

## Call Notice for Doctoral Grants

The Business Research Unit (BRU-Iscte) is awarding **3 doctoral grants**, funded directly by FCT (National Foundation for Science and Technology) under the Protocol UIDP/00315/2020.

The applications will **open on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and will close on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021** (23h59 Lisbon time).

These grants are open to candidates already enrolled in one of our 3 doctoral programmes (PhD in Economics, PhD in Finance, PhD in Management), as well as to candidates that are now applying to enrol in the next academic year 2021-2022.

Applications should be sent by email before the end of the deadline to: [phd.bru-unide@iscte-iul.pt](mailto:phd.bru-unide@iscte-iul.pt). Please indicate in the subject of your email the following reference “BD\_name of doctoral programme\_name of applicant”.

### 1. Type and duration of grants

These doctoral grants will be awarded for fellows pursuing their doctoral degrees at BRU-Iscte in one of the following programmes:

- PhD in Economics
- PhD in Finance
- PhD in Management

The work plan must be carried totally or partially at BRU-Iscte (national and mixed grants, respectively).

These grants are usually awarded on a yearly basis, and can be renewed up to 4 years (48 months). The grants cannot be awarded for less than 3 months.

In the case of mixed grants, the duration of the work to be carried in an international institution cannot exceed 24 months.

### 2. Eligibility criteria

These grants can be awarded to those enrolled or that reunite the necessary conditions to enrol in one of the doctoral programmes mentioned above.

*Requirements for Applicants' eligibility:*

- Applicants can be of any nationality (Portuguese or EU citizens; citizens from other countries; stateless persons; political refugees);
- Applicants must have obtained a **minimum of 14 points** (in a scale of 0 to 20) in at least one of their

academic degrees (Undergraduate or Masters);

- If applying to a mixed grant with part of the work plan in a foreign institution, applicants must prove they reside on a permanent basis in Portugal, whether they are Portuguese citizens or citizens from other countries;
- Applicants cannot have already benefited from a doctoral grant or a doctoral grant in enterprise directly funded by FCT, independently of its duration.

*Requirements for Applications' eligibility:*

Applications must include the following documents:

- Copy of national ID card / Passport;
- Detailed CV of the applicant;
- Certificates of the obtained academic degrees, specifying the final grade (mandatory), and if possible, the grades obtained in every course, or alternatively, a declaration on the honour of the applicant saying that they have concluded their undergraduate or master's degree before the application deadline of the present call;
- In case of foreign academic degrees, applicants must submit the recognition of such degrees and the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale, or alternatively, a declaration on the honour saying that they have obtained the recognition in Portugal for their undergraduate or master's degree before the application deadline of the present call;
- Motivation Letter;
- 2 Recommendation Letters, one of which must be from the academic sector;
- Research project proposal (between 300-900 words);
- Applications and all its enclosed documents must be submitted in English, motivation letters and recommendation letters.

With regards to the eligibility criteria mentioned above, please bear in mind the following

- In case of foreign academic degrees, and to guarantee the application of the principle of equal treatment to applicants with national and foreign academic degrees, it is mandatory to submit the recognition of such degrees and the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale.
- The recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas, and the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale, can be issued by a Portuguese public higher education institution, or by the Directorate General for Higher Education (Direção Geral do Ensino Superior, DGES) in case of automatic recognition. FCT suggests visiting the DGES portal at <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en>.
- Can only be eligible candidates that have concluded their undergraduate or master's degrees until the

application deadline of the present call. If applicants do not have yet a certificate proving the conclusion of their academic degree, a declaration on the applicant's honour saying that they have concluded their undergraduate or masters degree before the application deadline of the present call will be accepted. In any case, the grant can only be awarded after the applicant presents a valid certificate of their academic degrees.

### 3. Work plan and scientific supervision

The work plan will be developed in articulation with the strategic objectives of the Business Research Unit (BRU-Iscte) and of the research group that the fellow will integrate, depending on the theme of their research project. The work will be carried under the scientific supervision of at least one integrated or associate member of BRU-Iscte, chosen with the consent of the Director of the PhD programme and the Director of BRU-Iscte.

### 4. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation will take into account the merit of the applicant as well as the merit of the research project.

The eligible applicants will be graded in a scale of 0 to 20 in each of the following evaluation criteria:

- **Criterion A – Merit of the Applicant (70%);**
  - *Subcriterion A1 – Curriculum, based on documents provided by the applicant (50%), with the following elements being considered and weighed:*
    - A1 a) CE – Academic Curriculum (80%)
      1. The academic background of the applicants is evaluated as follows:
        - i. For applicants with a completed bachelor degree, the score is equal to the final score of the degree, on a scale of 0 to 20, multiplied by 0.3;
        - ii. For applicants with a completed master degree, the score is equal to the final score of the master, on a scale of 0 to 20, multiplied by 0.3;
        - iii. For applicants without a completed master degree but with a Post-graduate studies diploma or MBA or master's degree without dissertation, the score is equal to the final score of the course, on a scale of 0 to 20, multiplied by 0.2;
        - iv. Applicants with a bachelor degree and/or master degree in a field relevant to the specialization of the doctoral program to which they are enrolled or are applying receive the following additional points: 1 point for adequacy of the bachelor degree and 1 point for adequacy of the master degree.
      2. Candidates with English proficiency (duly substantiated with recognized certificates or having academic/professional experience in an English environment) receive 1 point for average proficiency in English; or 2 points for excellent proficiency in English.

