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Fundação
para a Ciência
e a Tecnologia

Notice No. 24/2026

Call for Applications for 1 (one) Doctoral Research Grant (BD) in the scientific area of Earth Sciences – IVAR

The University of the Azores is opening a call for applications for 1 (one) Doctoral Research Grant, hereinafter referred to as BI, in the scientific areas of Earth Sciences, within the scope of project UID/00643/2025 (https://doi.org/10.54499/UID/00643/2025), funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), under the FCT Research Grants Regulation (RBI) and the Research Grant Holder Statute (EBI).

1. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The call is open for 10 working days, starting from the day following the publication of this notice.

Applications and the supporting documents specified in this Call for Applications must be submitted, mandatorily and exclusively, by email to the following address: ivar@uac.pt, with the subject line "*Bolsa de Doutoramento IVAR no âmbito do projeto UID/00643/2025 – Universidade dos Açores*".

Each applicant may submit only one application; failure to comply will result in the cancellation of all submitted applications.

Providing false statements or committing acts of plagiarism on the part of the applicants shall constitute grounds for the cancellation of the application, without prejudice to the adoption of other sanctionary measures.

2. TYPE AND DURATION OF THE GRANT

The Research Grant (BI) is intended to fund the performance, by the grant holder, of research activities at the Institute of Volcanology and Risk Assessment (IVAR), located at the University of the Azores, Ponta Delgada Campus, Portugal.

The grant to be awarded will be a "grant in the country" (bolsa no país), taking place entirely at the University of the Azores.

The grant is awarded for an initial period of 12 (twelve) months and may be renewed for additional periods up to a maximum limit of 3 (three) years, subject to compliance with the requirements set out in Article 15 of the RBI.

3. GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Research Grant (BI) is intended for the carrying out of R&D activities by students enrolled, or who satisfy the conditions to enroll, in a doctoral degree program in the scientific area of Earth Sciences at the University of the Azores, with the work plan taking place at the Institute of Volcanology and Risk Assessment (IVAR).

4. CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

The following individuals may apply to this call:

- National citizens or citizens of other Member States of the European Union;
- Citizens of third States;
- Stateless persons;
- Citizens holding political refugee status.

To apply for the Research Grant (BI), it is necessary to:

- Hold a Master's degree in the scientific area of Geology, Geophysics, Volcanology, Geological Engineering, or related fields;
- Not have benefited from research grants directly or indirectly funded by the FCT, awarded under the Research Grant Holder Statute;
- Not hold a Doctoral degree.

5. ADMISSIBILITY OF APPLICATIONS

Under penalty of non-admission to the call, it is essential to attach the following documents to the application:

a) Copy of the qualification certificate(s) proving ownership of the required degree;

b) If applicable, the record of recognition of the foreign academic degree with the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale, in the case of academic degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions. Candidates who do not yet hold this document may submit a declaration of honour (in accordance with the template attached to this notice), with the verification of this condition taking place only during the grant contracting phase. Regarding this matter, consulting the DGES portal via the following address is recommended: http://www.dges.gov.pt;

c) Detailed *curriculum vitae*, duly dated and signed, stating academic qualifications, professional background and experience (with express indication of duties performed and respective duration), as well as professional training attended (specifying promoting entities, dates, and respective duration), accompanied by copies of certificates proving participation in the training courses;

d) Copy of identification document;

e) other documents deemed relevant.

6. WORK PLAN TO BE DEVELOPED

The main objective of the work plan to be developed is: **Geochemical and geophysical characterisation and modelling of volcanic systems in coastal and shallow submarine environments in the Azores**.

The scientific supervision of the grant holder to be contracted will be under the responsibility of Professor Doctor Maria de Fátima Batista Viveiros.

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation takes into account the merit of the candidate, regarding their academic background and personal curriculum, as well as their performance in the interview.

The selection methods to be used are:

- Curriculum Evaluation (AC), with a weighting of 70%;
- Professional Selection Interview (ESP), with a weighting of 30%.

Applications considered admissible will be scored on a scale from 0 to 100 points, with the final result expressed to two decimal places. Candidates whose applications are evaluated with a final classification below 50 points are not eligible for the awarding of the grant.

