ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH INITIATION FELLOWSHIP

Title: *Research Initiation Fellowship; 1 vacancy*

Reference: AIM@VET_BII_02_2023_CALG

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of one Research Initiation Fellowship within the framework of the I&D project, of the Centro Algoritm, Artificial Intelligence learning modules to adapt VET to labour market needs (AI4VET), AIM@VET - 2022-1ES01-KA220-VET-000089813, financed by European funds through ERASMUS+, under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Engineering

Specific Scientific Area: Biomedical Engineering (prefer) or Informatics Engineering or related areas.

Recipient category: Students with a bachelor degree in the area requested in the notice or related area enrolled in a course that does not lead to an academic degree integrated into the institution's educational project and enrolled in a master's/master's program integrated in the area requested in the notice or related area.

Requirement for granting the fellowship:

- Candidates may apply without prior registration in the course for which the scholarship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course or non-granting course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship.

- For contratualization purposes, it only be accepted selected candidates who present valid proof of enrollment in the a degree course or non-degree course, according to the type of scholarship in the call for application, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, respectively with the indication of the current academic year or its duration (beginning and end).

Applicants eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions laid down in article 9 of the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho.

Workplan and objectives to be achieved: The work plan is part of the framework of the I&D project, of the Centro Algoritm, Artificial Intelligence learning modules to adapt VET to labour market needs (AI4VET), AIM@VET - 2022-1ES01-KA220-VET-000089813 and consists of:

- Knowledge of sensing, using virtual and real sensors communicating in python through Arduino Uno;
- Knowledge of IoT and its applications in real contexts;
- Knowledge for creating Intelligent Environments;
- Knowledge of creating applications of Ambient Intelligent;
- Knowledge of Security and Ethics in AI;
- Writing of practical lesson guidelines for professional teaching teachers in English;

- Writing of practical lesson guidelines for vocational education students in English;
- Knowledge of web programming for website creation.

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 workplan will be carried out in the Algoritmi Center, School of Engineering of University of Minho, located in the Gualtar Campus, Braga, under the scientific supervision of the Professor Dalila Alves Durães, Assistant Professor, Department of Informatics, School of Engineering, University of Minho.

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of **6 months**, with a provisional starting date in **February 2023**. The research initiation fellowship may eventually be renewable for a maximum period of one year. Under no circumstances may it exceed the maximum period allowed by the project and/or provided for in the legislation and regulations in force.

Amount of the research grant: The value stipend (Monthly Maintenance Allowance) is **541.12 euros per month**, in accordance with annex II of the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho, 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 rules.
Payment is made until the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the fellowship holder's NIB indicated in the contracting process.

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 Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho.

Selection panel: The selection panel has the following composition:

President: Doctor Paulo Jorge de Oliveira Novais (Full Professor at the Department of Informatics, School of Engineering of University of Minho).

Effective members: Doctor António Luís Duarte Costa (Assistant Professor at the Department of Informatics, School of Engineering of University of Minho) and Doctor Dalila Alves Durães (Assistant Professor at the Department of Informatics, School of Engineering of University of Minho).

Substitute members: Doctor José Manuel Ferreira Machado (Associate Professor with Habilitation the Department of Informatics, School of Engineering of University of Minho) and Doctor Vitor Manuel Rodrigues Alves (Assistant Professor at the Department of Informatics, School of Engineering of University of Minho).

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

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit, following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 1 to 20 values:

A. Applicant Merit - AM (100%):

A.1: Academic path (specialization in knowledge of electronic circuits and programming in Python), with a weighting of 50%;

A.2: Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 40%

A.3: Motivation letter, with a weighting of 10%.

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

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

If the selection panel does not feel able to decide using the method under AM, it may choose to conduct an Interview. In this case, AM will have a weighting of 70% and candidates classified in the first 3 positions, who obtain a minimum classification of 10 in AM, will be admitted to the Interview phase, with the Jury evaluating the following sub-criteria:

B. Interview – ENT (30%):

B.1: Interpersonal skills (30%).

B.2: Demonstrated knowledge in the area of the competition (40%).

B.3: Motivation (20%)

B.4: Language skills (10%).

The final classification of the **Interview (INT)** 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:

$$FC = (AM \times 0,7) + (ENT \times 0,3)$$

In the event that none of the candidates for the competition meets the appropriate profile to carry out the work plan, the Jury reserves the right to close the competition without any recruitment.

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 draft evaluation results, based on the minutes, will be sent to candidates via email, pursuant to article 13 of the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho.

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).

[The hearing of the interested parties, if excluded, should be justified accordingly with article 124° of CPA]

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.

An appeal may be lodged against the final decision, pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Research Fellowships of the University of Minho in its current wording.

Constitution of a selection reserve list: The applicants ranked in the next positions on the ordered list will be included in a selection reserve list, which can be used until 31/07/2024.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open from **15/12/2023** till **03/01/2024.**

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 **recrutamento@algoritmi.uminho.pt,** indicating the reference of the call for applications 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 in the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho 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 Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho, 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.

ANNEX:

Declaration of Honor
Academic habilitations

(name), applicant to the research fellowship vacancy under the I&D project (title or reference), published in the Euraxess portal, reference xxxx, hereby declares to have a degree on **XXXX (name of the course)**, concluded in the **University of XXXX**, on the **XX/XX/XXXX**, with the final grade of XX.

I have submit my diploma for recognition in the **University of XXXX**, according to the Decree-Law n° 66/2018 of August 16th[1], concluded In the XX/XX/XXXX, with the final grade of XX.

I further declare that I undertake to present proof of my diploma recognition obtained under the Portuguese Law, until the date of the conclusion of the fellowship contract, in case of being selected for the vacancy in this competition.

As this is true, this declaration will be dated and signed by me.

(Place), (date).

_____

(name)

---

[1] DGES (Foreign Degrees and Diplomas): https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition?plid=1536; University of Minho: Recognition of foreign degrees and diplomas: https://www.uminho.pt/EN/education/Pages/recognition-of-foreign-qualifications.aspx

(name), applicant to the research fellowship vacancy under the I&D project (title or reference), published in the Euraxess portal, reference (**fellowship Reference)**, hereby declares that complies with the conditions for the type of scholarship of the referred call, reference above, in accordance with the application requirements, legislation and regulations indicated in the notice.

As this is true, this declaration will be dated and signed by me.

(Place), (date).

_____