

NOTICE No. 1 /2025

PORTUGUESE INSTITUTE FOR QUALITY, I.P.

Opening of a call for the award of a Research Fellowship (BI) within the scope of the Scientific Research Project “24NRM03 MFMETII – EPM”

A call is open for the award of a Research Fellowship (BI) within the scope of the European Project MFMET II – Establishing Metrology Standards in Microfluidic Devices II, under the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Mechanics, Materials, Nanotechnology.
2. **Funding Source:** European Partnership on Metrology (EPM), co-financed by the European Union’s Horizon Europe Research, under Project 24NRM03 MFMETII – EPM.
3. **Admission Requirements:** Graduates in Mechanics, Materials, and Nanotechnology, enrolled in a master’s program.

Factors of preference:

- (I) Knowledge and interest in the areas of volume, microflow, and microfluidics.
- (II) Competence in the design and implementation of method development projects, as well as conducting physical tests in the laboratory.
- (III) Must demonstrate motivation to collaborate in applied research projects and possess a sense of responsibility, organization, and team spirit.
- (IV) Previous knowledge in Python programming, fluid mechanics, and microfluidics.
- (V) Good written and verbal communication skills in English.
- (VI) Knowledge of the Portuguese language.

4. Eligibility: Candidates who comply with the provisions of paragraph 1, of article 20 of the Scientific Research Scholarship Regulations of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I. P. – Regulation no. 696/2025, of June 2, are eligible.

5. Work Plan:

The candidate is expected to carry out research and development work within the scope of the tasks of the aforementioned project, namely:

- Development of measurement methods for different physical quantities related to the characterization of microfluidic chips, such as: Resistivity; Leaks; Burst and decay pressure; Shear stress; Particle counting; Flow rate, Dead volume.
- Implementation of measurement methods for the quantities described above in the Volume and Flow Laboratory (LVC).
- Validation of measurement methods for the quantities described above.
- Writing scientific articles and other technical documents to disseminate the project results in specialized journals and conferences.
- Support in technical documentation and the preparation of scientific reports related to the work carried out. This work will contribute to the development of standards within ISO TC48 WG3 – microfluidic devices and the creation of new Measurement and Calibration Capabilities (CMC) at LVC.

6. Applicable legislation and regulations:

- Research Fellow Statute, approved as an annex to Law no. 40/2004, of August 18, in its current version.
- Regulation on Scientific Research Scholarships of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I. P. - Regulation no. 696/2025, of June 2, published in Diário da República No. 105, 2nd Series.
- Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16 (Legal framework for the recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).

7. Workplace: The work will be carried out at the Volume and Flow Laboratory (LVC) of the Portuguese Institute for Quality (IPQ), located at Rua António Gião, No. 2 – 2829-513 Caparica.

8. Duration of the Scholarship: The scholarship will have a duration of 12 (twelve) months, with a scheduled start on 01/01/2026, potentially renewable up to the maximum limit of the approved funding during the project execution period, and in no case can exceed the limits defined in the Regulation for the type of scholarship in question, according to paragraph 5 of article 6 of the Scientific Research Scholarship Regulation of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I.P.

9. Scientific Supervisor: Dr. Elsa Maria Isqueiro Batista.

10. Amount of the Monthly Maintenance Grant and Other Benefits: The scholarship amount is €1,040.98, as stated in Annex III of Regulation No. 696/2025, of June 2, and may be updated annually by decision of the IPQ Board of Directors, being paid monthly via bank transfer.

The daily meal allowance is equivalent to that received by Public Administration workers. All scholarship holders benefit from personal accident insurance for research activities, covered by IPQ.

The scholar may also be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to Voluntary Social Security, in case of enrollment in this scheme.

11. Work regime: The scholar's duties are carried out on a full-time basis with exclusive dedication, under the terms established in the EBI, and it is not allowed to engage in any paid profession or activity, whether public or private.

12. Selection methods: The evaluation will take place in a maximum of two elimination phases, with the first corresponding to a curriculum assessment and a possible second phase to an interview. The evaluation should focus only on the following criteria:

- a) The academic, scientific, and professional merit of the candidate.
- b) The suitability of the candidate to the proposed work and training plan. The method for weighing the various parameters related to the candidates will be defined by the jury and made available to the candidates upon request.

The assessment will result in a final grade expressed on a scale of 0 to 20 points. The evaluation is always justified clearly, concisely, and sufficiently. Scholarships will only be awarded to candidates who have achieved a grade of no less than 14 points.

13. Composition of the Evaluation and Selection Jury:

- Doctor Elsa Maria Isqueiro Batista, coordinator of the European Project 24NRM03 MFMET II – Establishing metrology standards in microfluidic devices II;
- Doctor Maria Isabel de Araújo Godinho, Director of the Metrology Department of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I. P.;
- Doctor João Luís Vieira Alves e Sousa, Director of the National Metrology Laboratory Unit, of the Metrology Department of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I.P.

14. Application deadline and method of submission:

The competition is open for a period of 10 working days from November 20 to December 4, 2025, and only applications submitted within the established deadline will be accepted.

Applications must be submitted electronically via the following email: recrutamento@ipq.pt, indicating the competition reference in the "Subject" and including the following documents:

- a) Application Form - available at: <https://bit.ly/4r6ejDQ>;
- b) Cover letter and motivation statement indicating suitability for the competition requirements and the name of the Project for which you are applying.
- c) Curriculum Vitae.

- d) Certificate(s) of Qualifications proving the bachelor's degree or, alternatively, a declaration on honor stating that you will be able to present this document by the date of signing the contract.
- e) Copy of proof of enrollment and registration in a master's course granting the academic degree required for the type of fellowship or, alternatively, a declaration on honor stating that you will be able to present this document by the date of signing the contract.

Note: Foreign certificates can only be considered valid when their recognition record is presented or, alternatively, when the document of recognition/equivalence of foreign qualifications to the corresponding Portuguese qualifications is presented, it being understood that the respective grades can only be used if officially converted to the Portuguese grading scale by DGES (<https://www.dges.gov.pt/pt/pagina/reconhecimento?plid=374>) or by a public higher education institution, even if the foreign scale is from 1 to 20 points. You should also provide the email address to which, by giving this indication, you agree to be notified for all purposes within the scope of this procedure.

15. Method of publication/notification of results: The evaluation results are published within a maximum of 90 working days from the end of the submission period for applications, through notification to the candidates. Candidates are informed, during the preliminary hearing, in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Code, of the likely outcome of the final decision, and may, within 10 working days, comment on this decision. The final decision must be made within a maximum of sixty working days after the conclusion of the preliminary hearing of interested parties or the public consultation. A complaint or appeal against the referred final decision may be submitted to the Governing Board of IPQ within fifteen working days after the respective notification. The selected candidate must declare in writing their intention to accept the scholarship.

Note: Candidates will be notified by writing via email of receipt of their application as well as, subsequently, of the Selection Jury's decision. Candidates selected for a possible interview will be notified in writing via email. During the competition period, candidates should check the indicated email daily to stay informed about their progress. The evaluation results will also be made public through a list ordered by final score obtained, posted at the reception of the IPQ facilities, located at Rua António Gião, No. 2, Caparica - Almada. The scholarship contract models and the final report to be prepared by the scholar and the supervisor can be consulted on the IPQ institutional website.