

## Call for 2 Research Fellowships

### Ad summary

A call is open for 2 Research Fellowships (call reference: **DESCRENÇA/003/2BI/2025**), for two Bachelor's Degree holders, under the project "Suspension of Dis/belief: Measurement and Definition through a Nomological Network", with the reference [2023.14866.PEX], at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (*Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia*) – FCT, I.P./MCTES, through national funds (PIDDAC).

**1. Scientific field:** Psychology

**2. Funding:** Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (*Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia*) – FCT, I.P./MCTES.

### 3. Applicants' Profile

Mandatory requirements:

- i. Bachelor's degree in Psychology or Psychological Sciences;
- ii. Candidates must be enrolled in a Master's degree in Social and Organizational Psychology or equivalent area;
- iii. Excellent communication skills in Portuguese and English.

Preferred factors:

- i. Previous experience in data collection (both digital platforms and laboratory settings);
- ii. Previous experience in data reporting and presentation (e.g., conference presentations);
- iii. Previous experience working with the variables at study in the scope of the project (i.e., suspension of disbelief);
- iv. Motivation to conduct a Master's Dissertation in the line of research of this project.

### 4. Requirements for admission to the competition

The following documents must be submitted:

- a) Bachelor's degree with the final classification;
- b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- c) Motivation Letter.

If the candidate presents an Integrated Master's degree awarded by institutions that do not issue certificates/diplomas with discrimination of the final classifications of 1st (Bachelor's) and 2nd (Master's) cycles, he/she must also submit a certificate that details the classifications of each curricular course (and concomitant ECTS) of the Integrated Master's degree (according with note 5 of section 12 of this call).

Only applicants who supply proof to have completed the study cycle leading to a Bachelor's degree by the end of the application deadline will be admitted. If applicants do not yet have the certificate of completion a declaration of honor will be accepted, stating that they have completed the qualifications required for the call and that the Bachelor's diploma/certificate will be dated within

the application period. The fellowship award is always contingent upon the presentation of the mandatory proof of academic qualifications.

If the academic degree has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution, it must be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, and the final classification must be converted into the Portuguese evaluation scale, under the terms of the provisions of Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16th, which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of no. 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law no. 60/2018, of August 3rd.

If the candidate has already requested but is waiting for the recognition of the academic degrees conferred by a foreign higher education institution to be issued, he/she can submit a declaration of honor clarifying that the recognition was requested and will be dated within the application period.

The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas and the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale may be requested in any Portuguese public higher education institution or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, for automatic recognition only). Please consult the DGES portal for details: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

#### **5. Requirements for signing the fellowship contract**

The selected candidate must be enrolled in a Master's degree in Social and Organizational Psychology or equivalent area. This registration must be completed until the time of contracting the research fellowship.

In the case of diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions, the recognition of these academic degrees must be presented until the time of contracting the research fellowships and the date of recognition must fall within the application period (as indicated in point 4).

For the purposes of signing the contract, a form with personal information, Ciência ID, a copy of the identification document, and a declaration on exclusive functions exercise might also be requested.

False declarations are reason to cancel the candidacy without prejudice to the application of other sanction measures.

#### **6. Work plan**

The work plan will be developed in the context of the project "Suspension of Dis/belief: Measurement and Definition through a Nomological Network", with the reference [2023.14866.PEX], at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, awarded by FCT.

Specifically, the fellows will be involved in quantitative data collection of studies in the scope of the described project, contributing to the statistical analysis of the collected data, the presentation and discussion of findings, weekly meetings, and literature review related activities.

#### **7. Applicable legislation**

Law No. 40/2004, of August 18th, as amended by the Decree-Law No. 123/2019, of August 28th, in its current wording (Research Fellowship Holder Statute/*Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação* - EBI);

Regulation No. 950/2019, of November 29<sup>th</sup>, published in Diário da República, No. 241, Series II, of December 16<sup>th</sup> (FCT's Regulation for Research Fellowships/*Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação da FCT* - RBI); Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16<sup>th</sup> (Legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions); Regulation for Scientific Research Fellowships of Isipa – Instituto Universitário); and other applicable legislation.

#### **8. Workplace and scientific supervision**

The fellowship contract will be signed with ISPA, CRL (contracting entity). The place of work is located at the William James Center for Research (host institution), located at Isipa – Instituto Universitário (Rua Jardim do Tabaco 34, 1149-041 Lisbon, Portugal) and, eventually, other locations necessary for the execution of the planned activities, under the scientific supervision of Professor Doctor Teresa Garcia-Marques.

