

**CALL FOR 1 INITIATION TO RESEARCH GRANT WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE
PROJECT UID/00048/2025 | Refª UID-00048-2025-BII-4**

Application period: 15-Sep-2026 to 28-Sep-2026

The Institute of Systems and Robotics of the University of Coimbra (ISR-UC) opens a call for applications for one (1) Initiation to Research Grant (BII) for a student **enrolled in a Master of Biomedical engineering** within the scope of the Multiannual Funding of R&D Units 2025-2029, with the reference UID/00048/2025 (<https://doi.org/10.54499/UID/00048/2025>), funded by national funds through the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), I.P., in the following conditions:

Type of Grant: Initiation to Research Grant (*Bolsa de Iniciação à Investigação*), in accordance with article 5 of the Regulation for Research Fellowships of the *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia* (FCT), I.P.

Number of positions: 1

Scientific Area: Biomedical Engineering.

Admission requirements: The candidate must hold a Bachelor degree in Biomedical Engineering and must be a student enrolled in a Master in Biomedical Engineering.

In accordance with the FCT Regulation for Research Fellowships, article 5, paragraphs 4 and 5:

4 – BII may only be awarded to individuals who, with the signing of the fellowship contract in question—including any possible renewals—do not exceed a cumulative period of one year in this type of fellowship, whether consecutive or non-consecutive.

5 – BII may not be awarded to individuals who have already benefited from Research Grants (Bolsa de Investigação) directly or indirectly funded by the FCT, awarded under the Research Fellow Statute.

Work plan: The selected candidate will perform R&D activities at the laboratory of Soft and Printed Electronics, inside the Advanced Materials & Sensors research area, working with wearable pressure and strain sensors for applications in robotics and human machine interfaces. Namely, the candidate will:

- Design, develop and characterize pressure and strain sensors for wearable applications;
- Patterning of Liquid Metal based Circuits;
- Preparation of reports and articles.

Regime: The attribution of the fellowship does not generate or entitle a relation of a legal-labour nature, and the fellowship is undertaken in an exclusive dedication regime. The fellowship

holder is awarded the Fellowship Statute of the ISR-UC, in its current wording, according to the Research Fellowship Holder Statute, and according to the Regulation for Research Fellowships of the FCT, both in their current wording.

Regulation: This call process shall comply with the applicable national legislation and regulations governing research grants, namely the Research Fellowship Holder Statute (*Estatuto do Bolseiro de Investigação*), approved by Law no. 40/2004 of 18 August, in its current wording, and the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the FCT (*Regulamento de Bolsas de Investigação*) in force whenever the grant is directly or indirectly funded by FCT, or, when applicable, the ISR-UC Regulation of Research Fellowships approved by FCT.

Location: The activities will take place at the Instituto de Sistemas e Robótica – Universidade de Coimbra.

Duration: 6 months, possibly **renewable**, by agreement between both parties. In accordance with article 5, paragraph 3 of the FCT Regulation for Research Fellowships, the grant cannot exceed a period of 12 months.

Scientific orientation: Professor Mahmoud Tavakoli.

Financial conditions: The amount of the fellowship is **€ 701.12**, in accordance with the table of values of the scholarships awarded directly or indirectly by FCT in Portugal (<https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM-2026.pdf>), to be paid by bank transfer, plus personal accidents insurance and social security (Seguro Social Voluntário, first level contributions) if the applicant chooses to subscribe.

Selection and attribution criteria: The selection methods to be used will be **(a) Curricular Evaluation**, with a valuation of 50% for academic overall merit and 50% for the degree of satisfaction and motivation for the project. If the Jury deems it necessary, an interview may be carried out with the candidates placed in the first three positions according to the ranking resulting from the above criteria. In this case, the final score will include the **(a) Curricular Evaluation**, with a valuation of 80%, and **(b) Interview**, with a valuation of 20%. If none of the candidates has the appropriate profile (overall assessment below 60%), the scholarship will not be awarded.

Jury responsible for selection:

- President: Professor Doctor Mahmoud Tavakoli;
- 1st Member: Doctor Afsaneh Lal Sanati;
- 2nd Member: Doctor Pedro Filipe Alhais Lopes.

Formalization of application: Applications must be formalized by sending the following elements:

- (1) Letter of motivation — **mandatory**;
- (2) Curriculum Vitae (CV) — **mandatory**;
- (3) Copy of the Certificate of Qualifications (Bachelor's degree) with the final average — **mandatory**;
- (4) Proof of enrollment in a Master course at a Portuguese higher education institution, or a Declaration on the Honor by the candidate that he/she will enroll in the course until the date of contract signature — **mandatory**;
- (5) A declaration under honour by the candidate listing any fellowships received, their type and duration — **mandatory if the candidate has received any fellowships in Portugal**.

Applicants with academic degrees obtained abroad will be required to present a Certificate of Recognition in accordance with applicable law. This document is mandatory only in the contractualization phase.

Application submission: The applications shall be sent by email to gustavo.bongiovi@isr.uc.pt specifying in the subject: Refª UID-00048-2025-BII-4.

Submission of applications: The application process is open from **15-September-2026 until 28-September-2026**.

Form of publicity / notification of the results: The results of the evaluation will be publicized at the ISR-UC website through a list ordered by the final grade obtained, with the candidates being notified by email. After the dissemination of the results through email, the candidates must consider themselves, from the outset, notified to, if they wish, express themselves in a prior hearing within a maximum period of 10 working days after that date. At the end of this period, the selected candidate must consider himself summoned to start the grant.

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