Applications considered admissible will be scored on a scale from 0 to 100 points for each of the following evaluation criteria:

The Curriculum Evaluation totals 100 points and is based on the candidate's merit, considering:

- **A1** – Academic Qualifications and Background, with a weight of 50 points;
- **A2** – Training in the areas of geochemistry, geophysics, volcanology, and/or related fields, with a weight of 15 points;
- **A3** – Scientific publications, with a weight of 15 points;
- **A4** – Participation in research projects and R&D services, with a weight of 10 points;
- **A5** – Participation in conferences and science dissemination initiatives, with a weight of 5 points;
- **A6** – Proven knowledge of the English language, with a weight of 5 points.

Curriculum Evaluation = A1 + A2 + A3 + A4 + A5 + A6

The Professional Selection Interview aims to evaluate the applicant's motivation for the work to be developed, as well as the applicant's professional and personal skills. The following items will be evaluated:

- **ESP1** – Expression and verbal fluency, with a weight of 25 points;
- **ESP2** – Critical and innovative thinking, with a weight of 25 points;
- **ESP3** – Motivation and interest, with a weight of 25 points;
- **ESP4** – Discussion of the curriculum, with a weight of 25 points.

Professional Selection Interview = ESP1 + ESP2 + ESP3 + ESP4

Applicants will be ranked according to the sum of the scores obtained in each of the two criteria, expressed by the following formula:

Final Classification = (Curriculum Evaluation x 0.7) + (Professional Selection Interview x 0.3)

For the purpose of the decision on awarding the grant, applicants will be ranked according to their final classification.

In the event of an equal final score between two or more applicants, the ranking and subsequent tie-breaking will be based on the score obtained in Sub-criterion A1.

Important notice for applicants with degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions:

- Applicants with degrees awarded by foreign higher education institutions may apply and will be evaluated using the same criteria as applicants with degrees awarded by Portuguese institutions.
- For applicants with recognized foreign degrees who do not present proof of conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale, the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese scale will be calculated using the following formula:

$$C_{\text{final}} = \left[\frac{C - C_{\text{min}}}{C_{\text{max}} - C_{\text{min}}} \times 10\right] + 10$$

where:

- C_{final} = final classification converted to the Portuguese scale;
- C = final classification of the foreign academic degree or diploma;
- C_{min} = minimum passing grade on the foreign final classification scale;
- C_{max} = maximum grade on the foreign final classification scale.

- In any case, grant contracts with applicants holding degrees awarded by foreign institutions will only be concluded upon presentation of proof of recognition of the academic degrees and conversion of the final classification, as indicated above.

8. EVALUATION

The applicant evaluation panel is composed of the following members:

Effective members:

- Maria de Fátima Batista Viveiros, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the University of the Azores and Director of IVAR, serving as President of the Panel;
- César Cristóvão Costa Andrade, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the University of the Azores, serving as effective member of the panel;
- Rita Alexandra Ávila Melo da Silva, Assistant Researcher at IVAR of the University of the Azores, serving as effective member of the panel.

Alternate member:

- Rui Tiago Fernandes Marques, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the University of the Azores, serving as alternate member of the panel;
- José Manuel Rodrigues Pacheco, Principal Researcher at IVAR of the University of the Azores, serving as alternate member of the panel.

The evaluation panel will assess the applications in accordance with the evaluation criteria contained in this Call for Applications, weighing the assessment elements.

All panel members, including the president, undertake to respect a set of core responsibilities essential to the evaluation process, such as the duties of impartiality, declaration of potential conflict of interest situations, and confidentiality. Members of the evaluation panel may not act as supervisors for applications submitted to the call. At all stages of the evaluation process, confidentiality is fully protected and ensured to guarantee the independence of all reports produced.

For each application, a final evaluation form will be produced by the panel, presenting in a clear, coherent, and consistent manner the arguments that led to the scores assigned to each of the evaluation criteria and sub-criteria.

Minutes of the evaluation panel meetings will be produced, for which all of its members are responsible.

9. DISCLOSURE OF RESULTS

The evaluation results will be communicated via email to the email address provided by the applicant in their application and will be published on the UAc website at https://uac.pt/pt-pt/recrutamento.

10. DEADLINES AND PRIOR HEARING PROCEDURES

Following the communication of the provisional list of evaluation results, applicants have a period of 10 working days to, if they so wish, submit their comments in a prior hearing of interested parties, pursuant to Articles 121 et seq. of the Code of Administrative Procedure (*Código do Procedimento Administrativo*).

