

Call for Applications for the Award of 1 Research Fellowship (PhD Scholarship)

Summary of the Announcement

A call is open (reference: **ADDICTRESPONSE/017/BI/2026**) for the award of 1 (one) Research Fellowship (1 RF) within the project “*Getting away from your addiction: On the role of attentional disengagement*” (reference: 2023.17370.ICDT), hosted by the William James Center for Research (WJCR) and funded by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT).

1. Scientific Area

Psychology

2. Funding

Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P./MCTES, through national funds.

3. Candidate Profile

Requisitos obrigatórios:

- a) Master’s degree in Psychology, preferably in Clinical Psychology, or in related areas considered relevant by the Jury for the execution of the research plan, with a final grade equal to or above 15/20.
- b) Candidates must be enrolled in a doctoral programme.
- c) Proven experience in participation in scientific research projects in the field of addictive behaviours, such as alcohol consumption and/or other psychoactive substances, as well as motivational, cognitive, and self-control processes involved in explaining these behaviours.
- d) Experience in clinical psychology practice, including psychological assessment and intervention, and possession of the professional license or being in the final stage of the professional internship of the Portuguese Psychologists Association (OPP), with a view to obtaining the respective professional license.

Preferred factors:

Candidates presenting one or more of the following will be valued:

- a) Participation in national or international scientific research projects, including active collaboration in the design, execution, and analysis of empirical studies, as well as preparation and writing of scientific articles focused on motivational and cognitive processes underlying addictive behaviours.
- b) Experience in statistical analysis of quantitative data, particularly using IBM SPSS software, including interaction or moderation analyses through specific macros (e.g., PROCESS Macro for SPSS).
- c) Experience in scientific writing, including preparation of manuscripts for submission to scientific journals and participation in articles under preparation.
- d) Participation in scientific communications (e.g., posters) presented at national or international conferences or scientific meetings.
- e) Proficiency in Portuguese, spoken and written.

4. Mandatory requirements for admission to the competition

The following documents must be submitted with the application:

- a) Master's degree certificate/diploma indicating the final grade.
- b) Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV).
- c) Motivation Letter explaining the reasons for applying and future career plans (max. 2 pages).

Only candidates who have completed the Master's degree by the application deadline will be admitted. If the certificate/diploma is not yet available, a declaration of honour stating that the degree will be completed by the application deadline and that the certificate/diploma will bear a date within that period will be accepted. The award of the fellowship is conditional on presenting the official documents during the contracting phase.

If the academic degree was awarded by a foreign higher education institution, proof of recognition of the degree by a Portuguese higher education institution and conversion of the final grade to the Portuguese grading scale must be submitted, in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018 of 16 August and Article 4(2)(e) of Decree-Law no. 60/2018 of 3 August.

If the candidate has already requested recognition but is awaiting issuance, a declaration of honour stating that the recognition has been requested and will be dated before the application deadline may be submitted.

Recognition of foreign degrees and conversion of final grades may be requested at any Portuguese public higher education institution or at the Directorate-General for Higher Education (DGES, for automatic recognition only). More information is available at: <http://www.dges.gov.pt>.

5. Requirements for signing the research fellowship contract

The selected candidate must be enrolled in a doctoral programme integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units, at the time of signing the Research Fellowship contract.

For diplomas issued by foreign institutions, if the candidate submitted a declaration of honour stating that recognition would be obtained by the application deadline, they must present proof of recognition dated prior to the end of the application period, as indicated in section 4 of this Notice.

To sign the Research Fellowship contract, the candidate must also submit the personal data form, Ciência ID, a copy of an identification document, and a declaration of exclusive dedication.

Providing false statements is grounds for cancellation of the application, without prejudice to other applicable sanctions.

6. Work Plan

The tasks associated with this position include transversal support across all phases of the research project, from the preparation and execution of studies to data management and administrative support, as well as contributions to other activities aligned with the

project's broader scientific objectives. In particular, the selected candidate will be responsible for:

- Supporting administrative and project-management tasks, including data organization, digitization and archiving documentation, scheduling sessions, logistical support, dissemination of studies, and other relevant administrative activities.
- Conducting screening and recruitment processes for participants during project execution, including initial contacts, verification of eligibility criteria, and participant follow-up throughout the study.
 - Administering questionnaires, instruments, and semi-structured interviews, as well as programming experimental tasks for ongoing studies.
 - Conducting initial assessments and running experimental sessions in the laboratory, in accordance with established protocols.
- Conducting psychological assessments and collecting behavioural and psychophysiological data, including EEG data when applicable.
- Processing and cleaning the data collected within the scope of the project.
- Preparing and organising materials, equipment, and consumables required for the execution of experimental studies.
- Ensuring the management of collected data, including organisation, monitoring, and tracking of participant information, while guaranteeing compliance with ethical and confidentiality standards.
- Supporting the training, supervision, and coordination of research assistants, contributing to the consistent implementation of project procedures.

