

Call for Applications for the Award of 1 Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (BPID)

Summary Announcement

A call for applications is now open (reference **SRENGTHBONDS/013/BIPD/2025**) for the award of 1 (one) Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (BPID) (as per point 5 of this notice), within the scope of the project *Strengthening Affective Bonds*, through the William James Center for Research, funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation under Axis II of the initiative *Growing Minds, Affective Bonding and Development*.

1. Scientific Area

Psychology

2. Funding

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, under Axis II of the initiative *Growing Minds, Affective Bonding and Development*.

3. Candidate Profile

Mandatory Requirements:

- PhD in Psychology;
- Excellent communication skills in both Portuguese and English.

Preferred Factors:

- Prior experience in data collection with children, parents, and teachers;
- Training in the VIPP-SD intervention program.

4. Mandatory Requirements for Admission to the Call

The following documents must be submitted with the application:

- a) PhD certificate/diploma in Psychology;
- b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- c) Motivation letter.

Only applicants who have completed the degree conferring the title of Doctor by the end of the application period will be considered. The award of the fellowship is conditional on the submission, at the contracting stage, of proof of academic qualifications.

In the case of academic degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions, proof of recognition of the academic degree by a Portuguese higher education institution and a record of the conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale is required, in accordance with Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of August 16, which approves the legal framework for the recognition of academic degrees and higher education awarded by

foreign higher education institutions, and subparagraph e) of paragraph 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law No. 60/2018 of August 3.

If the applicant has already requested but is still awaiting the issuance of recognition of the academic degree awarded by a foreign higher education institution, they may alternatively submit a sworn statement declaring that the recognition has been requested and will be issued by the end of the application period.

Recognition of foreign academic degrees and diplomas, as well as conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale, can be requested from any public higher education institution or from the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, only in the case of automatic recognition). For more information, please consult the DGES portal at: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

5. Requirements for the Fellowship Contract

In the case of diplomas issued by foreign higher education institutions, and if the applicant submits a sworn statement stating that the recognition of academic degrees will be obtained by the end of the application period, proof of the recognition of degrees in Portugal, dated prior to the end of the application period, must be submitted by the time the fellowship contract is signed, as indicated in point 4 of this notice.

To conclude the Postdoctoral Fellowship (BIPD) contract, it may also be necessary to submit a personal data form, Ciência ID, a copy of an identification document, and a statement confirming exclusive dedication to research activities.

Providing false declarations will result in the cancellation of the application and may lead to other sanctions.

6. Work Plan

VIPP-SD is a short-term video-feedback intervention program for caregivers of children aged 1 to 6 years, aimed at promoting positive parenting and sensitive discipline. It enhances parental sensitivity, strengthens parent-child attachment, and prevents or reduces child behavior problems. Proven effective, VIPP-SD targets at-risk parents and vulnerable children, breaking cycles of disadvantage and promoting socio-emotional development and child well-being.

The fellow will carry out the following activities during the grant period:

- Establish contact with potential partners (associations, schools, daycare centers, health units, and social networks) to present the project and recruit participants;
- Conduct research and literature review (e.g., systematic review);
- Collect data from children, parents, and teachers;
- Prepare online questionnaires (Qualtrics) and databases (Excel, SPSS);
- Analyze and process data (SPSS; AMOS);
- Discuss and present results – scientific dissemination of results through participation in

scientific meetings and the preparation of scientific reports, as well as dissemination to the target audience (parents and professionals).

7. Applicable Legislation and Regulations

Law No. 40/2004 of August 18, as amended by Decree-Law No. 123/2019 of August 28 (Statute of the Scientific Research Fellow – EBI); Regulation No. 950/2019 of November 29, published in the *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, No. 241, of December 16 (Research Fellowship Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology – RBI); Decree-Law No. 66/2018 of August 16 (Legal regime for recognition of academic degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions); ISPA – Instituto Universitário Scientific Research Fellowship Regulation; and other applicable regulations.

8. Place of Work and Scientific Supervision

The fellowship contract will be signed with ISPA, CRL (contracting entity). The work will be carried out at the William James Center for Research (host institution), at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, and possibly at other locations necessary for implementing the work plan, under the scientific supervision of Professor Manuela Veríssimo, PhD.

9. Duration of the Fellowship

The fellowship is expected to last for 4 months, starting in September 2025, and may be renewable for additional periods up to the maximum duration of the project, subject to the project budget and within the maximum period for this type of fellowship as established in Article 6, paragraphs 4 and 5, of the Research Fellowship Regulations of the Foundation for Science and Technology.

10. Remuneration and Other Components of the Fellowship

The monthly stipend for the fellowship, for activities carried out under an exclusive dedication regime, is **€1,851.00**, in accordance with the fellowship values table established by the FCT, I.P., available at: https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf. This amount is subject to applicable updates and will be paid monthly via bank transfer to the fellowship holder. The fellow will also benefit from personal accident insurance. If not already covered by a social protection scheme, the fellow may secure the right to social security by enrolling in the voluntary social insurance scheme (Decree-Law No. 40/89 of February 1; Article 10 of the EBI).

