

DRAFT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Research Fellowship; 1 vacancy

Reference: CIEC-BIL-10-2025-Co-Play STEAM-KA220-SCH-25C90278

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of one (1) grant for a graduate student within the scope of the project **Computational Play as a Pathway to STEAM Learning in Early Childhood Education**, financed by the European Union, program Erasmus+ reference **CIEC-BIL-10-2025-Co-PlaySTEAM-KA220-SCH-25C90278** under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Communication Sciences, Communication Design or Multimedia.

Recipient category: Master's students or holders of a bachelor's degree in Graphic Design, Multimedia Design, Communication Design, Communication and Multimedia, Digital Communication, Communication Sciences, Marketing or Digital Marketing.

The scholarship may be of type a) or b), depending on whether the candidate is enrolled in courses

- a) **Degree courses:** *[Research grants (BI) are intended for R&D activities by students enrolled in an integrated master's degree or a master's degree].*
- b) **Non-conferring degrees courses:** *[They may also be intended for R&D activities by graduates enrolled in non-academic degree courses].*

Requirement for granting the fellowship:

- The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship;
- Only fellowships whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrollment in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be contracted, according to the type of the fellowship, indicating, respectively, the academic year or its duration (star and term).

Profile:

The following are eligible to apply for this competition:

- Nationals or citizens of other member states of the European Union;
- Citizens of third countries;
- Stateless persons;
- Citizens with political refugee status

CANDIDATE ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

a) MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's degree in Graphic Design, Multimedia Design, Communication Design, Communication and Multimedia, Digital Communication, Communication Sciences, Marketing or Digital Marketing.
 - Knowledge of graphic design tools (e.g., Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Figma, Canva, among others) and content writing.
 - Organizational skills, autonomy, and ability to meet deadlines.
 - Proficiency in Portuguese and English.
- b) [research grants for graduates or masters enrolled in non-conferring courses] not benefited from a non-conferring degree research grant for a cumulative period of 2 years followed or interpolated;
- c) contracting requirements, such as indicating doctoral enrolment in the area; proof of academic qualifications completed at the deadline for applications, including those resulting from academic degree recognition processes;

d) preferential factors:

- Experience in website management proven by portfolio or examples of previous work in the digital field.
- Social media management skills (content creation, scheduling, and metrics analysis), proven by examples of previous work in the digital field.
- Experience in video editing and multimedia content creation.
- Knowledge of design trends and visual identity.
- Knowledge of typography, composition, colour theory, and branding.
- Knowledge of UI/UX.

Admissibility requirements:

It is essential, under penalty of not being admitted to the competition, to attach the following documents to the application:

- The candidate's curriculum vitae;
- Portfolio;
- Certificates of the academic degrees obtained or, if applicable, the candidate's declaration of honor that he/she has completed the degrees required in the notice by the application deadline (not applicable to research initiation grants);
- 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, the candidate's declaration of honor (not applicable to research initiation grants).

Note: Other relevant requirements may be requested.

Applicants' eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions laid down in article 9 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (2019).

Workplan:

- Graphic editing of project materials;
- Restructuring and management of the website;
- Management of the project's social networks;
- Participation in the preparation of scientific publications on the results of the research.

Objectives to be achieved

Graphic editing of project materials: Design and refine visual materials (reports, brochures, presentations, etc.) ensuring graphic consistency and alignment with the project's visual identity.

Restructuring and management of the project website: Update and optimise the website to ensure intuitive navigation, up-to-date content, and improved online visibility.

Management of the project's social media: Develop and implement a digital communication strategy to increase reach, audience engagement, and dissemination of project results.

Participation in scientific publications: Support the preparation and submission of scientific articles and communications based on the project's research outcomes.

