

CALL FOR AWARDING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS WITHIN PROJECT GRANTS AND R&D INSTITUTIONS

1 Fellowship for a Master's Student

1 Research Fellowship(s) (BI) is(are) open at the **FCiências.ID – Associação para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento de Ciências**, for the project “Accelerat.ai - Multilingual Intelligent Contact Centers” (Ref. C625734525-00462629)”, financed by IAPMEI/PRR – invitation to submit n.º 01/C05-i01/2021, under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence
2. **Requirements for admission:** a) Degree in Biomedical Engineering - information available in the CV; b) Background and vocation for the design and development of large language models based on deep learning and capable of multimodal processing - information available in the cv and motivation letter; c) Mastery of the Portuguese language (spoken and written), in the European variant, at level C2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, certified with respective diploma, or as a mother tongue, since it is a project that aims to develop conversational agents in Portuguese, European variant, and it is essential that the candidate is able to evaluate their performance - information made available in the CV.
3. **Additional optional skills and qualifications:** None.
4. **Contracting requirements:** Presentation of the academic qualifications and/or diplomas. Enrolment in MSc in Cognitive Science.
5. **Work plan:**
 - 1) With the maximum level of autonomy and capacity framed in this research grant, cutting-edge research on Artificial Intelligence applied to Language Technology for conversational agents in view of multimodal information processing including the development of neural models for language and image using deep learning technology, with particular focus on the Portuguese language;
 - 2) Preparation and participation in project meetings and subsequent actions;
 - 3) Preparation of articles and publication of results;
 - 4) Participation in the dissemination activities of the project. The work plan is included in Activity 2.1 (Development of Foundation Neural Language Models) of the project Accelerat.ai: Multilingual Intelligent Contact Centers.
6. **Legislation framework:** Research Fellowship Holder Statute, in accordance with Law 40/2004, of 18 August, in its current version and the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, in its current version (Reg. 950/2019 published in DR on 16th December: <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968>, or at the FCT website: <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/regulamento.phtml>), and FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation, as approved on 12th May 2020 (available at [Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação Científica da FCiências.ID](https://www.fciencias.id/regulamento)).
7. **Place of work:** The work will be developed at the NLX – Natural Language and Speech Research Group under the scientific supervision of Professor António Branco.
8. **Fellowship duration:** This position is initially opened for 6 months due to start in June 2023. The fellowship contract may be potentially renewed for until the end of the project, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation of Research Fellowships from the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P and FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation.
9. **Monthly allowance:** The fellowship amounts to € 930,98, according to [table values](#) of the FCiências.ID Fellowship Regulation. The fellowship holder will have a personal accident insurance and can ensure the right to social

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security through adherence to the voluntary social insurance scheme, if not covered by any other social protection scheme, pursuant to *Código dos Regimes Contributivos do Sistema Previdencial de Segurança Social*.
The fellowship will be paid monthly by bank transfer.

10. **Evaluation and selection process:**

1. Failure to satisfy the Admission Requirements constitutes sufficient reason for non-admission of candidates on absolute merit.
2. The final grading system for candidates shall be expressed on a scale of 0 to 100%.
3. The following are evaluation criteria on the merits:
 - a) Classification in the degree - 25%
 - b) Previous education with curricular units related to AI - 25%;
 - c) Alignment of the motivation letter with the work plan - 25%;
 - d) Mastery of the working language - 25%;
 - e) Interview, if deemed necessary by the jury. If there is an interview, the sum of the classification obtained in the evaluation criteria a) to d) will correspond to 90% of the final classification and the interview will correspond to 10%.
4. The scholarship may not be awarded to any applicant.
Applicants whose application is scored with a final classification of less than 80 points are not eligible for granting a fellowship.

11. **Selection Committee:**

- President – António Manuel Horta Branco;
- 1st Member – Luís Manuel dos Santos Gomes;
 - 2nd Member – João Ricardo Martins Ferreira da Silva;
 - 1st Alternate Member – Carlos Alberto Pacheco Dos Anjos Duarte;
 - 2nd Alternate Member – Ana Paula Pereira Afonso

12. **Publication/notification of results:** All the candidates will be notified by e-mail, sent by the call holder, with the selection meeting minutes enclosed.

13. **Deadlines:** This call for applications is open from 05/04/2023 to 19/04/2023 .

14. **Application:** Applications should be sent via e-mail to nlx@di.fc.ul.pt, by attaching the following documents:
- a. Curriculum vitae - **CV may be provided in PDF or through the [CIÊNCIAVITAE](#) system**;
 - b. Certificate of completion of previous degree;
 - c. Motivation letter;
 - d. Other documents considered relevant.

15. **Time limits for the appeal procedure:** In case of negative decision, the candidates have 10 business days, after the date of announcement of the results of the candidates evaluation, to pronounce their disagreement in accordance with the *Código do Procedimento Administrativo*. Appeals against the final decision may be submitted to the Administration Board of FCiências.ID (fciencias.id@fciencias-id.pt) within 15 business days after the notification date

Note 1: The documents that prove the entitlement of the academic qualifications and diplomas, or the proof of registration in the academic degree or diploma requested on the call, can be dismissed during the application period and replaced by a declaration on their honour from the applicant. Their delivery is mandatory for the fellowship contractualization.

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Note 2: Please note that - higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions need to be recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution, pursuant to the [Decree-Law nr. 66/2018](#) (August 16) and the [Ministerial Order nr. 33/2019](#) (January 25). The presentation of the recognition certificate is mandatory for contract signature. More information can be obtained at: <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition>.