11. GRANT AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Research grant contracts will be signed directly with the University of the Azores.

The following documents must mandatorily be submitted, upon the eventual award of the grant, for contracting purposes:

a) Copy of civil, tax, and, where applicable, social security identification document(s);
b) Copy of qualification certificates for academic degrees held;
c) Presentation of the record of recognition of foreign academic degrees and conversion of the respective final classifications to the Portuguese classification scale, where applicable;
d) Document proving enrolment in the Doctoral degree programme in Earth Sciences at the University of the Azores;
e) Updated document proving compliance with the exclusive dedication regime (template to be provided by UAc).

The awarding of the grant is further conditional upon:

- Compliance with the requirements set out in this Notice of Call for Applications;
- The result of the evaluation.

Failure to submit any of the documents required to complete the grant contracting process within 6 months from the date of communication of the conditional grant award decision shall result in the forfeiture of the said award and the closure of the process, as provided for in Article 14(6) of the RBI.

12. FUNDING

Payment of the grant will commence following the return by the candidate of the duly signed grant contract, which must occur within a maximum period of 15 working days from the date of its receipt.

The grant awarded under this call will be funded by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), within the scope of project UID/00643/2025 (https://doi.org/10.54499/UID/00643/2025).

13. GRANT COMPONENTS

The grant holder is awarded a monthly maintenance allowance in accordance with the terms and values specified in the table in Annex I of the FCT Research Grants Regulation (RBI) and its updates, plus the tuition fee component, the payment of which is made directly by the University of the Azores.

All grant holders benefit from personal accident insurance coverage for research activities, pursuant to Article 21 of the RBI.

All grant holders who are not covered by any social protection scheme may ensure the exercise of their right to social security by joining the voluntary social insurance scheme (*seguro social voluntário*), under the terms of the Code of Contributory Regimes of the Social Security Welfare System, with UAc covering the costs resulting from contributions within the terms and limits set out in Article 10 of the EBI.

14. PAYMENTS OF GRANT COMPONENTS

Payments due to the grant holder are made monthly by bank transfer to the account identified by the grant holder.

15. NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL ACCESS POLICY

UAc promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, meaning that no candidate may be privileged, benefited, prejudiced, or deprived of any right or exempted from any duty on the grounds of, in particular, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, family situation, economic situation, education, origin or social 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.

16. APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

The Call is governed by this Notice of Call for Applications, by the FCT Research Grants Regulation, approved by Regulation No. 950/2019, republished in the 2nd Series of the *Diário da República* of 7 January 2026, annexed to Notice No. 412/2026/2, by the Research Grant Holder Statute, approved by Law No. 40/2004 of 18 August, as currently amended, and by all other applicable national and EU legislation.

17. ANNEXES TO THIS NOTICE

Pursuant to Article 6(2) of the Research Grant Holder Statute (EBI), the templates for the grant contract and the final activity report to be prepared by the grant holder and the scientific supervisor, as well as the respective evaluation criteria, are annexed to the Portuguese version of this notice published on the official UAc website.

The template for the declaration of honour, applicable to candidates who do not yet hold the recognition of their academic degrees under the terms provided for in Article 10(2) of the FCT Research Grants Regulation (RBI-FCT), is annexed to this notice.

Vice-Rector for Science, Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Artur José Freire Gil

Assinado por: **Artur José Freire Gil**
Num. de Identificação: 10919665
Data: 2026.11.02 21:30:11-01'00'

CHAVE MÓVEL

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ANNEX I

Declaration of Honour

Academic Qualifications

I, _____(full name), applicant for the cal for the award of a _____(type of grant), within the scope of project _____(project name or reference), published on the website of the University of the Azores under reference _____ (notice reference), declare under penalty of perjury that I completed the academic degree of _____, qualifying me for the type of grant under competition, namely the degree programme in _____, awarded by _____ (degree-awarding university),on __/___/_____, with a final grade average of _____ points on the scale of ____.

As I am unable to present the record of recognition of the foreign academic degree with the conversion of the final classification to the Portuguese classification scale at this stage, I declare that I commit to presenting the said document upon the signing of the grant contract, in the event that I am selected for the position under competition.

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

Location, _____, _____ _____

The applicant:

_____

(Signature)

NOTE: The declaration can only attest to facts that occurred prior to the application.

In the event of any discrepancy between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation presented for the purpose of signing the contract, only the information contained in the latter will be considered.