Additionally, the selected candidate will participate in various complementary activities, such as weekly lab meetings, literature reviews relevant to the project, conducting and supporting statistical analysis of quantitative data collected during the project, preparing scientific communications, participating in the dissemination of project results at scientific meetings, science-communication events and social media, as well as preparing manuscripts for scientific journals.

7. Applicable Legislation and Regulations

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

8. Workplace 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, when necessary, at other locations required for the execution of the work plan, under the scientific supervision of Professor Jorge Simões Martins.

9. Duration of the Fellowship

The fellowship is expected to last **12 months**, renewable for additional periods of one year up to the maximum duration of the project, subject to project budget availability and limited by the maximum duration established for this type of fellowship under Article 6, points 4 and 5, of the FCT Research Fellowship Regulation.

The fellowship is expected to begin in **August 2026**.

10. Monthly Allowance and Other Components

The monthly maintenance allowance, for activities carried out under an exclusive-dedication regime, is €1,359.64, according to the table of values for fellowships directly funded by FCT, I.P. in Portugal (<https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf>), subject to applicable updates, and paid monthly by bank transfer to the fellow. The fellow will benefit from personal accident insurance and, if not covered by any social-protection scheme, may ensure access to social security through voluntary social-insurance contributions (Decree-Law no. 40/89, of 1 February; Article 10 of the EBI).

In addition to the grant, a subsidy is provided to cover expenses related to enrolment, registration, and tuition fees associated with attendance in the study cycle leading to the award of a doctoral degree. This subsidy is granted up to the maximum annual limit set in the applicable funding table, currently fixed at **€2,750.00**, in accordance with the FCT, I.P. Research Grant Regulations and the respective funding table in force.

Expenses related to enrolment, registration, and tuition fees may be considered cumulatively within the aforementioned annual limit. Their allocation is always subject to the budget availability of the funding beneficiary entity.

11. Submission of Applications

The call is open from **6th July 2026 to 17th July 2026**, until **23:00 (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 **cc: wjcr@ispa.pt**, indicating in the *Subject* field the reference **ADDICTRESPONSE/017/BI/2026**.

The application must be accompanied by the following documents (as indicated in section 4)

a) A copy of the Master's degree certificate/diploma in Psychology or related areas, indicating the final grade. b) A detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV). c) A motivation letter in which the candidate explains the reasons for applying, as well as future career plans (max. 2 pages). d) A declaration/certificate issued by the higher education institution confirming

active enrolment in a doctoral programme, indicating the doctoral programme and the corresponding academic year. e) A declaration/certificate issued by the Portuguese Psychologists Association (OPP) confirming registration as a full member, including professional licence number and regular status.

All documents must be attached in **PDF format**.

Candidates who incorrectly formalise their application or who fail to provide evidence of the requirements set out in this notice may be excluded from the competition.

False statements made by candidates will be punished under the law.

12. Evaluation and Selection Criteria

The evaluation and selection process will be conducted based on the assessment of the candidate's merit and according to the following (weighted) evaluation criteria:

- Curriculum Evaluation (CE):

The curriculum evaluation (CE) is expressed on a scale of 0–100 points.

Criteria scoring:

- Final grade of a Master's or Integrated Master's in Psychology, preferably in the subarea of Clinical Psychology, or in related fields considered relevant by the Jury for the performance of duties and execution of the research plan:
 - $\geq 16/20 = 5$ points
- Previous experience in experimental research:
 - No experience = 0 points
 - Experience in 1 project = 5 points
 - Experience in 2 projects = 10 points
 - Experience in 3 or more projects = 15 points
- Experience programming experimental studies and tasks (e.g., E-Prime, Qualtrics, or similar software):
 - No experience = 0 points
 - Experience in programming within funded research projects = 10 points
- Experience in collecting quantitative and psychophysiological data:
 - No experience = 0 points
 - Experience within funded projects = 20 points
- Experience in scientific dissemination/communication (e.g., participation in scientific meetings or general science outreach events):
 - No experience = 0 points
 - With experience = 10 points
- Active collaboration in the design, execution, and analysis of empirical studies, as well as in the preparation and writing of scientific articles focused on understanding motivational and cognitive processes underlying addictive behaviours:
 - No experience = 0 points
 - With experience = 20 points
- Experience in statistical analysis of quantitative data, particularly using IBM SPSS software, including mastery of interaction or moderation analyses through specific macros (e.g., PROCESS Macro for SPSS):

- No experience = 0 points
- With experience = 20 points

• **Motivation Letter:**

Motivation and interest in the field, and familiarity with the variables studied in this project, according to the candidate's CV and motivation letter (0–100 points).