#### **9. Duration of the fellowships**

The fellowships is estimated for 6 months, from February to July 2025, eventually renewable for periods not exceeding the eligible period of the project, conditioned by the project's budget, and in accordance with the maximum period for research fellowships as indicated in points 4 and 5 of Article 6 of FCT's Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships.

#### **10. Remuneration and other components**

The gross monthly remuneration to be paid is 990,98€, in accordance to the table of monthly maintenance stipend in Portugal set by FCT for activities in exclusive dedication regime ([https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM\\_atualizacao-2024.pdf](https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM_atualizacao-2024.pdf)), subject to any updates that may apply, to be paid monthly through bank transfer. Each fellow is also entitled to the applicable voluntary social security system (*Seguro Social Voluntário*, Decree-Law No. 40/89, of February 1<sup>st</sup>; EBI – art. 10<sup>o</sup>), and a personal accidents insurance.

#### **11. Submission of applications**

The call is open from **February 03<sup>rd</sup> 2025 to February 14<sup>th</sup> 2025**, 11PM (Lisbon time).

Applications must be formalized via e-mail to [candidaturas.investigadores@ispa.pt](mailto:candidaturas.investigadores@ispa.pt) and [gmarques@ispa.pt](mailto:gmarques@ispa.pt) and must clearly state the reference of this call in the "Subject" **DESCRENÇA/003/2BI/2025**. Alternatively, applications can be sent via post to Isipa – Instituto Universitário – William James Center for Research – Rua Jardim do Tabaco 34, 1149-041 Lisboa, Portugal, and received within the specified application period.

Applications must include the following mandatory documents (as indicated in point 4):

- a) Copy of the Bachelor's degree certificates/diplomas with the final classification;  
If the candidate presents an Integrated Master's degree awarded by institutions that do not issue certificates/diplomas with discrimination of the final classifications of 1<sup>st</sup> (Bachelor's) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (Master's) cycles, he/she must also submit a certificate that details the classifications of each curricular course (and concomitant ECTS) of the Integrated Master's degree (according with note 5 of section 12 of this call).

If applicable, and in accordance with point 4 of this call for applications, recognition of the Bachelor if this degree was awarded by a foreigner higher education institution, and respective conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale. Alternatively, a declaration of honor clarifying that the recognition was requested and will be dated within the application period;

- b) Detailed curriculum vitae (CV);
- c) Motivation letter.

All documents must be submitted in PDF format.

The non-compliance with these requirements may determine the rejection of the application.

## 12. Evaluation and selection criteria

The evaluation and selection process will be conducted according to the merit of the candidate and based on the following (weighted) criteria:

- **Criterion A:** Academic degree based on the final classification indicated in the Bachelor's diploma/certificate (20% of the overall evaluation);
- **Criterion B:** Previous experience in data collection, reporting and presentation, and publishing experience, as shown in the candidate's CV (50% of the overall evaluation);
- **Criterion C:** Motivation and interest in the field, and familiarity with the variables studied under the project, as shown by the candidate's motivation letter (20% of the overall evaluation).
- **Criterion D:** Motivation to conduct a Master's Dissertation in this line or research (10% of the overall evaluation).

Applications will be evaluated, and candidates ranked, on a 0,00 – 20,00 scale. The final classification will result from the application of the formula:

$$\text{Final Classification} = (\text{Criterion A} \times 20\%) + (\text{Criterion B} \times 50\%) + (\text{Criterion C} \times 20\%) + (\text{Criterion D} \times 10\%)$$

For tie-breaking purposes, the ranking of the candidates will be based on the classifications assigned to each of the evaluation criteria in the following order of precedence: Criterion B - Previous experience in data collection, reporting and presentation, and publishing experience, as shown in the candidate's CV; Criterion C - Motivation and interest in the field, as shown by the candidate's motivation letter; and Criterion A – Academic degree based on the final classification indicated in the Bachelor's diploma/certificate.

If none of the candidates presents the appropriate and/or necessary skills and competences required for the position and respective work plan, despite fulfilling all the requirements for admission, the Evaluation Panel has the right to not attribute the fellowship(s).

