Highlights

Call for PhD Studentships – 2022

What is new in the 2022 Call?

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March 2022

This document **summarises the relevant information** about **what is new** in the Call for PhD Studentships 2022 when compared to its previous edition. **Reading this document does not waive the careful reading of the Notice of the Call, Evaluation Guide (Annex I of the Notice of Call) and Application Guide**, and the current versions of the FCT Regulation for Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) and the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (EBI). We also recommend reading the Call's FAQs. All these documents are available at the FCT website:

https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/concursos/individuais2022.phtml.en .

In the 2022 Call for PhD Studentships most of the rules established for the 2021 edition are applied, except for the following:

1. APPLICANTION SUBMISSION

In this call, in addition to the **regular** line of application in all scientific areas and with research work to be carried out in scientific and academic institutions, a **specific line of application** is opened for PhD studentships in which **work plans are carried out totally or partially in non-academic entities**, namely in companies, Collaborative Laboratories, Technology and Innovation Centres, Technological Interface Centres, Public Administration entities or third sector entities; these research activities may be developed in collaboration with scientific and academic entities. Applications submitted under this funding line will be evaluated by a specific, multidisciplinary evaluation panel, which will include all the scientific fields and subfields described in the Evaluation Guide (Annex I of the Notice of the Call), consisting of experts from the different scientific fields selected by the applicants.

The **regular line of application** is intended for applications in which work plans take place in any environment of production and dissemination of knowledge, national or international, including higher education institutions, R&D units, Associated Laboratories, State Laboratories and other public research institutions, as well as other non-profit private institutions mainly developing R&D activities. These applications will be evaluated, as in previous editions, by the 36 evaluation panels indicated in Annex I of the Evaluation Guide (Annex I of the Notice of the Call), according to the combination of main scientific field, secondary scientific field and scientific subfield selected by the applicants.

It should be noted that each applicant **may only submit one application, regardless of the chosen application line**, under penalty of cancellation of all submitted applications.

2. ADMISSIBILITY OF THE APPLICATION

2.1 CV Synopsis – New <u>mandatory</u> element

The CV Synopsis is a new and mandatory field of the application form. The association of the *Curriculum Vitae* (CV), duly updated, on the **CIÊNCIA**VITAE platform remains mandatory. In this field, candidates must highlight the most relevant elements of their academic and professional path.

2.2 Motivation letter – Justification of the most representative document selection

In the motivation letter, it is mandatory to indicate and justify the choice of the most representative document, submitted by the applicant.

2.3 Applications submitted to the specific line of application

For applications submitted in the specific line of application in a non-academic environment, it **is mandatory to indicate at least one non-academic host institution and to associate one member of the supervising team integrated in the non-academic host institution (minimum)**.

3. NEW FIELDS IN THE APPLICATION FORM

3.1 Selection of the application line

The MyFCT portal exhibits two links that allow, respectively, the submission in one of the following application lines:

- **2022 Call for PhD Studentships – Regular line in scientific and academic institutions** (applications with reference 2022.XXXXX.BD);

- **2022 Call for PhD Studentships – Specific line for applications in a non-academic environment** (applications with reference 2022.XXXXX.BDANA).

3.2 "Timeline and Additional Attachments" field

In the "Timeline and Additional Attachments" field, the option "Others" was included. If the applicant wishes so, he/she may use it to present, for example, evidence of relevant scientific productivity indicators to further certify information on his/her CV, or to submit a previously obtained ethics committee approval.

3.3 "Host institution" field – Specific line of application

For all the applications submitted to the **specific line of application in a non-academic environment**, the applicant will have to indicate in the respective fields of the form, and for each of the registered institutions, if it is a non-academic institution, as well as select the respective type of institution.

4. EVALUATION

4.1 Criterium A – Merit of the Applicant (CV Synopsis)

In this call edition, the **criterion A, Merit of the Applicant**, namely the **sub-criterion A2 – Personal curriculum**, with a relative weight of 50% in the Merit of the Applicant, will evaluate the CV Synopsis, in an integrated manner with the **CIÊNCIA**VITAE CV, for a better judgement of the academic, scientific, professional, and civic path of the applicant.

4.2 Criterium B – Merit of the Work Plan (Timeline)

In this edition of the call, when preparing the timeline with the schedule and location of the proposed tasks of the work plan, the expected date the thesis submission at the university, or of the scientific work leading to the doctoral degree completion, must be included, as one of the milestones to be achieved.

4.3 Criterion C – Merit of the Hosting Conditions: change of the evaluation sub-criteria

In the 2022 edition of the call, **criterion C – Merit of the Hosting Conditions**, with a relative weigh of 20%, will be evaluated according only to two sub-criteria (instead of the three sub-criteria in the 2021 edition):

C1 – The scientific merit and experience of the supervisor(s) in the scientific field of the application, as well as the adequacy for the supervision of the applicant in order to obtain the academic doctoral degree;

C2 – Applicant's demonstration of the reasons for choosing the supervising team and host institution(s), as well as their adequacy for the work plan.

The evaluation of these sub-criteria is carried out in an integrated manner, considering the same elements as in the previous edition:

a) The CV associated by the supervisor(s);

b) The means made available by the host institution(s) mentioned throughout the application;

c) Applicant's demonstration, in the respective field of the application form, of the adequacy of the supervising team and host institution(s), to ensure the successful completion of the proposed work plan.

4.4 Criterion C – Merit of the Hosting Conditions: Specific line of application in non-academic environment

In this criterion, for the specific line of application in a non-academic environment, evidence of the contribution of the non-academic entities to the development of the proposed research program will be evaluated; therefore, the candidate must explain their added value in the respective form field (Adequacy of the Hosting Conditions).

4.5 Criterion C – Merit of the Hosting Conditions: Supervisor

In the present edition of the call, there is no obligation for all the members of the supervising team to have a PhD. However, at least one of the supervisors associated to the application must hold a PhD degree, and this information should be included in the respective CV.

4.6 Multidisciplinary panel – Specific line of application

For the evaluation of **applications submitted in the specific line of application in a non-academic environment**, a multidisciplinary panel will be constituted, which will comprise all the scientific fields and subfields listed in Annex I of the Evaluation Guide (Annex I of the Notice of the Call). Its constitution and organization will be determined according to the different scientific fields and subfields indicated by the candidates.

As for applications submitted in the regular application line, applications submitted to this panel cannot be transferred to any other evaluation panel or application line.