

BOLSAS
DE DOUTORAMENTO

NUNO GRANDE

2025

REGULATION

3 Scholarships: €25.000 each

Application deadline: 2025.10.16 - 2026.01.16

JURY

President: **Henrique Cyrne Carvalho**
Abel Salazar School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, U. Porto

Members: **Miguel Castelo-Branco**
Faculty of Health Sciences, U. Beira Interior

Altamiro Costa Pereira
Faculty of Medicine, U. Porto

João Eurico Cabral da Fonseca
Faculty of Medicine, U. Lisboa

Nuno Neuparth
Nova Medical School, U. Nova de Lisboa

NUNO GRANDE DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2025

Considering,

- The importance of the participation of medical doctors in research and teaching of the Fundamental Health Sciences;
- The particular interest in attracting those doctors who, in some capacity, are already involved in medical education, to the development of advanced knowledge through the undertaking of research work leading to the degree of Doctor (PhD) in the aforementioned areas;
- The unequivocal societal benefits arising from the creation of specific and specialised knowledge in the areas of the basic health sciences, particularly due to its eminent translational potential;

And,

- Recognising the need to promote the postgraduate training of the teaching staff involved in medical education in Portugal, making them not only specialised but also academically qualified;

At the initiative of the family of Professor Nuno Grande, represented by Dr Maria Cristina Leite Rodrigues Grande, the Bial Foundation and the Abel Salazar School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences ("ICBAS") have decided to establish the "Nuno Grande Doctoral Scholarships 2025", which shall be governed by the following regulations:

1. Object and Purpose

This regulation sets out the terms and conditions applicable to the award of the Nuno Grande Doctoral Scholarships 2025 ("NGDS"), intended to support research work in the areas of Fundamental Sciences, with the aim of promoting the acquisition of distinctive academic competencies for the teaching of Medicine by medical doctors who, while already contributing to medical education, are currently undertaking or intend to undertake their studies within Doctoral Programmes in the area of Fundamental Health Sciences offered by Portuguese universities.

2. Jury

The evaluation of applications shall be carried out by a jury presided by a professor from ICBAS, invited for this purpose by the Bial Foundation, and composed of four additional members appointed by the Council of Portuguese Medical Schools, at the request of the Bial Foundation ("Jury"). The Jury shall be supported by a secretary appointed by the Bial Foundation, who will attend the meetings but shall not have voting rights. Decisions of the Jury shall be made by majority vote and are not subject to appeal. In the event of a tie, the President of the Jury shall have the casting vote.

Members of the Jury shall declare any conflict of interest in the event that applications are submitted by individuals with whom they have any form of collaboration. Should a conflict of interest be confirmed, the Jury member in question shall not participate in the evaluation of the respective Research Project(s).

3. Eligible Applicants

- 3.1.** The NGDS are open to applications from both Portuguese and foreign citizens who hold a degree or master's degree in Medicine and who, while contributing to medical education at any Portuguese medical school, are enrolled in a doctoral programme in the area of Fundamental Health Sciences at a Portuguese university during the 2025/2026 academic year.
- 3.2.** In addition to the above, the scientific area of the work to be developed must fall within the scope of the Fundamental Health Sciences, in accordance with the submitted Work Plan.

4. Value, Duration, and Payment

- 4.1. Fully funded by the family of Professor Nuno Grande and by the Bial Foundation, and managed by the Bial Foundation, the selected applications will benefit from three scholarships, each up to a maximum monetary amount of €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euros), with a maximum duration of three (3) years from the date of signature of the Agreement (as defined below). The value of the scholarships that may be awarded shall be subject to applicable taxes and charges in accordance with the legislation in force.
- 4.2. The Bial Foundation shall be responsible for the phased payment of the scholarships to the beneficiaries by bank transfer to an account held by the respective NGDS Beneficiary, under the following terms and any additional terms set out in the Agreement:
- a) An initial amount of €10,000.00 (ten thousand euros) shall be paid following the signing of the Agreement, upon issuance of the corresponding receipt by the beneficiary;
 - b) Within a maximum period of three years from the signing of the Agreement, the annual tuition fee of the doctoral programme shall be paid upon presentation to the Bial Foundation of the respective proof of payment issued by the competent academic authority, with the beneficiary required to issue the corresponding receipt;
 - c) The remaining amount, i.e., €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euros) minus the amounts referred to in items a) and b) above, shall be paid upon presentation to the Bial Foundation of a copy of the final certificate of the Doctoral Programme. The beneficiary shall issue the corresponding receipt. This payment, and the successful completion of the Doctoral Scholarship programme, must be promptly communicated to Dr Maria Cristina Leite Rodrigues Grande and to the Board of ICBAS.
- 4.3. Should the beneficiary fail to present the documents referred to in clause 4.2, the Bial Foundation shall not proceed with the respective payments.