- A1 b) CC – Scientific Curriculum (10%)

The evaluation of the applicants' scientific curriculum is assessed by their research experience - 0 to 1,5 points can be obtained based on the following items:

(i) Participation in scientific activities (e.g. research projects, communications at scientific meetings), and scientific publications included in Scopus/Scimago, Web of Science (WoS) or Association of Business School Rankings (ABS): 0 to 1,5 points. Specifically, 0,5 points in the case of low scientific activity (only 1 or 2 indicators); 1,0 points in the case of more than 2 indicators; and 1,5 points if the applicant has more than 2 indicators that are highly relevant to the area of the doctoral programme;

OR

(ii) Grade of the Master's Dissertation (on a scale from 0 to 20): 0,5 points if the final grade is between 10 to 13; 1,0 points if the final classification is 14; and 1,5 points if the final classification is 15 or above.

Note: Applicants with several indicators in (i) and (ii) are evaluated using the most favourable indicator.

- A1 c) CP – Professional Curriculum (10%)

The evaluation of the applicants' professional curriculum is as follows:

1. 1,0 points if the applicant has professional experience, but unrelated to the area of the doctoral programme;
2. 1,5 points if the applicant has professional experience of relevance to the scientific area of the doctoral programme;
3. 2,0 points if the applicant has extensive professional experience that is of great relevance to the area of the doctoral program.

- *Subcriterion A2 – Interview (50%)*

In addition to the evaluation of the curriculum, there will be an individual interview that may occur remotely via webconference or phone. The interview is assessed on a scale of 0 to 20 points.

#### FINAL GRADE OF CRITERIUM A – MERIT OF THE APPLICANT

The formula to obtain the final grade of the merit of the applicant is as follows:  $0,5*AD + 0,5*E$

AD [Curriculum, based on documents provided]

E [Interview]

- The AD grade results from the following formula:  $0,8*CE + 0,1*CC + 0,1*CP$   
CE [Academic Curriculum]

CC [Scientific Curriculum]

CP [Professional Curriculum]

- **Criterion B – Merit of the Research Project (30%)**

The merit of the research project proposed by the applicant is evaluated based on the following subcriteria identified in the table below:

Weigh	Criteria	Points
20%	B1 - Relevance of the project for the scientific field	Between 0 and 20
20%	B2 - Quality of the state of the art and proposed methodology	
20%	B3 - Scientific support for the research problem	
20%	B4 - Planning and feasibility of the project	
20%	B5 - Contribution for the scientific area, for the scientific objectives of the research unit, and social impact of the project	

For purposes of awarding the grants, the applicants will be ranked according to the weighted average of the grades obtained in each of the 2 criteria, following the formula:

$$\text{Final Grade} = (0,7 \times \text{Criterion A}) + (0,3 \times \text{Criterion B})$$

In case of a tie, applicants will be ranked according to the grades obtained in each of the evaluation criteria in agreement with the following precedence order: criterion A, criterion B1, criterion B5.

**Important notice for applicants with foreign degrees:**

- Applicants with degrees issued by foreign higher education institutions can apply to these grants and will be evaluated following the same criteria as applicants with Portuguese degrees, as long as they submit the recognition of such degrees and the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale.
- Applicants with foreign degrees that do not submit proof of the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale will be evaluated with the minimum score (9 points) in subcriterion A1 a) CE – Academic Curriculum.

- In any case, grant contracts with applicants with foreign degrees can only be celebrated after submitting the recognition of such degrees and the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale.

Applicants that having obtained a final grade below **16 points** are not eligible for the awarding of the doctoral grants.

## 5. Evaluation Panel

The panel is composed of the following members:

- Maria de Fátima Salgueiro (BRU-Iscte), panel coordinator
- Helena Isidro (BRU-Iscte)
- Jonas Oliveira (BRU-Iscte)
- José Carlos Dias (BRU-Iscte)
- Luís Martins (BRU-Iscte)

## 6. Communication of results

The results of this call will be communicated to the applicants via email.

## 7. Review/Appeal Procedures

In accordance with Portuguese law, applicants can request a review of the results up to 10 working days after the communication of the preliminary results. The final decision on the results will be made after analysis of all requests for review. After the final decision is communicated, applicants can request an appeal. For the formal procedures, please refer to the [official call notice](#) in Portuguese.

## 8. Requirements for awarding the grant

The grant contracts are signed directly with the FCT.

The following documents must be provided, following the award of the grant, in order to proceed with the grant contracts:

1. Copy of ID document, fiscal identification document, and when applicable, social security document;
2. Copy of the certificated for all academic degrees;
3. Submission of the recognition of foreign degrees and the conversion of the respective final grade to the Portuguese grading scale, if applicable;
4. Document proving enrolment in one of the doctoral programmes mentioned above.
5. Declaration of the supervisors, taking responsibility for the work plan supervision;

6. Document of the institution hosting the fellows, accepting to host them, and ensuring all the material conditions for the good development of the research work plans.
7. Document proving that the fellows are complying with the exclusive dedication regimen, as required by FCT-funded grants.

Failing to submit the necessary documents to complete the grant contract within 6 months after the communication of the preliminary results will void the grant award.

## 9. Payment

The grant fellows will receive a monthly stipend according the [table of Annex 1 of the Research Fellow Regulation](#).

All fellows benefit from personal accident insurance in relation to their research activities, financed by FCT.

Fellows that are not presently included in any social protection scheme, can request to join the voluntary social security scheme, with FCT taking charge of the contributions made by the fellows to this scheme.