

CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS (AE2023-0489)

INESC TEC is now accepting grant applications to award 1 Research Grant (BI) within the scope of the eduBEST funded by National Funds through FCT - Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P., project reference 2022.08686.PTDC

1. GRANT DESCRIPTION

Type of grant: Research Grant (BI)

General scientific area: ENGINEERING

Scientific subarea: Industrial engineering, Mechanical engineering

Area of Work: Efficiency and Effectiveness of educational systems

Grant duration: 6 months, starting on 2024-02-01 with the possibility of being renewed for a maximum term of one year, in cases where the grant has been awarded to students who are enrolled in non-award courses, or up to two years, in the cases of students enrolled in a master's degree.

Scientific advisor: Ana Camanho

Workplace: INESC TEC, Porto, Portugal

Maintenance stipend: € 930,98, [according to the table of monthly maintenance stipend for FCT grants](#), paid via bank transfer. Grant holders may be awarded potential supplements, according to a quarterly evaluation process (Articles 19, 21 and 22 of the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#) and Annex II), up to a maximum limit of 50% of the monthly maintenance stipend.

INESC TEC supports costs with registration, enrolment or tuition fees, during the grant duration, under the terms established in the internal document: "[Payment of Tuition fees to grant holders](#)".

The grant holder will benefit from health insurance, supported by INESC TEC.

2. OBJECTIVES:

The main goal of this thesis is to develop innovative ways to evaluate the performance of education systems using frontier techniques, allowing a comparison of EU countries/regions/institutions. It envisages the possibility of contributing to scientific knowledge by accounting for the heterogeneity of contextual conditions, the resources available, and the country-specific regulatory frameworks.

3. BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND TRAINING:

1. Contextualisation of the education landscape in the European Union;
2. Literature review, as thorough as possible;
3. Identification of the knowledge gap that the dissertation aims to cover;
4. Collection and processing of data, including the contextual variables relevant to the problem. Data collection will involve both the identification of the indicators available in International and European databases, as well as the variables available at the University of Porto to monitor student performance;
5. Implementation of Robust Conditional Approaches, based on Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) or Benefit of the Doubt (BoD) models;
6. Analysis of the results;
7. Discussion of the results and policy implications.

4. REQUIRED PROFILE:

Admission requirements:

Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

The awarding of the fellowship is dependent on the applicants' enrolment in study cycle or non-award courses of Higher Education Institutions.

Preference factors:

Attendance of Master's Degree in Mechanical Management.

Good knowledge of the English language. The letter of motivation must be written in English to allow the assessment of the candidate's English proficiency and motivation.

Minimum requirements:

Average mark of 15 in the Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

5. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Selection criteria and corresponding valuation: the first phase comprises the Academic Evaluation (AC), based on the criteria referred to in Article 12 of the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#), while the second phase comprehends the Individual Interview (EI). All factors are evaluated on a scale of 0 to 100, taking into account the applicants' merit, suitability and conformity with the preference factors.

The weight of the AC factors are as follows: Academic Qualifications (FA, 50%), Scientific Publications (PC, 0%), Experience (EX, 20%) and Motivation Letter (CM, 30%).

Candidates who score less than 50 points in the AC average will be considered excluded on absolute merit. The top five candidates approved on absolute merit will be qualified for the individual interview. The Final Grade (CF) is obtained by the weighted average of AC (60%) and EI (40%).

The Selection Jury is composed of the following members:

President of the Jury: Ana Camanho

Full member: Miguel Alves Pereira

Full member: Flávia Barbosa

Substitute member: Henriqueta Nóvoa

Release of results and prior hearing: the results of the selection process, as well as the terms and procedures for prior hearing, will be released to the applicants by email, under the terms referred to in Article 13 of the Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of INESC TEC.

6. FORMALISATION OF APPLICATIONS:

Application Documents:

1. Motivation letter;
2. Curriculum Vitae (must include the list of previous fellowships, their type, beginning and end dates, funding entities and host institutions);
3. Certificate or diploma degree;
4. Proof of enrollment in a degree awarding study cycle or in a non degree awarding Higher Education program.
 - The proof of enrollment may be presented just during the grant hiring stage.
5. Signed declaration stating the infringement of the grant holder's duties (article 14, no. 4)
6. Documental evidence to support the country of residence, residence permit or other legally equivalent document, in cases where the applicant is a foreigner or non-resident in Portugal - valid until the beginning of the grant.
7. Other supporting documents relevant to the final assessment.

Failure to deliver the required documents within the 90-day period after the date of the notice of the conditional awarding of the grant implies its cancellation.

Application period: From 2023-12-14 to 2024-01-12

Submission of applications: the application will be formalised by submitting the form available in the *Work With Us* section of INESC TEC website.

7. BINDING LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

The hiring process shall comply with the current legislation regarding the Research Grant Holder Statute, approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current wording, as well as by the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#) and for [FCT Grants Regulation in force](#).

For more information, please check the [Regulations for Grants of INESC TEC](#) and relevant annexes at www.inesctec.pt/bolsas



Governo da República Portuguesa

FCT

Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
MINISTÉRIO DA EDUCAÇÃO E CIÊNCIA