5. Announcement

The announcement of the opening of the NGDS application process shall be published on the website of ICBAS, on the website of the Bial Foundation, and through any other communication channels deemed appropriate by the latter. The announcement shall include, in particular:

- a) The form and deadlines for submitting applications;
- b) [The selection and ranking criteria](#);
- c) The composition of the Jury.

6. Application Process

6.1. Applications must be submitted between 00:00 (mainland Portugal time) on 16 October 2025 and 23:59 (mainland Portugal time) on 16 January 2026, in accordance with the conditions set out in the announcement referred to in section 5 above. Applications must be submitted by completing and sending the application form, available at www.bialfoundation.com and www.icbas.up.pt, via email to info@bialfoundation.com. All fields in the application form must be duly completed, and all required documents must be submitted, including those listed in section 6.2 of this Regulation.

6.2. In addition to any other documentation that may be requested, applications for the NGDS must include and be submitted with, in particular, the following documents:

- a) Completed application form;
- b) Applicant's Curriculum Vitae, indicating academic degrees and respective classifications;
- c) Title and summary of the work programme (in Portuguese or English), including objectives, a description of the work plan, and its timeline;
- d) Supervisor's opinion on the proposed work plan;
- e) Opinion from the relevant Ethics Committees/Entities, when applicable, and/or approval from the competent regulatory authorities, when applicable;
- f) Any other documents deemed relevant for the assessment of the application's merit.

- 6.3.** The Jury may also request applicants to submit any additional documents or provide clarifications deemed necessary for the evaluation of the applications. Failure to submit the required documents, or submission of invalid documents, will result in exclusion from the application process, as well as the annulment of any decision relating to the applicant within this process.

The Bial Foundation shall not be held responsible for any loss or non-receipt of applications resulting, in particular, from service interruptions, network failures, or security breaches in the applicants' email system.

- 6.4.** Each applicant shall be responsible for their submitted application, ensuring that it complies with the provisions of this Regulation and with all applicable legislation and regulations.
- 6.5.** Submission of an application implies full acceptance of and adherence to the terms of this Regulation. Applications are free of charge.

7. Evaluation of Applications

- 7.1.** Once the application deadline has ended, the Jury shall review the applications and the respective documents submitted by the applicants, in accordance with the criteria defined and previously disclosed, which shall include, in particular, the scientific merit of the project and the applicant's academic and scientific background. The decision shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting, which must be submitted to the Bial Foundation within five (5) days of the meeting.
- 7.2.** If any applications are excluded for failing to meet the requirements set out in this Regulation, the respective applicants shall be notified via the email address provided in the application form.
- 7.3.** The research work and project under which the NGDS are awarded must comply with all applicable legal provisions, as well as relevant standards and codes of conduct. The work must not be carried out by third parties or infringe upon third-party rights, including intellectual property rights. Applicants shall be solely responsible for any such violations.
- 7.4.** Beneficiaries shall be solely responsible for the effective protection of intellectual property rights arising from the results of their work/projects.

- 7.5. The Bial Foundation and ICBAS reserve the right to exclude, at any time, any applications that fail to comply with this Regulation, including those that breach applicable laws and regulations and/or general principles of good practice, ethics, and scientific integrity, and/or infringe upon third-party rights, such as intellectual property rights or personal data protection, and/or in the event of a judicial or administrative decision requiring such exclusion.
- 7.6. The Jury reserves the right not to select any applications or to select fewer than three applications if it considers that none or fewer than three of the submitted applications meet the required standards of quality and recognised scientific merit.

8. Announcement of Results

- 8.1. The selected applications shall be announced by 30 March 2026, through publication on the website of the Bial Foundation, on the website of ICBAS, and by direct communication to the applicants via email to the address provided in the application form.
- 8.2. Beneficiaries acknowledge the right of the Bial Foundation to share copies of documents related to this Regulation and the NGDS with any authorities and/or entities that may request them under applicable legislation. They also acknowledge the Foundation's right to publicise and disseminate the awarding of the NGDS in any manner it deems necessary and/or appropriate, including communicating the amount of the scholarship and the identity of the respective beneficiaries to the competent authorities.

