



**INVESTIGADOR
FCT**

NOTICE OF CALL FOR RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF FCT INVESTIGATORS

1.

OPENING OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

- 1.1** Under the provisions of article 61 of Law no. 66-B/2012 (31 December), in article 6 (9) of Law no. 12-A/2008, of 27 February, in article 6 (1) of Decree-Law no. 28/2013 of 19 February and in article 4 (1) of the Regulation no. 239/2013 of 2 July, the *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia*, I.P. (FCT) announces that by Order of the Board dated 23 July 2013, the call for proposals for funding of 150 FCT Investigator research contracts is hereby open.
- 1.2** For the purpose of appointing PhD holders mentioned in the preceding paragraph, public institutions of the National Scientific and Technological System complete fixed-term public sector work contracts with researchers, not dependent of the decision of Government members with oversight for Finance and Public Administration Departments.
- 1.3** In compliance with Decree-Law no. 29/2001 of 3 February, the present competition procedure will ensure the established disabled quotas, for those with a degree of disability equal or superior to 60%.

2.

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT AND FUNDING

- 2.1** The scientific research and technological development activities to be contracted with the researcher will be developed at the host institution under a programme-contract established between the host institution and FCT, under article 4 (1) of Decree-Law no. 28/2013 of 19 February, which approves the legal regime for employment of PhD holders, and article 18 of the Regulation no. 239/2013, of 2 July, which defines the rules and procedures for recruitment and appointment of PhD holders (Regulation), available at: <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/contratacaodoutorados/investigador-fct/documentos>.
- 2.2** The FCT Investigator develops scientific and technological development activities at the host institution under a fixed-term work contract, under the terms of articles 10 to 15 of the legal regime governing appointment of PhD holders.
- 2.3** The contract is established according to the contracting levels defined in sub-paragraph a) of subsection 3.1 of this Notice of Call, and fulfilling the requirements of applicable labour legislation, with the possibility of remuneration increments awarded by the host institution, in accordance with subsection 4 of article 11 of the legal regime governing the appointment of PhD holders.



- 2.4 The successful candidates who secure funding, and are not Principal Investigators on any active FCT-funded project as of 1st January 2014, may also be allocated funding for the development of a scientific research project, as an exploratory project grant not exceeding €50,000 (fifty thousand euros).
- 2.5 Whenever the host institution is a company, fifty percent of all items associated with remuneration costs shall be reimbursed to FCT, by the host body, under the conditions laid down in European and other applicable legislation.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINES

The call is open between 25th July and 10th September 2013, 5:00 p.m. (Lisbon time).

4. CANDIDATES

4.1 This competition procedure is aimed at researchers holding a PhD, of Portuguese or foreign nationality, or stateless, considering the following three levels of grants:

- a) **"starting grant"**: PhD holders, with a CV of exceptional merit and no requirement for previous scientific independence, that completed a PhD degree more than three and less than 8 years before application. Remuneration on this level is equivalent to the 1st level of the category of *investigador auxiliar* (assistant researcher), within the scientific research career, according to Annex I of Decree-Law no.124/99 of 20 April, under conditions of exclusivity or full-time functions;
- b) **"development grant"**: PhD holders with a CV of exceptional merit and experience as independent researchers, with remuneration equivalent to the 1st level of the category of principal investigator within the scientific research career, according to Annex I of Decree-Law no. 124/99 of 20 April, under conditions of exclusivity or full-time functions;
- c) **"consolidation grant"**: PhD holders with experience as independent researchers, with an exceptional CV revealing clear scientific leadership in a particular area of knowledge. Remuneration is equivalent to the 1st level of the category of *investigador coordenador* (coordinating investigator) within the scientific research career, according to Annex I of Decree-Law n. 124/99 of 20 April, under conditions of exclusivity or full-time functions.

- 4.2** The scientific independence of an applicant is defined as having responsibility for leading a research team, securing funding in competitive calls as principal investigator, and by the quality of scientific publications, in particular those in which the applicant is senior or corresponding author.
- 4.3** When counting the time elapsed after obtaining the PhD degree a tolerance of 11 months is granted, with further eligible suspensions and interruptions to the research activity being considered, in accordance with article 2 (4, 5, 6) of the Regulation.
- 4.4** Applicants cannot hold any legally-binding employment positions as researchers, in the form of open-ended contracts with any of the institutions mentioned in paragraph 6.1. of this notice.

