

Merit Scholarships for Students of Doctoral Programs of the Iscte Business School, at Iscte-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa – 2024/2025

Based on regulations of Iscte-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa for Merit Scholarships for 3rd cycle students (doctoral programs), i.e., Regulation n^o 742/2022, published in Diário da República, 2nd series, n^o 149 on August 3rd, the Iscte Business School, announce the call for applications for (4) merit scholarships. The scholarship is intended to support doctoral students in developing their scientific and pedagogical skills, leading to a PhD degree. The scholarship renewal is subject to the appraisal of the Evaluation Committee and to the availability of funds in the School budget.

I. RECIPIENTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. National and foreign students registered and enrolled for the first time as full-time with exclusive dedication, in a doctoral program at Iscte Business School are eligible to apply for a merit scholarship.
2. Applicants must have obtained a final grade of at least 14 (out of 20) in one of the degree courses (Bachelor's or Master's), and have a final classification in the scholarship application of at least 15.5 (out of 20).
3. The merit scholarship cannot be accumulated with other PhD scholarships granted by Iscte.
4. The award of the merit scholarship is incompatible with the exercise of a dependent or independent work activity.

II. FINANCING

1. The scholarship is awarded on a yearly basis, by academic year, and may be renewed for a maximum of three years after enrolment in the first year of the program, or for the maximum number of years corresponding to the duration of the program. The scholarship takes the form of a subsidy, paid monthly by bank transfer and in accordance with the conditions described in the terms of acceptance signed by the grantee (scholarship contract) and does not contemplate, nor designate, subordinate work relations, nor is it a contract of services rendered. The scholarship contract defines the scientific and pedagogical activities to be carried out.

2. The monthly stipend (12 months) is 1.259,64€ to which can be added the voluntary social insurance corresponding to the first level, should the candidate choose to be awarded it, personal accident insurance and exemption from paying tuition fees. The scholarship does not provide other allowances, such as food subsidy, holiday's subsidy, or subsidies for other purposes not included in the Iscte Regulations for Merit Scholarships.

III. AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

Iscte Business School grants a maximum of four (4) Merit Scholarships to doctoral candidates in Management with 7 Specializations, or in Economics, or in Finance.

IV. APPLICATION PERIOD AND COMMUNICATION OF RESULTS

1. Applications for the merit scholarships can be submitted until 23rd July 2024.
2. Candidates will be informed about the result of their evaluation by electronic message to the email address provided in the application, by 2nd August 2024.

V. APPLICATION FORM

1. Each application must be made in the Iscte recruitment platform, available at <https://recrutamento.iscte-iul.pt/jobs/491> , by filling in the application form and including the following documents:
 - a. Motivation Letter;
 - b. Proposed research project which should include the development and plan of implementation, outlining the objectives and motivation (up to a maximum of 1500 words);
2. The Evaluation Committee may require candidates to submit further documentation and provide additional clarifications necessary to support their application.
3. Each candidate can submit only one application. Submission of several applications will result in the candidate's exclusion of the process.
4. Applicants can request a review of the results up to 10 working days after the communication of the results.

VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Candidates are evaluated on a scale of 0 to 20 points. Candidates with less than 15.5 points will not be considered eligible for the grant award.

2. Applications are evaluated in two dimensions:
 - a. **Merit of the candidate**, in accordance with the criteria for the merit of the candidate (appendix A): **70%**.
 - b. **Merit of the research project**, in accordance with the criteria for the merit of the research project proposed by the candidate (appendix B): **30%**
3. The candidates are ranked based on the weighted average of the above criteria.

VII. TIME LIMIT FOR ACCEPTANCE

1. Within the five working days following the communication of the grant, the student has to declare his or her acceptance of the grant under the conditions proposed.
2. The lack of a declaration results in the exclusion of the candidate.

VIII. RENEWAL

1. The scholarship may be renewed for a maximum number of three years after enrolment in the first year of the program, or for the maximum number of years corresponding to the duration of the program, depending on the Evaluation Committee's assessment of the student's progress and the budget of the School.
2. The grantee should request the renewal to the Evaluation Committee 60 days before the start of the new scholarship period.
3. Renewal of the Scholarship requires:
 - a. Approval of all the curricular units of the academic year as defined in the program;
 - b. Approval of the thesis' project in the academic year defined in the program, and approval of regular progress reports if required by the program to pass for the next academic year;
 - c. The grantee must also ensure that his/her supervisor supports the request for renewal, by including a supervisor report that assesses the work progress of the student and an evaluation of his/her research activities, at the end of the 2nd and 3rd years of the program. The supervisor report should include the assessment of the

grantee's compliance with the agreed research project and the explicit support for the renewal of the scholarship.

4. Each renewal request will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee, in function at the time of the renewal.

IX. EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The members of the Evaluation Committee are Professors Maria de Fátima Ramalho Fernandes Salgueiro, José Manuel Gonçalves Dias, Thomas Greve and João Pedro Bento Ruas.

X. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The grantee must mention the financial support of Iscte and BRU-Iscte (host research unit) in all scientific publications resulting from the Ph.D. work, during and after the scholarship period.

XI. CHANGE OF RESEARCH PROJECT, SUPERVISOR OR HOST ENTITY

The grantee shall not substantially alter the aims of the proposed research project, or the host research unit without the consent of the supervisor and the Scientific Committee of the Doctoral program.

XI. ANNUAL REPORT

1. Each academic year, the grantee must present a report of activities developed to the program director and the Evaluation Committee. The report should include the following aspects: (a) development of the project in the areas referred to in Annex B; (b) scientific publications and creations; (c) communications at conferences, workshops and other events, indicating the URL addresses of the events; (d) supervisor's opinion regarding the success of the research project.
2. Failure to comply with the aforementioned points, for reasons attributable to the grantee, implies non-compliance with the objectives, in accordance with article 15 of the Regulation of Merit Scholarships for students in the 3rd cycle at Iscte.

Appendix A- MERIT OF THE CANDIDATE

The merit of the candidate is evaluated based on the following dimensions:

- a) Curriculum, based on documents provided by the candidate (60%)
- b) Interview (40%)

a) CURRICULUM

a.1) ACADEMIC CURRICULUM (80%)

1. The academic background of the candidate and other academic skills relevant to the specific Doctoral Program (including an English language certificate, such as TOEFL, IELTS or other; GMAT, etc.) are evaluated as follows:

- (i) For candidates with a completed bachelor degree, the score is equal to the final score of the degree, on a scale of 0 to 20, multiplied by 0.3;
- (ii) For candidates with a completed master degree, the score is equal to the final score of the master, on a scale of 0 to 20, multiplied by 0.3;
- (iii) For candidates without a completed master degree but with a Post-graduate studies or MBA or master's degree without Dissertation, the score is equal to the final score of the course, on a scale of 0 to 20, multiplied by 0.2;
- (iv) Candidates with a bachelor degree and master degree in a field relevant to the specialization of the doctoral program to which they apply receive the following additional points: 1 point for adequacy of the bachelor degree to the specialization and 1 point for adequacy of the master degree to the specialization.

2. Candidates with English proficiency (duly substantiated with recognized certificates or having academic/professional experience in an English environment) receive 1 point for average proficiency in English; or 2 points for excellent proficiency in English.

a.2) SCIENTIFIC CURRICULUM (10%)

The evaluation of the candidate's scientific curriculum is as follows.

- 1. **Research experience** - 0 to 1.5 points based on the following items:
 - (i) Participation in scientific activities (e.g. research projects, communications at scientific meetings), and scientific publications included in Scopus/Scimago, Web of Science (WoS)

or Association of Business School Rankings (ABS): 0 to 1.5 points. Specifically, 0.5 points in the case of low scientific activity (only 1 or 2 indicators); 1.0 points in the case of more than 2 indicators; and 1.5 points if the candidate has more than 2 indicators that are highly relevant to the area of the doctoral program.

OR

- (ii) Classification of the Master Dissertation (on a scale from 0 to 20): 0 points if the final classification is between 10 to 13; 1.0 points if the final classification is 14; and 1.5 points if the final classification is 15 or above;

Note: Candidates with several indicators in (i) and (ii) are evaluated using the most favorable indicator.

AND

2. Quality of proposed **research project** submitted with the application: between 0 and 0.5 points. For projects of reasonable scientific quality 0.3 points, for projects of high scientific quality 0.4 points; and for projects of excellent scientific quality 0.5 points.

a.3) PROFESSIONAL CURRICULUM (10%)

The evaluation of the candidate's professional curriculum is as follows:

1. **1.0 points** if the candidate has professional experience, but unrelated to the area of the doctoral program;
2. **1.5 points** if the candidate has professional experience of relevance to the scientific area of the doctoral program;
3. **2.0 points** if the candidate has extensive professional experience that is of great relevance to the area of the doctoral program.

b) INTERVIEW

In addition to the evaluation of the curriculum, there will be an individual **interview** that may occur remotely via webconference.

The interview is assessed on a scale of 0 to 20 points, and weights 40% of the final score of the candidate.

FINAL CLASSIFICATION OF THE MERIT OF THE CANDIDATE

The final classification of the merit of candidate is calculated as follows:

FINAL CLASSIFICATION OF THE MERIT OF THE CANDIDATE = $0.6 \cdot (0.8 \cdot AC + SC + PC) + 0.4 \cdot I$

- AC [Academic curriculum]
- SC [Scientific curriculum]
- PC [Professional curriculum]
- I [Interview]

Appendix B - MERIT OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

The merit of the research project proposed by the candidate is evaluated based on the following criteria:

Weight	Criteria	Points
20%	Relevance of the project for the scientific field	Between 0 and 20
20%	Quality of the state of the art and proposed methodology	
20%	Scientific support for the research problem	
20%	Planning and feasibility of the project	
20%	Contribution for the scientific area, for the scientific objectives of the research unit, and social impact of the project	