



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH INITIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Research Initiation Scholarship for students enrolled in a 2nd Cycle Degree – 1 vacancy

Ref. BII1/CALG/2026

A call for applications is open for 1 (one) Research Initiation Grant, within the scope of the research activities of ALGORITMI Centre of University of Minho, financed by its own funds, under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Informatics Engineering or related areas

Recipient category: Students enrolled in a 2nd Cycle degree course in the scientific area of this call for applications.

Requirement for granting the scholarship:

- This Research Initiation Grant is intended for initial R&D activities by a student enrolled in a 2nd Cycle degree, master or integrated master, in the scientific area of this call, with the aim of starting scientific training.
- Candidates may apply without prior enrollment in the course for which the scholarship is open. The requirement to be enrolled in a 2nd Cycle degree will be verified on the date of contracting the scholarship.
- The scholarship will only be contracted if the successful candidates present valid proof of enrolment in a 2nd cycle degree, issued by a Higher Education Institution, indicating the academic year in progress.

Applicants' eligibility:

Candidates who meet the conditions set out in Article 8 of the University of Minho's Scientific Research Grant Regulations are eligible.

Nationals or citizens of other European Union member states, third-country nationals, stateless persons, and citizens with political refugee status are eligible to apply for this scholarship.

Candidate eligibility requirements:

- a) Bachelor degree in Informatics Engineering or related areas (mandatory requirement);
- b) Specific training in the area of Computer Networks and Communications;
- c) Knowledge in the area of Internet of Things (IoT);
- d) Proficiency in Portuguese and English (written and oral).



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



Workplan and objectives to be achieved:

The Internet of Things (IoT) connects a large number of sensors and devices to collect real-time data in different domains. These systems generate vast streams of heterogeneous data, often noisy or incomplete when analysed individually. Multimodal sensor fusion aims to combine data from different modalities to improve reliability, accuracy, and contextual understanding.

In this context of multimodal sensor fusion in IoT systems, the aim is to conduct a survey of related work in the area, the main associated technological challenges, and evolutionary trends. The role of different Artificial Intelligence strategies should be explored to identify complex patterns between modalities, to enhance decision-making capabilities in IoT.

The activities to be carried out include:

- literature review of the main milestones and recent advances in the area;
- proposal of a taxonomy that classifies the different proposals;
- identification of challenges and opportunities for optimizing strategies and evolving the area;
- preparation of a scientific article for publication in a scientific journal.

The work plan should aim at consolidating the scientific training of the research student in the framework of the course conferring a degree or academic diploma.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Grant Holder Statute (EBI), approved by Law n°. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current wording, and the University of Minho Scientific Research Grant Regulations (hereinafter referred to as the Regulations (RBIC)), approved by Order n°. 4998/2025, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd series, n°. 81, of April 28, rectified and republished through Rectification Statement n°. 634/2025/2, published in the Official Gazette, 2nd series, n°. 132, of July 11.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out at the ALGORITMI Centre of the University of Minho, located in the Informatics Department of the School of Engineering, Campus de Gualtar, in Braga, under the scientific supervision of Doctor Maria Solange Pires Ferreira Rito Lima, Associate Professor at the Informatics Department of the School of Engineering of the University of Minho.

Scholarship duration: The grant will take place for a period of **3 months** with a provisional starting date on June 2026. The scholarship grant is non-renewable.



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



Amount of the research grant: The amount of the grant corresponds to 701,12 €/month, according to the table of values of the Research Grants of the University of Minho, updated annually, as decided by the Management Board.

Payment is made until the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the scholarship holder's NIB indicated in the contracting process.