Criteria scoring:

- Motivation and interest in the field (0–70 points):
 - Clarity in identifying alignment with the project
 - Knowledge of the scientific area
 - Justification of interest
- Suitability of the candidate's background and skills to the work plan (0–30 points):
 - Articulation between previous experience and the work plan
 - Evidence of autonomy and teamwork skills

• **Interview:**

Scientific knowledge demonstrated by the candidate and the alignment of the candidate's research with the position offered (0–100 points).

The interview will be conducted only with the three candidates who obtain the highest combined score in the Curriculum Evaluation and Motivation Letter, calculated according to the weighting criteria established for the final classification in this call. The remaining candidates will not proceed to this phase, and their classification will remain based on the Curriculum Evaluation and Motivation Letter.

In the event of a tie, preference will be given to the candidate with the highest score in the Curriculum Evaluation. If the tie persists, the score obtained in the Motivation Letter will be considered.

Applications (and their evaluation criteria) will be assessed, and candidates ranked, on a scale of 0–100 points. The final classification will be obtained using the following formula, with weighting factors of 20% for the Curriculum Evaluation, 30% for the Motivation Letter, and 50% for the Interview:

$$\text{Final Classification} = (\text{Curriculum Evaluation} \times 20\%) + (\text{Motivation Letter} \times 30\%) + (\text{Interview} \times 50)$$

In the event of a tie, the jury has a casting vote.

If none of the candidates meets the required profile for the execution of the work plan, the jury reserves the right not to award the position.

13. Composition of the Jury

The evaluation jury will be composed of:

President: Dr. Jorge Martins, Researcher at the William James Center for Research, Ispa – Instituto Universitário;

Full Member: Dr. Inês Mares, Researcher at the William James Center for Research, Ispa – Instituto Universitário;

Full Member: Dr. Magda Saraiva, Researcher at the William James Center for Research, Ispa – Instituto Universitário;

Alternate Member: Prof. Dr. Nuno Gomes, Assistant Professor, William James Center for Research, Ispa – Instituto Universitário;

Alternate Member: Prof. Dr. Lénia Amaral, Assistant Professor, William James Center for Research, Ispa – Instituto Universitário.

14. Communication of Results

All candidates will be notified of the minutes relating to the evaluation process of the applications by email, sent to the address provided for this purpose, with delivery receipt. Notifications are made by email, under Articles 112(1)(c) and 113(5) of the CPA.

15. Deadlines and Procedures for Prior Hearing, Complaint, and Appeal

After the communication of the provisional list of results, candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment within the scope of the prior hearing, under Articles 121 and following of the Administrative Procedure Code. The final decision will be issued after analysis of the statements submitted during the prior hearing. Once this decision is communicated, the selected candidate has ten working days to accept the awarded scholarship in writing; failure to do so within this period, without a duly justified reason, will be considered a refusal or withdrawal of the scholarship.

A complaint may be lodged against the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal may be submitted to the highest executive body of the funding entity within 30 working days, both counted from the respective notification.

If the selected candidate declines the scholarship or withdraws their acceptance, the jury may notify and award the scholarship to the candidate(s) in the subsequent position(s), if applicable, and according to the final ranking list.

16. Scholarship Contract Template and Final Report to be Prepared by the Fellow and the Supervisor

The scholarship contract template, as well as the final report template to be prepared by the fellow and the supervisor, and the respective evaluation criteria, may be consulted in the Regulation for Scientific Research Scholarships of ISPA – Instituto Universitário (Annexes 2, 3, 4, and 5) at: https://intranet.ispa.pt/sites/default/files/users/531/rg102_bols_invest_cient_v4.0.pdf

17. This notice is published

- a) On the EURAXESS platform in Portuguese and English;
- b) On the Ispa website, in 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, ensuring strict prevention of any form of discrimination. In this sense, the terms 'candidate', 'researcher',

‘PhD holder’* and similar expressions are not used in this document to indicate gender. Under Decree-Law No. 29/2001 of 3 February, candidates with disabilities have preference in the event of equal classification, which prevails over any other legal preference. Candidates must declare in the application form, under honour statement, their degree of disability, the type of impairment, and the means of communication/expression to be used in the selection process, in accordance with the aforementioned legislation.

19. Personal Data Protection

In the application, the candidate provides the necessary information and consent for the processing of personal data at the time of submission, strictly for the purpose of collection and integration into the database of the competitive procedure and for the duration of that procedure, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation.

The documents submitted within the scope of this procedure constitute administrative documents, and access to them will comply with Law No. 26/2016 of 22 August, in its current wording.