

(BL232/2023-IST-ID)

Research Studentships (for Master or Integrated Master students)

Applications are open for 1 (one) Research Studentship(s), within the framework of project/R&D institution (DCLGP), (2022.06596.PTDC), financed by national funds through FCT/MCTES (PIDDAC), under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Computer Science and Engineering: Human-Computer Interaction

Admission Requirements: To be enrolled at an integrated master or a master.

Workplan: Dictionaries are one of the most important tools when learning a language. They can help you understand the meaning of a particular word or how it is used in context (e.g., grammar, pronunciation). They can improve your communication by making sure you are using words correctly. They can also aid you when looking for a translation to an unknown language. Searching for dictionary entries is usually done by entering text queries.

The Portuguese Sign Language (LGP) is the natural language of the Portuguese Deaf community. As other sign languages, it has no standard written form. Moreover, some people that are Deaf or Hard of Hearing have lower levels of Portuguese literacy than their hearing peers; this means that Deaf users may not be proficient with the Portuguese language, which can exclude them from access to fundamental learning tools such as dictionaries.

The candidate of this scholarship is expected to conduct three main tasks: First, the development of a web platform for the first bidirectional Contemporary LGP Dictionary. The user interface of the Dictionary should be cross-platform (i.e., desktop and mobile). Second, the candidate will develop a feature-based search mechanism that allows people to form queries for unfamiliar signs by selecting sets of features (hand shapes, locations, or movements), enabling accurate, scalable, cost-effective, and simple sign recognition. Third, the candidate will engage in an iterative development process with the Deaf community. The Dictionary is intended to be a central tool for teaching and learning LGP as the mother tongue of deaf students and students who learn this language as a second language.

Legislation and Regulations: Statute of Scientific Research Fellow, approved by Law nr. 40/2004, of August 18, as amended by Decree-Law nr. 123/2019, of August 28; FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships, available on <https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/docs/RegulamentoBolsasFCT2019.pdf> and <https://dre.pt/application/file/a/127230968>.

Workplace: The work will be developed at the Interactive Technologies Institute / LARSyS of Associação do Instituto Superior Técnico para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento (IST-ID), under the scientific supervision of Prof. Hugo Miguel Aleixo Albuquerque Nicolau, Principal Investigator, Assistant Professor at Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), researcher at ITI/LARSyS.

Duration: The research fellowship(s) will have the duration of 12 months (not renewable). It's expected to begin in 10/2023.

Monthly maintenance allowance: According to the values for Research Fellowships awarded by FCT in Portugal (<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>), the amount of the monthly maintenance allowance is € 930.98, being the payment method an option of the Fellow by Wire Transfer/Check.

Selection methods: The selection methods will be the following: Curriculum evaluation based on academic record of the candidate and interest for the following areas of research: Human-Computer Interaction, Accessibility, and Education Technologies. The top three candidates may be interviewed, with the respective weight of 50% to the curricular evaluation and 50% for the interview.

Composition of the selection Jury: Hugo Nicolau (Assistant Professor, IST); Nuno Nunes (Full Professor, IST); Valentina Nisi (Associate Professor, IST).

Announcement/ notification of the results: The final evaluation results will be communicated to all applicants by email.

Deadlines and procedures of complaint and appeal. A complaint may be lodged from the final decision within 15 working days, or an appeal to the Executive Board of IST-ID within 30 working days, both counted from the respective notification

Application deadline and formalization: The call is open from 31 August until 13 September, 2023..

It is mandatory to formalize applications with the submission of the following documents: i) B1 Form – Fellowship application (<https://ist-id.pt/concursos/bolsas/>); ii) *Curriculum Vitae*; iii) academic degree certificate, where applicable; iv) proof of enrollment at an degree course (Master or Integrated Master); v) motivation letter;

Applications must be submitted to the email: hugo.nicolau@tecnico.ulisboa.pt