Evaluation criteria

- Technical and aesthetic quality of the graphic materials produced.
- Functionality, usability, and regular updating of the project website.
- Effectiveness of the digital communication strategy, measured by indicators such as reach, engagement, and social media growth.
- Effective contribution to the preparation and submission of scientific publications, including content review and graphic support.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellowship Holder Statutes, approved by Law n^o 40/2004 of August 18, in its current version published by Decree-Law n^o 123/2019 of August 28; Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in "Diário da República", 2nd serie, n^o 81 dispatch 4998/2025 of 28/04/2025, and Regulation of Research Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. - in force.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out in the Institute of education, Research Centre on Child Studies of University of Minho), located in the Gualtar Campus, under the scientific supervision of the Doctor Cristina Sylla, Principal Investigator.

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of 12 months, with a provisional starting date on the December, the 1st, 2025. The fellowship grant may be renewed up to the legal period of 2 years.

Amount of the research grant: The value stipend (Monthly Maintenance Allowance) is 1040,98 per month, in accordance with the stipends values published by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT I.P.) in the country (Annex I – Monthly Stipends Values for the maintenance allowances of the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships) and Annex II of the Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd serie, nº 81 dispatch 4998/2025 of 28/04/2025, according to the applicable regulation.

Payment is made on the 23st of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

Other components of the research grant: (define the other components of the research grants, in accordance with the article 18^o of the FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, or article 21^o of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), accordingly with the regulations applicable).

Other benefits: Reimbursement of Voluntary Social Security (Social Security contributions), 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 5^o of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel:

President

Doctor Cristina Maria Santos Moreira Silva Sylla, Principal Researcher, Research Centre on Child Studies, CIEC, Institute of Education, University of Minho.

Effective Members

- Doctor Orlanda Maria Lopes Tavares, Assistant Researcher, Research Centre on Child Studies, CIEC, Institute of Education, University of Minho.
- Doctor Eva Maria Lopes Fernandes, Entry-level Doctoral Researcher, Research Centre on Child Studies, CIEC, Institute of Education, University of Minho.

Substitute members:

- Doctor Diana Alexandra Ribeiro Pereira, Assistant Professor, Research Centre on Child Studies, Institute of Education, University of Minho.

The first effective member will substitute the President of the selection panel in case of impediment, being nominate the first substitute member in the place of the first effective member.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection:

The applications' assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit, following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 1 to 100 points:

Applicant Merit - AM (60%)¹:

- 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 classification of the Candidate's Merit will be achieved through the following formula:

$$CM=(a*0,5)+(b*0,4)+(c*0,1)$$

The candidates classified in the first four positions will be admitted to the Interview phase, in which the Jury will evaluate the following sub-criteria:

- a. Interpersonal skills (0 to 30 points)
- b. Demonstrated knowledge regarding the workplan (0 to 40 points)
- c. Motivation (0 to 20 points)
- d. Language Skills (0 to 10 points)

The classification of the Interview (INT) will be obtained by applying the following formula: $INT = a + b + c + d$

Final Classification (FC) of the Candidate Merit (CM) and Interview (INT) will be obtained by applying the following formula: $FC = (CM*0,6) + (INT*0,4)$

¹ If a second assessment method is established – Interview – this may not be weighted more than 40%, in accordance with Article 12(1) of the UMinho RBIC;

The jury shall decide whether all candidates are to be interviewed or, alternatively, shall identify the criteria to be applied to the group of candidates to be interviewed and their assessment (e.g. select the top 4 candidates on the APCC's ranked list).

The jury may not award the scholarship if the quality of the candidates is inferior to that intended.

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 honour of the candidate 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 fellowship won't be contracted.

Notes: Applicants with degrees obtained abroad must present proof of recognition of qualifications in Portugal and conversion of the final classification obtained in them to the Portuguese classification scale or declaration under the terms indicated in the previous point. Candidates who do not comply with one of these provisions, the selection panel will assign "0" in the grade of the graduation and/or master course. Candidates will be evaluated on the remaining parameters.

Disclosure of results: The evaluation results project, based in the selection panel minutes, will be sent to the applicants by email, in accordance with article 12 of the FCT's RBI (FCT funding) | article 13 of UMinho's RBIC (other funding subject to UMinho regulations).

