

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF 3 RESEARCH INITIATION FELLOWSHIPS

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of three initiation to research grants within the scope of the R&D project Centre of Mathematics of the University of Minho (CMAT), UIDB/00013/2020, financed by national funds (PIDDAC) through Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT/MCTES), under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Mathematics

Recipient category: Students enrolled in 1st cycle courses in the areas of Mathematics, Computer Science or Statistics.

Requirement for granting the fellowship:

- Candidates may apply without prior registration in the course for which the scholarship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship.
- For contractualization purposes, it will only be accepted selected candidates who present valid proof of enrollment in the degree course, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, respectively with the indication of the current academic year or its duration (beginning and end).

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

Workplan and objectives to be achieved:

The grant holders are expected to collaborate in the scientific outreach activities developed by CMAT Outreach Laboratory (OutLab) in the scope of the International Day of Mathematics.

The fellows must carry out bibliographical research on the themes chosen by the OutLab team, with the aim of promoting activities for students from schools in the region.

The topics will be related to knot theory, origami, minimal surfaces, ruled surfaces, non-oriented surfaces or others, to be decided by the OutLab team.

Applicable legislation and regulations: 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; Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd series, nb. 119, through dispatch nb. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration nb. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021 and Regulation of Research Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. - in force.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out in the Centre of Mathematics of University of Minho, located in *Campus de Gualtar*, Braga, under the scientific supervision of one of the following members of CMAT: Davide Manuel Santos Azevedo (Assistant Researcher), Maria Cláudia Freitas de Sousa Mendes Araújo (Assistant Professor) and Maria Suzana Freitas de Sousa Mendes Gonçalves (Assistant Professor).

Fellowship duration: The grants will take place for a period of 2 months, with a provisional starting date on December of 2021, and are non-renewable.

Amount of the research grant: The value stipend (Monthly Maintenance Allowance) is 446,12 euros, in accordance with the stipends values published by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT I.P.) in the

country (Annex I – Monthly Stipends Values for the maintenance allowances of the [FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships](#) and Annex II of UMinho's Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships (RBIC), published in "Diário da República", 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, according to the applicable rules.

Payment is made until the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the fellowship holder's NIB indicated in the contracting process.

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

Selection panel:

President: Maria Cláudia Freitas de Sousa Mendes Araújo, Assistant Professor of the Department of Mathematics, member of CMAT, University of Minho;

Effective Member: Maria Suzana Freitas Sousa Mendes Gonçalves, Assistant Professor of the Department of Mathematics, member of CMAT, University of Minho;

Effective member: Davide Manuel Santos Azevedo, Assistant Researcher of CMAT, member of CMAT, University of Minho;

Substitute member: Lisa Maria de Freitas Santos, Associate Professor of the Department of Mathematics, member of CMAT, University of Minho;

Substitute member: Maria Irene Ferrão Carvalho Ribeiro Almeida Falcão, Associate Professor of the Department of Mathematics, member of CMAT, University of Minho.

The first effective member will substitute the President of the selection panel in case of impediment, being nominate the first substitute member in the place of the first effective member.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's merit, according to the following criteria and sub-criteria and corresponding weightings, valued on a scale of 1 to 5 values:

A: Applicant Merit - AM (70%):

- A1 Academic path (considering the classifications of academic degrees), with a weighting of 50%;
- A2 Personal curriculum (considering involvement in scientific outreach and interaction with society activities.), with a weighting of 40%
- A3 Motivation letter, with a weighting of 10%.

The classification of the applicant's merit **AM** will be achieved through the following formula:

$$AM = (A1 \times 0,5) + (A2 \times 0,4) + (A3 \times 0,1)$$

Candidates classified in the first 7 positions will be admitted to the Interview phase, with the remaining candidates being eliminated and with the Jury proceeding to evaluate the following sub-criteria:

B. Interview - INT (30%):

- B1 Interpersonal skills (30%);
- B2 Knowledge demonstrated in the contest area (40%);
- B3 Motivation (30%).

The interview classification **INT** will be obtained by applying the following formula:

$$\text{INT} = (\text{B1} \times 0,3) + (\text{B2} \times 0,4) + (\text{B3} \times 0,3)$$

The final classification **FC** of the Candidate Merit and Interview will be obtained by applying the following formula

$$\text{FC} = (\text{AM} \times 0.7) + (\text{INT} \times 0.3)$$

The academic degrees and diplomas documents, or their respective recognition when awarded by foreign higher education institutions, are not mandatory in the application phase, being replaced by a declaration of honor of the candidate with the contents of academic results. The documents of academic qualification or respective recognition will be required in the contracting phase and must attest facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In situations of divergence between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for contracting the grant, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If 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 the evaluation of the academic path, which can change the candidate's ranking, 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. Candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions, the selection panel will assign "0" in the grade of the graduation course. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.*

Disclosure of results: The provisional results of applications, based in the selection panel minutes, will be sent to the applicants by email until 90 working days from the applications deadline.

If case of unfavourable results, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment, if desired, in a prior hearing to interested parties, pursuant to articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL no. 4 / 2015 of January 7th).

Complaint and appeal procedures: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list (*alphabetically, by final grade obtained*), posted in <https://cmat.uminho.pt/events/3-bolsas-de-iniciacao-investigacao>, as well as by email to all applicants, enclosing, for that purpose, the minutes of the jury deliberations.

The selected candidate must inform its willingness to accept the grant, in writing. In case of rejection, 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 to the President of the jury the corresponding claim. Interested parties may also submit an optional hierarchical appeal, addressed to the Pro-Rector for Research and Projects.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open from November 3rd till November 15th.

Applications must be formalized by sending an application letter with the following documents: *curriculum vitae*; qualifications certificate or declaration of the applicant; motivation letter; statement proving that meets the conditions for the grant typology, according to the application requirements;

Applications must be sent by email to candidaturas@cmat.uminho.pt and bolsas@ecum.uminho.pt indicating the reference 011/ECUM/CMAT-Outlab in Subject. Applications submitted by other means will not be accepted.

Fellowship contractualization: The fellowship will be attributed by signing a fellowship contract between the University of Minho and the fellow, accordingly with the contract minute (annex IV of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in *Diário da República, 2nd Series, nb. 119*, through dispatch nb. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration nb. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, as indicated in 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 documentation required is collected, which must take place within a maximum period of 6 months.

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has a period of 60 working days to conclude the scholarship contract. Once received, the fellow must return the contract duly signed 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 the fellowship regulations (FCT and UMinho) and in the Statute of the Research Fellow, the fellowship ends with the completion of the work plan, as well as with the expiration date for which it was granted.

At the end of the fellowship, the grantee is obliged to present a Final Report of the work carried out, in accordance with the objectives and evaluation criteria defined with the scientific advisor, within 30 days after the end of the scholarship.

The **final report** must be prepared in accordance with Annex I of the Scientific Research Fellowships Regulation of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in *Diário da República, 2nd Series, nb. 119*, through dispatch nb. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration nb. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021.