

## **ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

### **Title: Research Fellowship for Master; 1 vacancy**

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of a Research grant for Master, within the scope of the R&D project “Development of Nanostructured Coatings (i4REV)”, with the reference, POCI-01-0247-FEDER-042783, financed by the European Regional Development Fund (FEDER), through of the Competitiveness and Internationalization Operational Program (POCI) of PORTUGAL 2020, managed by the National Innovation Agency, under the following conditions:

**Scientific Area:** Physics / Physics Engineering

**Recipient category:** Masters in Physics, Physics Engineering or Materials Engineering, or related areas, with knowledge in processing and characterization of thin films.

On the date of the respective hiring, candidates must prove enrolment in one of the following courses:

- a) **Degree courses:** are intended for R&D activities by students enrolled in an integrated master's degree, a master's degree or a PhD].
- b) **Non-conferring degrees courses:** are intended for R&D activities by graduates or masters enrolled in non-academic degree courses integrated into the educational project of the institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units.

### **Requirement for granting the fellowship:**

- The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship;
- Only fellowships whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrollment in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be contracted, according to the type of the fellowship, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, indicating, respectively, the academic year or its duration (star and term).
- Enrollment in non-certified courses (without curricular units) will not be considered as proof of enrollment.

### **Candidates profile:**

- a) Master's Degree in Physics, Physics Engineering, or Materials Engineering, or related areas, with knowledge in processing and characterization of thin films;
- b) On the date of the respective hiring, candidates must provide proof of enrollment in one of the following courses:
  1. PhD in the area or area related to that requested in this notice, in which the scholarship may be renewed until the end of the project;
  2. In a course that does not confer an academic degree, integrated in the educational project of a higher education institution, in the area or area related to that requested in the notice, in which case it can be renewed until reaching the total period of 1 year.
- c) preferred factors: good analysis and communication skills

**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:**

Oriented to the automotive industry, the i4REV project intends to develop new nanostructured coatings that can provide advanced functionality to polymeric and glass parts.

Main goals:

- Study and development of a multilayer structure for the development of anti-reflective and anti-scratch coatings on polymeric and glass substrates.
- Study and characterization of the morphological, physicochemical, optical and mechanical properties of the developed functional and nanostructured films and what is their effect on the desired surface properties.

**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 serie, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 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 work will be developed at the Physics Center of the University of Minho, in Azurém, under the scientific guidance of Professor Luís Manuel Fernandes Rebouta.

**Fellowship duration:** The grant will take place for a period of 6 months, with a provisional starting date on the January of 2022. The fellowship grant may eventually be renewed up to the maximum limit allowed by the project and/or the applicable legislation.

**Amount of the research grant:** The value stipend (Monthly Maintenance Allowance) is 1.104,64 € per month, 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 the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd serie, 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 regulation.

Payment is made on the 23st of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

**Other components of the research grant:** (define the other components of the research grants, in accordance with the no. 5 of the article 18° of the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, no. 950/2019 of 16-12-2019 or article 21° of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), accordingly with the regulations applicable).

**Other benefits:** Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Security (Social Security contributions), corresponding to the 1st level of discounts (*for research grants with a total duration 6 months or higher*) and personal accident insurance.

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

#### **Selection panel:**

*President:* Luis Manuel Fernandes Rebouta, Associate Professor with Aggregation, Department of Physics, University of Minho.

*Effective members:* Mikhail Igorevich Vasilevskiy, Professor, Department of Physics, University of Minho and Carlos José Macedo Tavares, Assistant Professor with Aggregation, Department of Physics, University of Minho

*Substitute member:* Prof. Martin Andritschky, Professor, Department of Physics, University of Minho

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

**Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection:** The evaluation of the applications will focus on the Merit of the candidates, applying the following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale from 1 to 5 points:

- A. Applicant Merit - AM (70%):
  - a. A1: Academic path (considering the classifications of academic degrees), with a weighting of 50%;
  - b. A2: Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 40%
  - c. A3: Motivation letter, with a weighting of 10%.

The final classification of the applicant's merit with the achieved through the following formula:

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

Candidates classified in the first 5 positions, who obtain a minimum classification of 2.5 in the MC, will be admitted to the Interview phase, with the Jury proceeding to evaluate the following sub-criteria:

- B. Interview - INT (30%):
  - a. B1: Interpersonal skills, with a weighting of 30%;
  - b. B2: Knowledge demonstrated in the tender area, with a weighting of 40%
  - c. B3: Motivation, with a weighting of 20%
  - d. B4: Language skills, with a weighting of 10%

The Jury also decided to value the Interview, according to the following levels:

- High - 5 values;
- Good - 4 values;
- Sufficient – 3 values;
- Low – 2 values;
- Insufficient - 1 value.

The final classification of the applicant's interview with the achieved through the following formula:

$$INT = (B1 \times 0,3) + (B2 \times 0,4) + (B3 \times 0,2) + (B4 \times 0,1)$$

The final classification (FC) of the Applicant Merit (AM) and Interview (INT) will be obtained by applying the following formula:

$$FC = (MC \times 0,7) + (INT \times 0,3)$$

Candidates who obtain a valuation lower than 2.50 values in any of the selection methods are considered excluded from the final valuation.

The jury reserves the right not to award the scholarship in the case that candidates with an appropriate profile are not presented to the competition.

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 consider. 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 and/or master 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 send 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 a visible and public place of the host unit, 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, Professor Filipe Vaz.

**Application deadline and submission:** The contest is open 10 working days, when submitted to Euraxess Portugal.

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; other documents important to the evaluation process).

Applications must be sent by email to [rebouta@fisica.uminho.pt](mailto:rebouta@fisica.uminho.pt) and [bolsas@ecum.uminho.pt](mailto:bolsas@ecum.uminho.pt), indicating I4REV/CFUM-01/2021 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 Série, no. 119*, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 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 [including evidences of the academic degrees or diplomas and enrolment in degree courses or non-conferring courses, depending on the type of scholarship].

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 began 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 or renewed.

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 Série, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021.