11. Submission of Applications

The application period is open from **August 8th, 2025, to August 22nd, 2025 at 11:00 PM (Lisbon time)**. Only applications submitted and received within the deadline will be considered.

Applications must be submitted via email to **candidaturas.investigadores@ispa.pt**, with a copy to **wjrc@ispa.pt**, indicating the reference **SRENGTHBONDS/013/BIPD/2025** in the subject line.

Applications must be accompanied by the following documents (as listed in section 4):

- a) Copy of the PhD certificate/diploma;
- b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae;
- c) Motivation letter.

All documents must be submitted in PDF format. Candidates who submit their applications incorrectly or fail to meet the requirements specified in this notice may be excluded from consideration.

12. Evaluation Criteria and Selection Methodology

The evaluation and selection process will be based on the merit of the candidate, assessed according to the following weighted criteria:

- a) Previous experience conducting interviews with children and familiarity with digital platforms, as demonstrated in the CV (70%);
- b) Motivation and interest in the research area, as evidenced in the motivation letter (30%).

Applications (and respective evaluation criteria) will be assessed and ranked on a scale of **0.00 to 20.00**. The final score will be calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Final Score} = (\text{Criterion A} \times 70\%) + (\text{Criterion B} \times 30\%)$$

In case of a tie, candidates will be ranked based on the individual scores of each evaluation criterion in the following order of precedence:

- Criterion A – Previous experience in data collection, reporting, presentation of results, and publication process, as per the candidate's CV;
- Criterion B – Motivation and interest in the research area, as per the candidate's motivation letter.

Candidates with a final score of less than **ten (10)** points will be automatically excluded — marked as **"Excluded"** — and will not be considered eligible for the award of the postdoctoral fellowship, as the Jury deems they lack the appropriate and necessary skills.

The final classification will be expressed on a **0 to 100** scale, with one decimal place.

13. Jury

The evaluation panel is composed of:

- Prof. Carla Fernandes, PhD (Assistant Professor at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher at the William James Center for Research; Chair)

- Prof. Marília Fernandes, PhD (Assistant Professor at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher at the William James Center for Research; Effective Member)

- Prof. Maryse de Melo Guedes, PhD (Assistant Professor at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher at the William James Center for Research; Effective Member)

- Prof. Eva Diniz, PhD (Assistant Professor at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher at the William James Center for Research; Alternate Member)

- Prof. Filipa Pimenta, PhD (Assistant Professor at ISPA – Instituto Universitário, Integrated Researcher at the William James Center for Research; Alternate Member)

14. Notification of Results

All applicants will be notified of the minutes concerning the evaluation process via email, sent to the address provided for this purpose, with a notification receipt. Notifications will be sent via email in accordance with Articles 112(1)(c) and 113(5) of the Code of Administrative Procedure (CPA).

15. Time Limits and Procedures for Preliminary Hearing, Complaint, and Appeal

After the provisional results list is communicated, candidates will have **10 working days** to respond in a preliminary hearing, under the terms of Articles 121 and following of the Code of Administrative Procedure. The final decision will be issued after the analysis of any responses received during this period.

Once the final decision is communicated, the selected candidate will have **10 working days** to accept the awarded fellowship in writing. Failure to do so without valid justification will be considered as withdrawal or renunciation of the fellowship.

Candidates may lodge a **complaint** within **15 working days** or file an **appeal** with the highest executive body of the funding entity within **30 working days**, both counting from the date of notification.

If the selected candidate renounces or withdraws, the Jury may contact and award the fellowship to the next candidate(s) on the final ranking list, if applicable.

16. Fellowship Contract and Final Report Templates

The templates for the fellowship contract and the final report to be submitted by both the fellow and the supervisor, along with the evaluation criteria, can be found in the ISPA – Instituto Universitário Research Fellowship Regulation (Annexes 2, 3, 4, and 5) at the following link:

https://intranet.ispa.pt/sites/default/files/users/531/rg102_bols_invest_cient_v4.0.pdf

17. Publication of the Call

This call notice is published:

- a) On the EURAXESS platform in both Portuguese and English;
- b) On the Ispa website, in both Portuguese and English;
- c) On Ispa's social media channels.

18. Non-Discrimination and Equal Access Policy

Ispa actively promotes a policy of gender equality, diversity, and inclusion, taking all due care to prevent any form of discrimination. In this context, terms such as 'candidate', 'researcher', 'PhD holder', and similar are not used in this document to indicate gender.

In accordance with Decree-Law No. 29/2001 of February 3, candidates with disabilities shall have preference in the event of equal ranking, which takes precedence over any other legal preference. Applicants must declare, under oath in the application form, their degree of disability, the type of disability, and the means of communication/expression to be used during the selection process, in accordance with the afore-mentioned legislation.

19. Personal Data Protection

By submitting an application, the candidate consents to the processing of their personal data strictly for the purposes of managing and integrating the application into the recruitment database, for the duration of the selection process, in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The documents submitted in the context of this recruitment procedure are considered administrative records and will be accessible in accordance with Law No. 26/2016 of August 22, as currently amended.