

CCMAR Doctoral School | CCMAR-FCT Doctoral Fellowships | CCMAR01/UIBP/04326/2020

Programme Description

The CCMAR Doctoral Research Fellowships are dedicated to pioneering marine and related sciences carried out by young researchers who want to contribute to create new knowledge and innovate. They are aimed at training the best scientific talents by recruiting exceptional students and offer them a motivating environment to thrive in their research and to prepare a fruitful career.

The CCMAR Doctoral Fellowship program refers to the “fellowship indirectly funded by FCT”, as referred to in articles 1.3 and 2.2 of the [Regulations for Studentships and Fellowships of Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, I.P.](#) and concerns the PhD studentships as described in Article 5.

The fellowships are for maximum 4 years, renewable annually based on positive evaluation of progress, and include tuition and bench fees, and a monthly stipend of €1064. Students will be registered at and obtain their degree from the University of Algarve.

Eligibility

Portuguese citizens, citizens of EU member states and citizens from third-party states with which Portugal has reciprocity agreements may apply. Citizens of other countries who are not residents in Portugal can also apply. They must, however, hold a residence permit by the time set for their scholarship to begin.

Applicants must:

- hold a master’s degree or equivalent recognized in Portugal.
- Not have held any prior FCT-funded PhD fellowship of any duration.
- Be long-term residents in Portugal if the work programme is to be carried out partially at foreign institutions. This requirement applies to both Portuguese and foreign nationals.

Application Process

Interested candidates to engage in a doctoral programme at CCMAR are invited to consult the proposed research topics proposed by the supervisors [here](#). The research topics include the names of supervisor and co-supervisor(s) and may include stays in other laboratories.

Applicants can apply for up to two topics and are invited to explore the CCMAR website before applying to find out about the research done and their supervisors – which can also be contacted through the e-mail provided.

After choosing the topic, applicants are invited to develop a short proposal of a research plan on the chosen topic, typically defining two to four specific objectives, hypothesis and approaches to tackle the questions. This is not necessarily the project the candidates will develop during the thesis but will be used, together with the other documents provided, in the selection procedure to evaluate the candidate’s background knowledge, capacity to generate ideas, rational thinking and writing.

Application documents

To submit their application, applicants must upload through the [CCMAR online application form](#) the following documents:

- Personal information (name, address, nationality; e-mail, personal ID);
- A clear and detailed *curriculum vitae* in English highlighting academic achievements, work experience, technical skills, scientific articles including DOI and indicating for each the specific contributions (PDF, max 2MB);
- Copies of bachelor's diploma together with copies of bachelor's transcripts with grades. In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions the recognition of these degrees and the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale is mandatory (PDF, max 6 MB);
- Copies of master's diplomas together with copies of bachelor's and master's degrees transcripts with grades. In the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions the recognition of these degrees and the conversion of the respective final classification to the Portuguese classification scale is mandatory (PDF, max 6 MB);
- For degrees obtained outside of Portugal: provide certificates of degree recognition in Portugal or evidence that the process of recognition has started (submitted to the Portuguese General Direction of Higher Education <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition?plid=1536>).
- A PDF format copy of the master's thesis or equivalent - optional (PDF max 10 Mb);
- A Motivation Letter in English, indicating clearly the [CiênciaID](#), up to two chosen [research topics](#) in order of preference and the motivation to apply (up to 1 A4 page, 12 ppt) (PDF max 2 MB);
- A Research Plan as indicated above (max. 2 pages or up to 1 000 words, 12 ppt) (PDF max 2 MB);
- Two reference letters. Reference letters can be submitted directly through the application form or they can be provided directly by those providing the reference through the link <https://tinyurl.com/yx9ls5re> .

To do before applying

- Create an account on the [CiênciaID](#) portal to obtain your Ciência ID (format: XXXX-XXXX-XXXX) and include in the application documents.
- For degrees obtained outside of Portugal, submit your documents for recognition to the Portuguese General Directorate of Higher Education <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition?plid=1536>.
- Contact potential supervisor(s) of the topic(s) of interest to develop a draft project.

Evaluation process

The selection process is composed of two steps.

In a first step, written applications will be scored (scale 0-20) based on 1) curriculum vitae and grades (70%) and 2) motivation (10%), and 3) quality of the research proposal submitted, including written English (20%).

In the second step, up to 30 candidates will be selected for interviews and questioned on their general and specific knowledge, career vision, proposed research project and oral expression including level of English. Interviews will be conducted in English.

Timeline

The deadline for submission of applications is 18th October 2020 at midnight

Interviews are expected to take place within 2 months after submission. Results will be communicated no later than 31st January 2021 and fellowships are expected to start within 60 days. Fellowships will only be awarded, and contracts signed with candidates which have their degrees recognized in Portugal at the time results are communicated.

FAQs

Can I apply to more than one topic?

Yes, each applicant can apply to two topics in two different applications.

None of the topic above match with my interest, can I suggest another topic?

No, an application should develop a research project following

I obtained my degree(s) out of Portugal. How can I obtain the recognition of my degree(s)?

Indeed, the recognition of your degree is essential for a fellowship to be formally awarded. To obtain the recognition of your degree, you must visit the page of the [General Directorate of Higher Education](#) and submit the requested documents. There are three types of recognition: the automatic recognition, the level recognition, and the specific recognition, depending on the country/institution that awarded your degree. If automatic recognition is not available for your degree, the **level recognition** is adequate.

Do I need official evidence of my skills in English?

You should have a very good to excellent command of English. We will evaluate your written and spoken English in the application documents and interview. If you have been awarded a diploma to recognize your degree of English, you shall include it in your CV.

Contact

Scientific questions: email addresses of potential supervisors are available beside the proposed topics.

Administrative questions: ccmardoctoralschool@ualg.pt

