

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE AWARD OF A RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Title: *Research Fellowship - SmartOs; 1 vacancy*

Reference: POCI-01-0247-FEDER-039868_BI_02_2023_CMEMS

A call for applications is now open for the attribution of one grant of Research Fellowship within the scope of the R&D project, of Center for Microelectromechanical Systems (CMEMS-UMinho), “*SmartOs: SMART control of a sTand-alone active Orthotic System*”, POCI-01-0247-FEDER-039868, co-financed by European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) through the Operational Programme Competitiveness and Internationalization (POCI), of PORTUGAL 2020, under the following conditions:

Scientific Area: Medical Electronics

Recipient category: The research fellowship is intended for:

- candidates with a master’s degree in Biomedical Engineering, Electronics Engineering or similar area enrolled in a PhD program, or enrolled in a non-academic degree course integrated into the educational project of the institution, in the scientific area for which the call is open or related areas. Requirements for granting the fellowship to a master’s degree holder:
 - The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship;
 - Only fellowships whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrollment in a degree course or non-academic degree course will be contracted, according to the type of the fellowship, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, indicating, respectively, the academic year or its duration (star and term).
 - Enrollment in non-certified courses (without curricular units) will not be considered as proof of enrollment.
- candidates with a bachelor’s degree in Biomedical Engineering, Electronics Engineering or in similar areas and enrolled in a master’s degree course. Requirements for granting the fellowship to a bachelor’s degree holder:
 - The applicants may apply without prior registration in the course for which the fellowship is open. The requirement to enroll in a degree course will be verified on the date of contracting the fellowship;
 - Only fellowships whose selected applicants present a valid proof of enrollment in a degree course will be contracted, according to the type of the fellowship, issued by the academic services of the Higher Education Institution, indicating, respectively, the academic year or its duration (star and term).

Candidates profile:

- Preference will be given to candidates with a master’s degree and only be admitted candidates with a bachelor’s degree if there are no candidates with master degree or if the MSc candidates do not have the intended training and/or the professional experience in the scientific area

mentioned above. Is required for contractualization, proof of academic qualifications completed at the deadline for applications, including those resulting from academic degree recognition processes;

- Candidates enrolled in non-conferring courses: who have already benefited from a BI for a period of 2 years followed or interpolated, or who exceed this period with this grant, cannot benefit from this scholarship;
- Other requirements: Specialization area in Medical Electronics. Demonstration of technical-scientific skills in signal processing algorithms; relevant experience in statistical analysis and tools; relevant experience in programming microcontrollers.

Applicants eligibility: Applicants must comply with the eligibility conditions laid down in article 9 of the Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (2019).

Workplan and objectives to be achieved: This workplan aims to process and analyse human biomechanical data collected during gait assisted by the active orthoses, supporting the validation of assistive control strategies. The workplan will include the: (i) support in human biomechanical data collection to assess the assistive control strategies under different gait conditions (level-ground walking, ascending/descending ramps; climbing up/down stairs); (ii) processing of biomechanical data using filtering and gait segmentation tools; (iii) analysing the effects of orthosis' assistance; (iv) programming the orthosis' microcontroller with control optimizations. These objectives fall within the scope of Activities 5 and 7. Lastly, the grantee will elaborate a report with the results obtained and technical documentation.

Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellowship Holder Statutes, approved by Law no. 40/2004 of August 18, in its current version published by Decree-Law no. 123/2019 of August 28; Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in "Diário da República", 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021 and Regulation of Research Studentships and Fellowships (RBI) of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. - in force.

Host/Contracting institution and scientific supervision: The workplan will be carried out in the Center for Microelectromechanical Systems (CMEMS) of University of Minho, located in the Azurém Campus, Guimarães, under the scientific supervision of the Professor Cristina Manuela Peixoto Santos.

Fellowship duration: The grant will take place for a period of 3 months, with a provisional starting date in March of 2023. The fellowship grant will not be renewed.

Amount of the research grant: The value stipend (Monthly Maintenance Allowance) is 1144,64 euros, per month, for candidates with master's degree or 875,98 euros, per month, for candidates with bachelor's degree, in accordance with the stipends values published by the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT I.P.) in the country (Annex I – Monthly Stipends Values for the maintenance allowances of the [FCT Regulation for Research Studentships and Fellowships](#)) and Annex II of the

Regulation of Scientific Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in “Diário da República”, 2nd series, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, according to the applicable regulation.