If case of unfavourable results, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment, if desired, in a prior hearing to interested parties, pursuant to articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL n.º 4 / 2015 of January 7th).

Complaint and appeal procedures: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list (*alphabetically, by final grade obtained*), posted in a visible and public place of the host unit, as well as by email to all applicants, enclosing for that purpose, the minutes of the jury deliberations.

The selected candidate must inform its willingness to accept the grant, in writing. In case of rejection, the fellowship will be awarded to the next candidate in the ordered list of applicants.

The final decision can be contested within 15 working days, by sending to the President of the jury the corresponding claim. Interested parties may also submit an optional hierarchical appeal, addressed to the Pro-Rector with delegated competences in this area.

Constitution of a selection reserve list: The applicants ranked in the next positions on the ordered list will be included in a selection reserve list, which can be used until the end of the project.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open from the 9th to the 22nd October or is open for a period of 10 working days from the date of publication on the Euraxess portal.

Applications must be formalized by sending an application letter with the following documents: curriculum vitae; qualifications certificate or declaration of the applicant; motivation letter; statement proving that meets the conditions for the grant typology, according to the application requirements; other documents important to the evaluation process).

Applications must be sent by email to ciec@ie.uminho.pt and cristina.sylla@ie.uminho.pt, indicating the reference of the call for applications in Subject. Applications submitted by other means will not be accepted.

Fellowship contractualization: The fellowship will be attributed by signing a fellowship contract between the University of Minho and the fellow, accordingly with the contract minute (annex II of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in published in “Diário da República”, 2nd serie, n.º 81 dispatch 4998/2025 of 28/04/2025, as indicated in 2.4 of the FCT document: “[Rules for Granting and Management of Grants within the scope of R&D projects, including infrastructure projects, the multi-annual financing program for R&D units and other FCT financing instruments \(Version 2021\)](#)”.

The contract may only be concluded after all the documentation required is collected, which must take place within a maximum period of 6 months [including evidences of the academic degrees or diplomas and enrolment in degree courses or non-conferring courses, depending on the type of scholarship].

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has a period of 60 working days to conclude the scholarship contract (in the case of scholarship contracts under UMinho's RBIC, the deadline is 15 working days, under the terms of nº2 of Article 15º). Once received, the fellow must return the contract duly signed within 15 working days.

The activities under the fellowship contract can only began after proper authorization by the contracting entity.

Term and cancellation of fellowship contracts: Without prejudice to the other causes provided the fellowship regulations (FCT and UMinho) and in the Statute of the Research Fellow, the fellowship ends with the completion of the work plan, as well as with the expiration date for which it was granted or renewed.

At the end of the fellowship, the grantee is obliged to present a Final Report of the work carried out, in accordance with the objectives and evaluation criteria defined with the scientific advisor, within 30 days after the end of the scholarship.

The **final report** must be prepared in accordance with Annex I of the Scientific Research Fellowships Regulation of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd serie, nº 81 dispatch 4998/2025 of 28/04/2025.

Declaration of Honor

Academic qualifications

I, (full name), candidate for the vacancy for the award of a (type of scholarship), within the scope of the project (name or reference of the project), published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference (ref. notice), declare on my honor that I 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 the date XX/XX/XXXX, with a final average of XXXXX values on the YY scale.

As it is not possible for me to present proof of qualifications until the end of the competition, I declare that I undertake to present the aforementioned certificate at the conclusion of the scholarship contract, in the event that I am selected for the vacancy in the competition.

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

(Place), (date).

(full name)

NOTE: The declaration may only 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 purpose of contracting the scholarship, only the information contained in the latter will be taken into account.

Declaration of Honor

I, (full name), bearer of identification document number (XXXX), candidate for a research grant (type of grant), within the scope of the project (name or reference of the project), published on the Euraxess portal, with the reference (ref. call for proposals), declare on my honor that (I have not received any research grants to date / I have received the following research grants) under the Research Grant Holder Statute.

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

(Place), (date).

(full name)