

NOTICE No. 3 /2025

PORTUGUESE INSTITUTE FOR QUALITY, I. P.

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

A call is open for the award of a Research Grant (RG) 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, and Biotechnology.
- 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:** Master’s degree in Mechanics, Materials, Nanotechnology, or Biotechnology enrolled in a non-degree course integrated into the educational project of a higher education institution.

Factors of preference:

- (I) Knowledge and interest in the areas of volume, microflow, and microfluidics.
 - (II) Ability to design and implement method development projects, as well as to carry out physical tests in the laboratory.
 - (III) Should demonstrate motivation to collaborate in applied research projects and possess a sense of responsibility, organization, and team spirit.
 - (IV) Previous knowledge of 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 meet the requirements of paragraph 1, Article 20 of the Research Grant 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; Breaking and decay pressure; Shear stress; Particle counting; Flow velocity; Dead volume.

- Implementation of measurement methods for the quantities previously described in the Volume and Flow Laboratory (LVC).
- Validation of the measurement methods for the quantities previously described.
- Writing of scientific articles and other technical documents to disseminate the project results in specialty journals and conferences.
- Support in technical documentation and 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 the LVC.

6. Applicable Legislation and Regulations:

- Research Fellowship Statute, approved as an annex to Law No. 40/2004 of August 18, as amended.
- Scientific Research Fellowship Regulations of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I. P. - Regulation No. 696/2025, of June 2, published in the Official Gazette No. 105, 2nd Series.
- - Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16 (Legal framework for the recognition of academic degrees and higher education diplomas 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 Grant:** The grant will have a duration of 6 (six) months, with a scheduled start on 01/01/2026, possibly renewable up to the maximum limit of the approved funding, during the implementation period of the project, and in no case may it exceed the limits defined in the Regulation for the type of grant in question, pursuant to paragraph 5 of article 6 of the Scientific Research Grants Regulation of the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I. P.

9. **Scientific Supervisor:** Doctor Elsa Maria Isqueiro Batista.

10. **Value of the monthly maintenance grant and other benefits:** The amount of the scholarship is €1,309.64, as stated in Annex III of Regulation No. 696/2025, of June 2, and may be updated annually by resolution of the IPQ Board of Directors, being paid monthly via bank transfer. The amount of the daily meal allowance is equivalent to that received by Public Administration employees. All scholarship holders benefit from personal accident insurance for research activities, covered by IPQ. The scholarship holder may also be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to Voluntary Social Security contributions, in case of participation in this scheme.

11. **Work regime:** The fellow's duties are performed on a full-time and exclusive dedication basis, under the terms established in the EBI, and holding a profession or paid activity, whether public or private, is not permitted.

12. Selection methods: The evaluation will take place in at most two elimination phases, the first corresponding to a curriculum assessment and a possible second to an interview. The evaluation must focus solely on the following criteria:

- a) Academic, scientific, and professional merit of the candidate.
- b) Suitability of the candidate to the proposed work plan and training. The method of weighing the various parameters related to the candidates will be defined by the panel and made available to candidates upon their express request.

The evaluation will result in a final grade expressed on a scale from 0 to 20. The evaluation is always substantiated in a clear, concise, and sufficient manner. Scholarships will only be awarded to candidates who have achieved a grade not lower 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 Araújo Godinho, Director of the Metrology Department at the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I.P.;
- Doctor. João Luís Vieira Alves e Sousa, Director of the Unit of the National Metrology Laboratory, of the Metrology Department at the Portuguese Institute for Quality, I.P.

14. Application deadline and submission method: The call 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 to the following email address: recrutamento@ipq.pt, indicating the reference of the call in the “Subject” field and including the following documents:

- a) Application Form – available at: <https://bit.ly/4r6ejDQ>;
- b) Cover letter outlining motivation, indicating suitability to the competition requirements and the name of the Project being applied for.
- c) Curriculum Vitae.
- d) Certificate(s) of Qualifications proving the master’s degree or, alternatively, a sworn statement confirming that you will be able to present this document by the contract signing date;
- e) Copy of enrollment proof in eligible non-degree courses, integrated into the educational program of a higher education institution, developed in association or cooperation with one or more R&D units, or, alternatively, a sworn statement confirming that you will be able to present this document by the contract signing date.

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, and 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.

You should also provide the email address to which, by providing it, 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 closing date for submission of 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. An appeal or complaint against the final decision may be filed with the IPQ Management Board 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 its 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 templates and the final report to be prepared by the scholar and the supervisor can be consulted on the IPQ institutional website.