5.

ADMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

- 5.1** Applications are submitted electronically using the form available at <https://if.fct.pt/>.
- 5.2** Applications submitted by any other means will not be accepted.
- 5.3** Applications are submitted in English, in order to enable their evaluation by the evaluation panel.
- 5.4** Each applicant may submit only one application.
- 5.5** Application to more than one level by the same applicant will lead to the applicant's exclusion from the competition procedure.
- 5.6** The application must include a statement of acceptance of the applicant from the host institution, explicitly mentioning the conditions for integration of the applicant's career development plan in the scientific strategy of the institution, a guarantee of research autonomy of the applicant as well as the conditions for implementation of the applicant's scientific research project, and also whether the applicant has any link, namely a work contract, with the host institution, specifying its type and duration, if applicable.
- 5.7** The formalisation of the application complies with the provisions detailed in the Application Guide, available at <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/contratacaodoutorados/investigador-fct/documentos>.

5.8 The list of admitted and non-admitted applications is published on the FCT website, with the non-admitted applications being duly justified and notice given to the interested party.

6. HOST INSTITUTIONS

6.1 Host institutions are institutions of scientific research and technological development, namely:

- a) Institutions referred to in articles 3 to 6 of [Decree-Law no. 125/99](#) of 20 April, amended by Decree-Law no. 91/2005 of 3 June;
- b) Private and public institutions of higher education;
- c) Public and private companies with activity that has been acknowledged as of scientific or technological interest;
- d) Other nonprofit public and private organisations, that carry out or participate in scientific research activities.

7. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

7.1 Only applications that have been locked, as described in the Application Guide mentioned in paragraph 5.7, will be subject to evaluation after verification of eligibility.

7.2 Required evaluation criteria are: merit of the applicant, quality of the scientific research project and the suitability of the applicant's career development plan.

7.3 Applications are evaluated on a integer scale from 1 to 9, in accordance with the Evaluation Guide available at <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/contratacaodoutorados/investigador-fct/documentos>.

7.4 Evaluation is carried out in a single phase, taking into account:

- a) The merit and suitability of submitted applications, in relation to the appointment level applied for, under the terms of reference for evaluation;
- b) The applicants' grading on absolute merit, and respective grading on relative merit, as foreseen in the Evaluation Guide.

7.5 Evaluation is performed by evaluation panels consisting exclusively of international experts of well-established merit, amply representing different scientific domains.

7.6 The composition of the evaluation panel is made available on the FCT website at <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/contratacaodoutorados/investigador-fct/avaliacao>.

7.7 Applications graded 7 or higher will be approved.

8.

DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

8.1 The final ranking of applicants who complete the procedure is presented as a sorted list of assigned grades, published on the [FCT website](#) after approval by the FCT Board.

8.2 The evaluation results are reported to the applicants and host institutions, within a maximum of six months after the deadline for submission of applications.

8.3 FCT reserves the right not to fill all positions, as long as the decision is duly supported.

9.

RESERVE LIST FOR RECRUITMENT

9.1 Whenever the final, duly approved, ranking compiled at the end of the competition procedure for FCT Investigators contains a number of candidates which exceeds the approved number of positions in the call, a reserve recruitment list will be drawn up.

9.2 The recruitment reserve list will be used whenever the possibility of recruiting new PhD holders arises, within 12 months of the approved final ranking.

10.

PRELIMINARY HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL CHALLENGE

- 10.1** Comments within a preliminary hearing are made only via the online application available on the FCT website and in each applicant's personal area, at the risk of inadmissibility.
- 10.2** Notifications are made by e-mail with delivery receipt notification.
- 10.3** Decisions of exclusion of applicants may be appealed against via a complaints procedure addressed to the FCT Board and may also give rise to jurisdictional challenges under the terms and means set out in the Code of Administrative Procedure.

11.

FUNDING

The work contracts established under the present competition are financed by funds from the State Budget of the Ministry of Education and Science and, when eligible, by the *Programa Operacional de Potencial Humano* of the QREN framework in accordance with the provisions of the Specific Regulation of Intervention Type 4.2 "Promotion Scientific Employment".



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