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Insurance, if the candidate chooses to receive it, 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 5º of the Research Scholar Grantee Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel:

President: Maria Solange Pires Ferreira Rito Lima, Associate Professor at the Informatics Department, School of Engineering, University of Minho;

First Effective Member: Paulo Manuel Martins de Carvalho, Associate Professor at the Informatics Department, School of Engineering, University of Minho;

Second Effective Member: João Marco Cardoso da Silva, Assistant Professor at the Informatics Department, School of Engineering, University of Minho;

First Substitute Member: Pedro Nuno Miranda de Sousa, Assistant Professor at the Informatics Department, School of Engineering, University of Minho;

Second Substitute Member: Ivo Miguel Menezes Silva, Assistant Professor at the Informatics Department, School of Engineering, University of Minho.

The first effective member or the second effective member, in case of impediment of the latter, will substitute the President of the Selection Panel in case of impediment, being nominated the designated substitute members in the place of the effective members.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the Applicant's Merit (MC), and may, if the jury deems it necessary, be supplemented by an Individual Interview (EI) to the two best classified candidates in the MC assessment.



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



The following evaluation criteria will be applied, valued on a scale of 0 to 20 points:

Applicant's Merit - AM (100%):

- a) Academic path (considering the classifications of academic degrees), with a weighting of 50%;
- b) Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 40%;
- c) Motivation letter, with a weighting of 10%.

The final classification of the Applicant's Merit (MC), which will be converted into the Final Classification (CF) in case jury decides not to interview the candidates, will be achieved through the following formula:

$$\mathbf{MC=(a*0,5)+(b*0,4)+(c*0,1)}$$

Individual interview (EI):

- d) Interpersonal skills and motivation, with a weighting of 20%;
- e) Specific knowledge and experience in the project area, with a weighting of 50%;
- f) Language skills (fluency in Portuguese and English), with a weighting of 30%;

The classification of the Individual Interview (EI) will be achieved through the following formula:

$$\mathbf{EI=(d*0,2)+(e*0,5)+(f*0,3)}$$

Applicant's Merit - MC (60%) and Individual Interview - EI (40%):

If the jury decides to carry out individual interviews, the assessment of applications will now focus on the Applicant's Merit (MC) and on the Individual Interview (EI). In this case, the Final Classification (CF) will be achieved through the following formula:

$$\mathbf{CF=(MC*0,6)+(EI*0,4)}$$

The final ranking of candidates will be expressed on a scale of 0 to 20 points and will result from the weighted arithmetic average of the quantitative scores obtained in each selection method.

The selection panel reserves the right not to award the scholarship if there are no candidates with the right profile. Candidates who do not obtain a minimum of 14 points in the MC assessment will be excluded from the final classification.

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



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



candidate (**Annex I**) 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 considered. 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 scholarship won't be contracted.

The degree recognition must include the respective conversion of the final classification obtained in the foreign qualification, to the Portuguese classification scale. Candidates who do not comply with these terms, when there is a selection method in which the final grade of the course is indicated as an evaluation criterion, the jury will assign a classification of 0 (zero) values in that component.

In the application stage, when a declaration of honor is presented in replacement of degree recognition by a Portuguese higher education institution, and the degree recognition process has not yet been completed, the indication of the final grade of the academic degree will not be admitted as evidence for evaluation, when there is a selection method in which the final course grade is indicated as an evaluation criterion. Thus, in this situation, or when presenting only a certificate of qualifications from a foreign institution, the jury will assign a classification of 0 (zero) values in the aforementioned selection method.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open for a period of 10 working days from the date of publication on the Euraxess portal.

Applications must be submitted by email to **recrutamento@di.uminho.pt**, indicating in "Subject" the reference of the call: **BII1/CALG/2026**. Applications submitted by other means will not be accepted.

Applications must include the following documents:

- a) Candidate's updated *curriculum vitae*;
- b) Certificates of the academic degrees obtained, with final average, or, if applicable, the candidate's declaration of honor that he/she has completed the degrees required in the notice by the application deadline.

For degrees obtained abroad, the record of recognition of the academic degrees and record of the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale must be presented, or, alternatively, a declaration of honor from the candidate.