Note for the evaluation of Criterion A:

1 – When candidates submit more than one equivalent Bachelor's degree (equivalent number of ECTS), the Evaluation Panel will decide which academic degree is best suited for the pursuit of the

research plan and which should, therefore, be considered for Criterion A. Other course(s) presented by the candidate can eventually be considered for Criterion B;

2 – The Evaluation Panel will award the minimum score (10 points on a 0 – 20 scale) required for obtaining a degree in Portugal when the submitted Portuguese certificate does not mention the final classification;

3 – The Evaluation Panel will award the minimum score (10 points on a 0 – 20 scale) required for obtaining a degree in Portugal when candidates submit a declaration of honor indicating they have completed the cycle of studies leading to a Bachelor's degree by the application deadline but do not present the concomitant certificate (as indicated in point 4 of the call for applications);

4 – The Evaluation Panel will award the minimum score (10 points on a 0 – 20 scale) required for obtaining a degree in Portugal when degree certificates/diplomas issued by foreign institutions are not recognized in Portugal and/or do not have the respective final classifications converted to the Portuguese evaluation scale (as indicated in point 4 of the call for applications);

5 – If the candidate presents an Integrated Master's degree awarded by institutions that do not issue certificates/diplomas with discrimination of the final classifications of 1st (Bachelor's) and 2nd (Master's) cycles, the evaluation of Criterion A will be the weighted average of the first three years (1st cycle) based on the classifications obtained in each curricular course completed. Candidates in this situation should, therefore, submit a certificate/diploma that details the classifications of each curricular course (and concomitant ECTS) of the Integrated Master's degree.

### **13. Composition of the Evaluation Panel**

The evaluation panel will consist of:

Professor Doctor Teresa Garcia-Marques (Full Professor at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher of the Williams James Center for Research; President of the Jury)

Professor Doctor Ana Lapa (Assistant Professor at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, Collaborator Researcher of the Williams James Center for Research; Effective jury member)

Professor Doctor Filipe Loureiro (Assistant Professor at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, Collaborator Researcher of the Williams James Center for Research; Effective jury member)

Prof. Doctor Gonçalo Oliveira (Assistant Professor at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, Collaborator Researcher of the Williams James Center for Research; Alternate member of the jury)

Prof. Doctor Ana Cristina Martins (Assistant Professor at Ispa – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher of the Applied Psychology Research Center Capabilities & Inclusion\_APPsyCI; Alternate member of the jury)

### **14. Communication of results**

All candidates will be notified of the minutes relating to the application evaluation phase/s that will be sent to them by email, to the address they provide for this effect, with delivery notification receipt.

Notifications are made by email, by articles 112, no. 1, subparagraph c) and 113, no. 5, of the CPA.

### **15. Deadlines and procedures for preliminary hearing, complaint, and appeal**

After communicating the provisional list of the results, applicants who want to dispute the results have a period of 10 working days to request a preliminary hearing, per Article 121 and following the

Administrative Procedure Code (CPA). The final decision will be communicated after examining the arguments presented at the preliminary hearing. After this communication, the selected candidate has 10 working days to accept, in writing, the awarded fellowship. Otherwise, withdrawal or renouncement of the fellowship will be considered, unless a proper justification is presented.

After the final decision, a complaint may be placed within 15 working days or an appeal within 30 working days, both counting from the notification date. Applicants who wish to submit a complaint or an appeal should address their complaint to the Board of the funding agency.

In case the selected candidate renounces or withdraws from the fellowship, the Evaluation Panel can notify and award the fellowship to the candidate(s) in the subsequent position(s), if applicable, and according to the final ranking list.

#### **16. Templates for the research fellowship contract and the final reports by the fellow and the supervisor**

The template for the research fellowship contract as well as the template for the final reports to be created by the fellow and by the supervisor, and concomitant evaluation criteria, can be consulted in the Regulation for Scientific Research Fellowships of ISPA – University Institute (Appendices 2, 3, and 4, 5) at:

[https://intranet.ispa.pt/sites/default/files/users/531/rg102\\_bols\\_invest\\_cient\\_v4.0.pdf](https://intranet.ispa.pt/sites/default/files/users/531/rg102_bols_invest_cient_v4.0.pdf)

#### **17. Non-discrimination and equal access policy**

ISPA, CRL actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access policy, wherefore no candidate can be privileged, benefited, impaired, or deprived of any rights whatsoever, or be exempt from any duties based on ancestry, age, sex, sexual preference, marital status, family and economic conditions, education, origin or social conditions, genetic heritage, reduced work capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, origin territory, language, religion, political or ideological convictions, and union membership.

**18. Disabled candidate:** According to DL nº. 29/2001 of February 3rd, disabled candidates have a preference in an equal classification situation, which supersedes any legal preference. Candidates must declare, on their honor, on their application form during the selection period under the regulations above, their respective disability degree, the type of disability, and the communication/expression mean to be used.