

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: How many PhD Programmes will be funded by FCT in the 2012 call?**

**A:** FCT expects to fund around 25 PhD Programmes.

**Q: Which institutions may apply as proponent and/or participant institution?**

**A:** Any Portuguese research institution registered with FCT (irrespective of whether they have a NIPC - Collective Person Identification Number, or not), and any Portuguese higher education institution with competence to award PhD degrees may be either a proponent or a participant institution. These may be chosen from the list provided on the application form. If the institution does not appear in the list, FCT registration should be requested.

If the PD (Programme Director) is from an associate laboratory composed of various research units (ex. X/Y), the PD can specify that the proponent institution is X, for example. The associate laboratory X/Y will always appear as a participant institution (no additional team members have to be listed if they all belong to research unit X). Research Unit Y should be listed as a participant institution only if the core team has members that belong to Y (10 team members belonging to Y should be listed – see below).

**Q: What is the required configuration of the core team?**

**A:** Note that each researcher is registered with FCT in the research institution to which he/she belongs.

When the application includes a single R&D institution, it is necessary to indicate 10 members of the team. When more than two R&D institutions and companies (when applicable) apply, the total number of team members of R&D institutions and companies may be 25 (minimum) but cannot exceed 10 from each institution (or 5 for companies).

In the case of institutions of higher education (whether proponent or participant) team members must be listed associated to the participant or proponent research institution(s).

Say the PD is from an associate laboratory X/Y, composed of various research units and has listed institution X as proponent. Then  $n$  members associated with X should be listed in the core team. The associate laboratory X/Y will always appear as participant, but no additional members have to be registered if they all belong to research unit X. If,

however, team members belong to research unit Y, then Y should be listed as participant and z members of Y listed in the core team.

When the PD associates a member to the proposal, each team member receives an automatic email sent by FCT. The team member must confirm that he/she is part of the specified research unit/institution and his/her agreement to be part of the core team of the PhD programme.

**Q: What is a "Sponsor"?**

**A:** The sponsor is the researcher in charge of the team. A sponsor must be chosen for each institution.

**Q: What about registration of the PhD Programme with the University Governing Bodies and the A3ES (Agency for Assessment and Accreditation of Higher Education)?**

**A:** It is the responsibility of the proponent/participant institutions to fulfil the appropriate regulations, whether regarding universities or the A3ES.

**Q: Who may request a budget?**

**A:** All Portuguese research institutions registered with FCT may request a budget. The contract and the financial support will be provided to those with a valid NIPC, or to the corresponding host institution that have a valid NIPC. A declaration of commitment must be generated for each institution with a valid NIPC, and for the host institution in the case of proponent/participating institutions without a valid NIPC.

**Q: Who will have to sign and submit Declarations of commitment?**

**A:** Each proponent/participant institution, their legal hosting institutions (in cases of research units that do not have a NIPC) and the institutions awarding the PhD degrees will have to sign a declaration of commitment. These will be automatically generated when the application is locked for submission.

**Q: How are budget calculations made?**

**A:** For fellowships/studentships, the calculation of the total monthly value attributed to the students will be filled in automatically and corresponds to the total number of fellowships/studentships awarded in each edition, the duration of the fellowships, and the listed monthly value. The values of other allowances/complements/tuition fees are

not part of this calculation, in accordance with the Fellowships/Studentships regulations.

Concerning complementary support, the available field refers to the funding for each admission (student cohort) of the programme, meaning that each four-year admission can request a maximum funding of 10,000 euros per year for all the institutions involved in the application, which amounts to a maximum of 40,000 euros per admission. Hence, fill in the corresponding field with the total value requested for each admission (up to 40,000 euros), that will be automatically multiplied by four in the case of programmes with four admissions, or by two if the programme has two admissions.

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