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



This declaration must attest to facts that occurred prior to the application. In the event of a discrepancy between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for the purposes of contracting the scholarship, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If it is found that the documents proving the academic degree and diploma, or their recognition under the terms of Decree-Law n. ° 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the assessment of the academic career and may consequently alter the candidate's ranking, the scholarship will not be contracted;

- c) Proof of grades obtained, up to the end date of this call, in the 2nd Cycle course in which student is enrolled;
- d) Letter of motivation;
- e) Other documents relevant to the evaluation process.

Failure to indicate the call reference, the lack of any of the documents required in the application, or sending/delivering it to a location other than the one indicated above, may imply its exclusion.

Disclosure of results: The results of the evaluation are published in a single list (in alphabetical order or by final score obtained), posted in a visible and public place in the host unit, as well as by email to all candidates, attaching, for this purpose, the minutes of the jury's deliberations, within a maximum period of 60 working days from the deadline for submission of applications.

Candidates are informed, at a preliminary hearing, in accordance with Articles 121 and 122 of the Administrative Procedure Code, of the likely outcome of the final decision, and may comment within 10 working days of this notification.

An appeal may be lodged against the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal may be lodged with the highest executive body of the funding entity within 30 days, both after the respective notification.

Within 10 working days of notification of the grant award, the applicant must declare their acceptance in writing. In case of non-acceptance, the next highest ranked applicant will be notified.

Scholarship contractualization: The scholarship is awarded through the signing of a contract between the University of Minho and the student, in accordance with the draft contract in Annex II of the University of Minho Regulations (RBIC).

The contract can only be signed after receipt of all the documentation required for the type of scholarship, which must occur within a maximum period of 6 months, including proof of academic degrees or diplomas, as well as enrolment in non-degree study cycles or courses, as applicable.



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has 60 working days to sign the scholarship contract, in accordance with n°3 of the Article 14° the University of Minho Regulations (RBIC).

Term and cancellation of scholarship contracts: Without prejudice to the other grounds laid down in the University of Minho's Regulations for Scientific Research Scholarships and in the Research Scholar Grantee Statute, the scholarship will cease on completion of the contracted work plan, as well as on expiry of the period for which it was granted or renewed.

The **final report** must be submitted to the scientific advisor, in accordance with the defined objectives and evaluation criteria, no later than 60 working days after the end of the scholarship and must be drawn up in accordance with Annex I of the Regulations of the University of Minho.

Non-discrimination and equal access policy: University of Minho actively promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, so that no candidate may be privileged, benefited, harmed or deprived of any right or exempt from any duty due, namely, to ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, economic situation, education, social origin or condition, genetic heritage, reduced working capacity, disability, chronic illness, nationality, ethnic origin or race, territory of origin, language, religion, political or ideological convictions and trade union membership.



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia



ANNEX I

Declaration of Honor Academic qualifications

I, (full name), bearer of identification document/passport number XXXXXX, applicant to the Research Initiation Scholarship at ALGORITMI Centre of the School of Engineering of the University of Minho, published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference BII1/CALG/2026, hereby declare on my honour to have completed the academic degree of (academic degree), qualifying for the type of scholarship in the competition, namely the course (designation), by the (University conferring the degree), on XX/XX/XXXX (conclusion date), with the final grade of XX values on the YY scale¹.

I also declare that I have submitted my diploma for recognition at the University of XXXXX, according to the Decree-Law n° 66/2018 of August 16th² (if applicable).

As it is not possible for me to present proof of qualifications/proof of my diploma recognition obtained under the Portuguese Law, until the end of the competition, I declare that I undertake to present the aforementioned documents at the conclusion of the scholarship contract, in case of being selected for the vacancy in the competition.

As this is true, I hereby date and sign this declaration.

(Place), (date).

(full name)

¹ The declaration may only attest to facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In the event of a discrepancy between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for the purpose of contracting the fellowship, only the information contained in the latter will be considered.

² 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-offoreign-qualifications.aspx>