9. Formalisation

The awarding of the NGDS shall be formalised through a written agreement to be entered into between the Bial Foundation and the selected applicants ("Agreement"), which shall govern, together with this Regulation, the terms and conditions of the NGDS award. Copies of these agreements must be promptly sent to Dr Maria Cristina Leite Rodrigues Grande and to the Board of ICBAS. The Agreement, the draft of which will be provided by the Bial Foundation to the selected applicants following notification of the NGDS, shall not create or constitute, nor is it intended to create or constitute, any employment relationship, nor shall it be deemed to establish any agency, partnership, or service provision agreement between the selected applicants and the Bial Foundation, or between the selected applicants and ICBAS.

10. Revocation and Cancellation of the NGDS

- 10.1.** The following shall constitute grounds for revocation of the award decision and cancellation of the scholarships, resulting in full or partial reimbursement, as determined by the Bial Foundation in each specific case:
- a) Submission of false statements;
 - b) Breach of the provisions of this Regulation, including failure to submit the documents referred to in clause 4.2, as well as breach of other duties and obligations arising from the law, the Agreement, and general principles of good practice, ethics, and scientific integrity;
 - c) Modification of the approved work programme;
 - d) Withdrawal from or cancellation of enrolment in the doctoral programme in which the applicant was registered.
- 10.2.** Any Beneficiary wishing to withdraw from the NGDS must notify the Bial Foundation in writing at least thirty days in advance.
- 10.3.** The reasoned decision to terminate the NGDS award shall be communicated in writing and shall take effect upon receipt of such notification.
- 10.4.** Termination on the grounds set out in clauses a) and b) of point 10.1 shall prevent the submission of any future application under the NGDS.

11. Notifications

- 11.1.** All notifications to applicants shall be made via email to the address provided in the application form. Any changes to the addresses indicated by the applicants shall only be considered after confirmed receipt of such communication by the Bial Foundation.
- 11.2.** Notifications addressed to the Bial Foundation must be sent to the email address info@bialfoundation.com.

12. Personal Data

- 12.1.** The personal data requested from each applicant are appropriate, relevant, and limited to what is strictly necessary for the purposes of the NGDS. Such data shall be processed lawfully, fairly, and transparently, in accordance with the Privacy Policy available on the BIAL Foundation's website. Applicants have the right to access their personal data, to rectify them, and to exercise all other rights provided for under applicable legislation, by submitting a request to privacy@bialfoundation.com.
- 12.2.** Applicants have the right to access and update their personal data and to exercise their rights in accordance with applicable legal provisions. To do so, they may contact the NGDS organisers directly via info@bialfoundation.com.
- 12.3.** Applicants are responsible for any personal data that may be included in the development of their research work, particularly in cases where such work contains photographs, videos, and/or special categories of data, such as genetic data, data concerning health or sexual life, or data revealing racial or ethnic origin. Applicants undertake to comply with all applicable legislation in this regard.
- 12.4.** Applicants who make use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the scope of the NGDS must ensure full compliance with applicable legislation, guaranteeing that all AI-generated content is subject to human oversight. The use of AI must be transparent, explainable, and responsible, ensuring the truthfulness, reliability, and integrity of the data used, without manipulation, distortion, or falsification of facts. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that AI-generated content complies with legal and ethical requirements, and its use must be duly justified and framed within the context of the NGDS. Failure to comply with these obligations may result in disqualification and other sanctions provided for in the regulation and applicable legislation.

13. Miscellaneous Provisions

- 13.1.** Any omissions shall be resolved by the Board of Directors of the Bial Foundation, following consultation with the Director of ICBAS and Dr Maria Cristina Leite Rodrigues Grande.
- 13.2.** Without prejudice to any liability arising under applicable legislation, the Bial Foundation, ICBAS, and Dr Maria Cristina Leite Rodrigues Grande shall not be held liable for any damages or losses suffered by applicants or beneficiaries as a result of submitting applications under the NGDS, of this Regulation, or of receiving and using the NGDS.
- 13.3.** This Regulation shall be governed by Portuguese law.

14. Entry into Force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day immediately following its signature by the Director of ICBAS, the President of the Bial Foundation, and Dr Maria Cristina Leite Rodrigues Grande. It shall also be published on the websites of both ICBAS and the Bial Foundation.

15. Renewal

The family of Professor Nuno Grande, the Bial Foundation, and ICBAS may decide to renew the awarding process of these scholarships in subsequent years, with or without amendments to this Regulation.

Porto, 20th May 2025.

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