, whereby no candidate may be privileged, benefited, harmed, or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due to, in particular, of ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social condition, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and union membership.

**DECLARATION OF HONOR
ACADEMIC HABILITATIONS**

I, (name), candidate for the grant opportunity within the scope of the [project name or reference], published on the EURAXESS portal, with reference [application reference], declare under honor that I have completed the academic degree of [academic degree], qualifying for the type of grant under consideration, namely the course [course designation], from [University granting degree], on the date XX/XX/XXXX, with a final grade of XX points on the YY scale.

As I cannot provide proof of qualifications by the end of the application period, I declare that I will present the certificate above upon signing the grant contract if I am selected for the grant opportunity.

As this is true, I will date and sign this declaration.

(Place), (date),

(Full name)