Payment is made on the 23rd of each month, through bank transfer to the Bank Identification Number of the fellow identified in the contractualization process.

Other benefits: Personal accident insurance.

Exclusivity regime: The grantee will perform the activities under exclusivity, as foreseen in article 5º of the Research Fellow Statutes and applicable regulations.

Selection panel: The selection panel is composed by:

- President – Doctor Graça Maria Henriques Minas (Associate Professor with Habilitation at the Department of Industrial Electronics of the University of Minho);
- Effective Members – Doctor Luís Miguel Valente Gonçalves (Associate Professor at the Department of Industrial Electronics of the University of Minho) and Doctor Susana Oliveira Catarino (Researcher at Center for Microelectromechanical Systems of University of Minho);
- Substitute members – Doctor Alexandre Ferreira Silva (Assistant Professor at the Department of Industrial Electronics of the University of Minho) and Doctor Paulo Mateus Mendes (Associate Professor at the Department of Industrial Electronics of the University of Minho).

The first effective member will substitute the President of the selection panel in case of impediment, being nominate the first substitute member in the place of the first effective member.

Criteria and procedures for applications assessment and selection: The applications assessment will focus on the candidate's Merit, following evaluation criteria, valued on a scale of 1 to 5 values:

Applicant Merit - AM (100%):

- a) Personal curriculum (considering professional and scientific background), with a weighting of 100%
 1. Academic Qualifications (scientific adequacy to the scholarship are valued), with a weighting of 30%;
 2. Experience in the characterization techniques to be used, with a weighting of 45%:
 1. relevant experience in signal processing algorithms, 40%;
 2. experience in programming microcontrollers, 30%;
 3. relevant experience in statistical analysis and tools, 20%
 4. ability to communicate and write in English, 10%.
 3. Scientific and Technological Production, with a weighting of 20%: number of articles (SCI) published in the preferred areas indicated above in “Application requirements” (15%); number of articles (SCI) (5%)

4. Motivation letter, with a weighting of 5%: It should describe the scientific relevance for the profile and the goals for its career.

The final classification of the applicant's merit with the achieved through the following formula:

$$MC=(a1*0,3)+(a2*0,45)+(a3*0,20)+(a4*0,05)$$

If none of the candidates demonstrate to have a suitable profile for the execution of the work plan, the Jury is entitled to close this call without selecting a candidate.

The academic degrees and diplomas documents, or their respective recognition when awarded by foreign higher education institutions are not mandatory in the application phase, being replaced by a declaration of honor of the candidate with the contents of academic results. The documents of academic qualification or respective recognition will be required in the contracting phase and must attest facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In situations of divergence between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for contracting the grant, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If the documents proving the ownership of the academic degree and diploma, or the respective recognition under the terms of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the evaluation of the academic path, which can change the candidate's ranking, the fellowship won't be contracted.

Disclosure of results: The provisional results of applications, based in the selection panel minutes, will be sent to the applicants by email until 90 working days from the applications deadline.

If case of unfavourable results, the candidates have a period of 10 working days to comment, if desired, in a prior hearing to interested parties, pursuant to articles 121 and 122 of the Code of Administrative Procedure (DL no. 4 / 2015 of January 7th).

[The hearing of the interested parties, if excluded, should be justified accordingly with article 124º of CPA]

Complaint and appeal procedures: The final results of the evaluation will be published through an ordered list (*alphabetically, by final grade obtained*), posted in a visible and public place of the host unit, as well as by email to all applicants, enclosing for that purpose, the minutes of the jury deliberations.

The selected candidate must inform its willingness to accept the grant, in writing. In case of rejection, the fellowship will be awarded to the next candidate in the ordered list of applicants.

The final decision can be contested within 15 working days, by sending to the President of the jury the corresponding claim. Interested parties may also submit an optional hierarchical appeal, addressed to the Pro-Rector for Research and Projects, Professor Sandra Paiva.

Constitution of a selection reserve list: The applicants ranked in the next positions on the ordered list will be included in a selection reserve list, which can be used until 30/04/2023.

