



Call for applications for Doctoral scholarships of the program Lisbon Mathematics PhD (LisMath)

Scholarship Reference: LisMath Call 2016

Main research field: Mathematics

Scholarship description:

The program Lisbon Mathematics PhD (LisMath) takes place at Instituto Superior Técnico (IST) and Faculdade de Ciências (FCUL), University of Lisbon, in Portugal.

LisMath was selected for funding by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT, IP), having been awarded 36 Doctoral (four years long) scholarships, for a total of 4 editions. The program started in September 2014 and recruited 10 students in its first edition and 8 students in its second edition.

In agreement with the regulations set up by FCT, IP, the LisMath Governing Board will be in charge of handling applications and the selection process; at the end of this, the list of selected candidates will be sent to FCT, IP, who will be responsible for awarding the scholarships.

Under the terms set in the Statute of the Scientific Research Fellow approved by Law 40/2004 of 18 August, in its present wording, and the Regulations for Research Grants of FCT, IP, the LisMath Governing Board opens a call for applications to scholarships for the LisMath 2016 edition. In this call, nine scholarships are made available. The actual number of awarded scholarships may be less, depending on the overall merit of the candidates.

The duration of the scholarship is one year in length, renewable for up to a total of four years, and cannot be awarded for periods of less than six consecutive months.

The scholarship period is expected to start in February or March of 2017.

Applicants: Doctoral scholarships are intended for individuals who meet the requirements set forth in Article 30, number 1, of Decree-Law 74/2006, of 24 March, amended by Decree-Law 115/2013, of 7 August, and who wish to develop research work leading to a doctoral degree.



The following individuals are eligible for scholarships directly or indirectly funded by FCT, IP:

a) Portuguese citizens, or citizens of other European Union member states; b) Citizens of other countries who hold permanent residence permits in Portugal or who hold the status of long-term resident under the terms of Law 23/2007, of July 4, amended by Law No. 29/2012, of August 9; c) Citizens of countries with which Portugal has reciprocal agreements; d) Citizens of any other country, if available for an interview.

Academic background: To be admitted to LisMath, students must have a Masters of Science degree, with high standing in Mathematics or in a related discipline, from a recognized university. Students with only a bachelor degree may also be admitted under exceptional circumstances. Candidates who have not yet obtained their Masters degree by the closing date of the call will be eligible provided they hand in a written declaration stating that the degree will be awarded by 31 January 2017. If these conditions are not fulfilled, namely if the official degree certificate is not presented timely, the scholarship will not be awarded.

Furthermore, candidates should be fluent in written and spoken English.

Monthly allowance: In agreement with the monthly maintenance stipend of doctoral scholarships attributed directly by FCT: <http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores.phtml.en>

See also the LisMath web site for further details: <https://lismath.ulisboa.pt/scholarships>

Period of the Call: The call is announced publicly on 22 June 2016 and is open from 20 July 2016 until 30 September 2016 at 14h00 (Lisbon time).

Applications: Individual applications should be submitted electronically using the application form available via the LisMath web site at: <https://lismath.ulisboa.pt/applications>

Evaluation Criteria:

The selection process for LisMath Scholarships involves a two-stage selection procedure. In the first stage, the Governing Board will select and rank the candidates according to the following criteria (equally weighted):

1. Candidate's scientific record (i.e. articles (published or in preparation), contributions to conferences, etc.);
2. Candidate's academic record (i.e. marks in the Masters and previous university degrees, quality of the respective institutions and programs, etc.);



3. Statement of purpose describing the reasons to join LisMath and potential research plans/directions;

4. Relevance and adequacy of the previous training for joining LisMath.

The submitted documentation, including the reference letters, will be used to assess these four criteria. The candidates with the adequate scientific background, presenting the necessary high-quality academic track record and high-level scientific potential, will be invited for the second stage of the selection procedure, consisting of an interview, either in person or via video-conference, or similar. The objective of this interview is to obtain further details on the points 1-4 described above (in particular on point 3), and accordingly fine tune the selection of the candidates, whose applications will be ranked taking into account their excellence in each of these criteria.

Announcement of results: The results of this call will be published at University of Lisbon, Portugal, within 90 working days after the deadline to submit applications. All applicants will be informed of the results by e-mail. If the decision is not favorable for the award of the scholarship, the applicant has a period of 10 working days, after receiving notice of the decision, to contest the decision in a preliminary hearing setting. Any appeal to the final decision referred above must be brought before the LisMath Governing Board within 15 working days after the notification.

Complementary information: Detailed information about the program is available on the LisMath website: <https://lismath.ulisboa.pt/>

Funding: The scholarships awarded under this call will be financed by the Portuguese Ministry of Education and Science, and when eligible, by funds from the European Social Fund through the POPH under the National Strategic Reference Framework (QREN 2007-2013), in accordance with the Specific Regulations of Intervention Typology 4.1.

Any situations not covered in the present regulations are referred to the Regulations for Research Grants of FCT, IP, available at:

<https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2015.pdf>