

## CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

(AE2026-0154)

INESC TEC is now accepting grant applications to award 1 Research Grant (BI) within the scope of the -

### 1. GRANT DESCRIPTION

**Type of grant:** Research Grant (BI)

**General scientific area:** ENGINEERING

**Scientific subarea:** Electrical engineering

**Area of Work:**

**Grant duration:** 6 months, starting on 2026-07-01.

**Scientific advisor:** Filipe Neves Santos

**Workplace:** INESC TEC, Porto, Portugal

**Maintenance stipend:** € 1359.64, [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:

Improve and validate the LoRa communication modules of the smart traps;

Study low-cost solutions for monitoring environmental parameters near the trap;

Integrate environmental sensors compatible with cost, energy consumption, and field operation requirements;

Test communication performance under different installation and coverage conditions;

Support the functional validation of prototypes in laboratory and real-world contexts;

Contribute to the robustness, scalability, and reliability of the smart trap network of the VineShield-DT project.

### 3. BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND TRAINING:

The work plan includes the analysis, improvement, and validation of LoRa communication modules with smart traps, the study and integration of low-cost environmental sensors for monitoring parameters near the trap, as well as conducting laboratory and field tests to evaluate the reliability of communications, energy consumption, the quality of collected data, and the suitability of the solution for large-scale operation in the VineShield-DT project.

### 4. REQUIRED PROFILE:

**Admission requirements:**

Master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering or related field, with active enrollment in a doctoral program.

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

**Preference factors:**

Experience with LoRa/LoRaWAN communications;

Experience with low-cost environmental sensors;

Experience in IoT systems for agriculture or environmental monitoring;

Knowledge of energy management in embedded devices;

Experience in the design, assembly, and testing of electronic prototypes;

Experience in validating systems in a real-world operating environment.

**Minimum requirements:**

Master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering or related fields;

Enrollment in a doctoral program;

Experience in embedded systems, wireless communications, or IoT networks;

Knowledge of microcontroller programming;

**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, 45%), Scientific Publications (PC, 5%), Experience (EX, 45%) and Motivation Letter (CM, 5%).

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 (80%) and EI (20%).

**DISABILITY INCENTIVE**

Candidates who present a degree of disability equal to or greater than 90% will benefit from an incentive (20) in the score of the CV Assessment.

Candidates who present a degree of disability equal to or greater than 60% and less than 90% will also benefit from an incentive (10) in the score of the CV Assessment.

Said score may, in these cases, exceed 100 points.

Candidates must demonstrate the degree of disability during the application, namely through the submission of the Multi-Purpose Medical Certificate of Disability, issued in accordance with Decree-Law no. 202/96, of October 23 currently in effect.

Candidates must declare, in the application form, the type of disability used throughout the selection process, in order to proceed with the required adaptations.

**The Selection Jury is composed of the following members:**

President of the Jury: Filipe Neves Santos

Full member: André Silva Aguiar

Full member: André Rodrigues Baltazar

Substitute member: Luís Carlos Santos

**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 2026-05-22 to 2026-06-05

**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](http://www.inesctec.pt/bolsas)