The academic degrees and diplomas documents, or their respective recognition when awarded by foreign higher education institutions are not mandatory in the application phase, being replaced by a declaration

of honor of the candidate with the contents of academic results. The documents of academic qualification or respective recognition will be required in the contracting phase and must attest facts that occurred on a date prior to the application. In situations of divergence between the information contained in the declaration and the documentation submitted for contracting the grant, only the information contained in the latter will be considered. If the documents proving the ownership of the academic degree and diploma, or the respective recognition under the terms of Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16, do not correspond to the classifications awarded in the evaluation of the academic path, which can change the candidate's ranking, the fellowship won't be contracted.

Application deadline and submission: The call for applications is open from **08th of February until 21st of February of 2023**.

Applications must be formalized, mandatorily, by sending an application letter accompanied by the following documents: *curriculum vitae*; *certificate of qualifications or declaration of the candidate (if applicable)*; *letter of interest*; *other documents considered relevant to the assessment of the scientific and professional path*.

Applications must be sent by email to secretaria@cmems.uminho.pt, indicating the reference of the call for applications in Subject. Applications submitted by other means will not be accepted.

Fellowship contractualization: The fellowship will be attributed by signing a fellowship contract between the University of Minho and the fellow, accordingly with the contract minute (annex IV of the Regulation of Research Fellowships of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Série, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021, as indicated in 2.4 of the FCT document: “[Rules for Granting and Management of Grants within the scope of R&D projects, including infrastructure projects, the multi-annual financing program for R&D units and other FCT financing instruments \(Version 2021\)](#)”.

The contract may only be concluded after all the documentation required is collected, which must take place within a maximum period of 6 months [including evidences of master degree or its recognition in Portugal, under Decree-law no. 66/2018 of August 16th].

Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has a period of 60 working days to conclude the scholarship contract. Once received, the fellow must return the contract duly signed within 15 working days.

The activities under the fellowship contract can only begin after proper authorization by the contracting entity.

Term and cancellation of fellowship contracts: Without prejudice to the other causes provided the fellowship regulations (FCT and UMinho) and in the Statute of the Research Fellow, the fellowship ends with the completion of the work plan, as well as with the expiration date for which it was granted or renewed.

At the end of the fellowship, the grantee is obliged to present a Final Report of the work carried out, in accordance with the objectives and evaluation criteria defined with the scientific advisor, within 30 days after the end of the scholarship.

The **final report** must be prepared in accordance with Annex I of the Scientific Research Fellowships Regulation of the University of Minho (RBIC), published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Série, no. 119, through dispatch no. 6524/2020 of 22-06-2020, ratified by ratification declaration no. 447/2021 of 22-06-2021.

ANNEX:

**Declaration of Honor
Academic habilitations**

(name), applicant to the research fellowship vacancy under the I&D project (title or reference), published in the Euraxess portal, reference xxxx, hereby declares to have a degree on **XXXX (name of the course)**, concluded in the **University of XXXX**, on the **XX/XX/XXXX**, with the final grade of XX.

I have submit my diploma for recognition in the **University of XXXX**, according to the Decree-Law n° 66/2018 of August 16th¹, concluded In the **XX/XX/XXXX**, with the final grade of XX.

I further declare that I undertake to present proof of my diploma recognition obtained under the Portuguese Law, until the date of the conclusion of the fellowship contract, in case of being selected for the vacancy in this competition.

As this is true, this declaration will be dated and signed by me.

(Place), (date).

(name)

Declaration of Honor Requirements Grant Typology

¹ DGES (Foreign Degrees and Diplomas): <https://www.dges.gov.pt/en/pagina/degree-and-diploma-recognition?plid=1536>; University of Minho: Recognition of foreign degrees and diplomas: <https://www.uminho.pt/EN/education/Pages/recognition-of-foreign-qualifications.aspx>

(name), applicant to the research fellowship vacancy under the I&D project (title or reference), published in the Euraxess portal, reference (**fellowship Reference**), hereby declares that complies with the conditions for the type of scholarship of the referred call, reference above, in accordance with the application requirements, legislation and regulations indicated in the notice.

As this is true, this declaration will be dated and signed by me.

(Place), (date).

(name)