

CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

(AE2026-0254)

INESC TEC is now accepting grant applications to award 1 Research Grant (BI) within the scope of the project PowerUP, with reference 25499 (COMPETE2030-FEDER-03034800) Co-funded by ERDF - European Regional Development Fund through the Innovation and Digital Transition Thematic Programme (COMPETE 2030) within the scope of Portugal 2030.

1. GRANT DESCRIPTION

Type of grant: Research Grant (BI)

General scientific area: COMPUTER SCIENCE

Scientific subarea: Informatics

Area of Work: COMPUTER SCIENCE

Grant duration: 6 months, starting on 2026-10-01, with the possibility of being renewed until the end of the project.

Scientific advisor: Fernando Cassola Marques

Workplace: INESC TEC, Porto, Portugal

Maintenance stipend: € 1090.98, [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:

To understand the challenges associated with the use of augmented reality technologies to support predictive, preventative and corrective maintenance of high-power electric vehicle charging infrastructure;

- To develop skills in the design, implementation and evaluation of augmented reality mobile applications designed to support technical maintenance teams;
- To investigate and implement visualisation and interaction mechanisms that enable equipment information, sensor data, alerts and guidance for carrying out maintenance procedures to be made available in a real-world context;
- Explore approaches to integrating the mobile application with the my.i-charging platform and with heterogeneous data sources, ensuring interoperability, the updating of information and the incorporation of the results of artificial intelligence algorithms;
- Apply user-centred design principles when defining interfaces and interaction models, taking into account criteria such as usability, robustness, security and suitability for use in an industrial environment;
- Participate in the definition and execution of validation tests for the application, in both laboratory and real-world

environments, assessing its performance, usability and contribution to the efficiency of maintenance operations;

- To adopt best practice in software research and development, ensuring methodological rigour, reproducibility, documentation, version control and a critical analysis of the limitations of the solutions developed;
- To collaborate on the preparation of technical documentation for the project, the relevant demonstrators and scientific publications.

3. BRIEF PRESENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND TRAINING:

The work plan includes a review of the state of the art regarding the use of augmented reality technologies to support industrial maintenance, with a particular focus on high-power electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The requirements, technical specifications and design of the augmented reality mobile application will be defined, taking into account the predictive, preventative and corrective maintenance processes for MCS chargers. Visualisation and interaction mechanisms will be designed and implemented to provide technicians with information on the equipment, operational data, alerts and guidance for carrying out maintenance procedures. The work will also encompass the integration of the application with the my.i-charging platform, with heterogeneous data sources and with the results of the artificial intelligence algorithms developed within the project. The solution will be systematically evaluated in both laboratory and real-world environments, taking into account its performance, usability, robustness, interoperability and suitability for the industrial context. User-centred design, software engineering and iterative development practices will be adopted, as well as practices that promote the documentation and reproducibility of the work. The plan will also include the analysis and critical discussion of the results and the preparation of technical documentation, reports and scientific publications.

4. REQUIRED PROFILE:

Admission requirements:

Degree in Computer Engineering or a related field. Master's degree student in Computer Engineering or a related field.

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 in designing and developing mobile applications in Unity using Augmented Reality.
- Experience of participating in research projects.
- Skills in collaborating and interacting with a wide range of partners, including industry partners.

Minimum requirements:

- Demonstrated experience in software development using the C# programming language
- Proven experience in software development using Augmented Reality
- An undergraduate degree with an average mark of 14 or above.

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, 40%) and Motivation Letter (CM, 10%).

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%).

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: Artur Rocha

Full member: Fernando Cassola Marques

Full member: Mariana Oliveira Magalhães

Substitute member: Ademar Aguiar

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 2026-08-13 to 2026-09-04

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



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INESC TEC

Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores, Tecnologia e Ciência

Associação privada sem fins lucrativos declarada de utilidade pública

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