

CAMÕES, I.P. PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Opening Notice

PESSOA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – 2026

Camões – Institute for Cooperation and Language, I.P., hereinafter referred to as Camões, I.P., hereby informs that the application period for the award of 1 scholarship under the Portuguese Language and Culture Scholarship Program will open on 5 May 2026.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION

Regulation of the Scholarship Program, approved by Order No. 1251/2011 of 14 January.

TYPE AND DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarship program support the learning of Portuguese in specific contexts, particularly in the field of Portuguese language and culture. They aim to support and promote:

(i) the study and research of Portuguese language and culture; (ii) scientific or professional training in Portuguese as a non-native language; (iii) training or advanced development in the area of translation and conference interpreting.

Pessoa Scholarship Program

Intended for the heads of Portuguese Studies Chairs and Portuguese Departments at foreign universities or research institutes, for the implementation of training and research projects in the field of Portuguese language and culture.

The duration of the scholarship varies between one and six months.

Pessoa Program scholarships are generally awarded annually and may be renewed up to the maximum duration established by the program or by decision of the Board of Directors, subject to available budget.

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS

Scholarships consist of a monthly allowance, set by decision of the Board of Directors of Camões, I.P.

Pessoa Program – €700.00 / month

Payments will be made by bank transfer to the account indicated on the specific form provided by Camões, I.P., after the selection process is concluded.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The scholarship holder is responsible for:

- obtaining a passport, visa, and any other legal formalities;
- all costs relating to travel and accommodation;
- payment of registration fees at the higher education institution to be attended.

Camões, I.P. provides personal accident insurance for the scholarship holder for the duration of the scholarship.

FUNDING

Scholarships awarded under this call are funded by the State Budget of Camões, I.P./Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, when eligible, by funds made available under the status of the Promoting Company of the Portuguese Language (EPLP).

SCHOLARSHIP START DATE

Approved scholarships may not begin before September 2026.

APPLICATION PERIOD

Applications may be submitted from 5 to 18 May 2026 (until 17:00, Lisbon time).

APPLICATION PROCEDURE (DOCUMENTATION)

Applications, including the application form and all supporting documents required under the Scholarship Regulations of Camões, I.P., must be submitted electronically through the Camões, I.P. Services Portal:

<https://portalservicos.instituto-camoes.pt/>

Applications submitted via any other means, whether in person or electronically, will not be accepted.

Documents not written in Portuguese or English will not be considered unless accompanied by a notarised translation.

Required documentation:

- Proof of academic qualifications;
- Certificates of Portuguese language training (optional);
- Curriculum Vitae;

- Motivation letter explaining the reasons for applying and how the scholarship will contribute to the candidate's professional development and to the dissemination of Portuguese language and culture (100–400 words);
- Two letters of recommendation issued by reputable individuals, preferably university lecturers in the field of Portuguese.
- Candidates applying to the Pessoa Program must also submit a structured work plan, clearly indicating objectives and execution deadlines, in Portuguese (form available on the Services Portal).

Award of the scholarship is dependent on full compliance with the requirements of this notice and receipt of all required documentation.

EXCLUSION OF APPLICATIONS

Each candidate may submit only one application per program; otherwise, all applications will be cancelled. False statements will result in automatic cancellation.

Incomplete or non-compliant documentation will not be considered during evaluation.

Each admissible application will be evaluated by the program jury.

EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

Applications are evaluated by a jury composed of:

Chair: Rui Vaz (Director of Language Services)

1st Member: Rui Azevedo (Head of Division for the Coordination of Portuguese Teaching Abroad – DCEPE)

2nd Member: Paula Alves (Senior Officer, DCEPE)

1st Substitute: Anna Amado (Senior Officer, DCEPE)

2nd Substitute: Toríbia Cancela (Senior Officer, DCEPE)

Applications will be assessed considering, primarily:

bilateral agreements signed by Camões, I.P. with foreign countries and institutions;

projects resulting from training programs in Portuguese language and culture developed with other Portuguese and international institutions;

translation projects under the LATE – Translation and Publishing Support Line;

the presence of Portuguese language and culture program in priority geographical areas of Camões, I.P. (Ibero-American countries, Eastern Europe, Maghreb, Southern Africa).

Final results will be compiled in a list drawn up by the jury and published on the Camões, I.P. Portal within 30 working days from the application deadline.

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

The final results will be published on the Camões, I.P. Portal:

<http://www.instituto-camoes.pt/activity/o-que-fazemos/bolsas-estudo/bolsas-camoes/bolsas-lingua-cultura/candidaturas-lingua>

Candidates will also be notified by email for the purpose of the prior hearing of interested parties.

After considering the submissions, the jury prepares the final ranking list, which is approved by the President of Camões, I.P. and published on the Camões, I.P. Portal.

PRIOR HEARING OF INTERESTED PARTIES

After publication of the provisional results, candidates have 10 working days to submit their arguments.

These contributions will be analysed by the jury.

A new final ranking list will then be issued, representing the final results of the competition.

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL ACCESS POLICY

As a public body, Camões, I.P. promotes a policy of non-discrimination and equal access, and may not privilege, benefit, prejudice, deprive of any right, or exempt any candidate from any duty on the basis of ancestry, sex, race, language, place of origin, religion, political or ideological beliefs, education, economic situation, social condition, or sexual orientation.

EXCLUSIVITY

Scholarships awarded by Camões, I.P. may not be combined with any other Portuguese scholarship of the same nature.