

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

OPENING NOTICE

FERNÃO MENDES PINTO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – 2026

Camões – Institute for Cooperation and Language, I.P., hereinafter referred to as Camões, I.P., hereby announces that the application period for the award of **18 scholarships** under the Fernão Mendes Pinto 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

The Fernão Mendes Pinto Program is intended for graduates or final-year students, both foreign and Portuguese, who are engaged in scientific or professional training projects in the field of Portuguese as a foreign language, through Camões, I.P. Portuguese Language Centers, Camões, I.P. Lectureships, and foreign universities or institutions that have agreements with Camões, I.P.

Duration, Types and Renewal of the FMP Scholarship

Without prejudice to the maximum duration of **three years**, the length of the scholarship may vary. It is the responsibility of the selection jury, after analysing and assessing the projects submitted by candidates and considering the specific posts to be filled, to determine the duration of each scholarship in accordance with the following types:

- **Type 1** – 1-year scholarship
- **Type 2** – 2-year scholarship
- **Type 3** – 3-year scholarship

Work Plan

Regardless of the jury's decision on the scholarship type awarded, the application for each type requires submission of a **mandatory work plan** corresponding to the intended duration, together with a **substantiated opinion** from the head of the host institution proposing, in addition to any other documents required in this Opening Notice:

- **Type 1 Scholarship** – 1-year work plan
- **Type 2 Scholarship** – 2-year work plan
- **Type 3 Scholarship** – 3-year work plan

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNTS

Scholarships consist of a monthly allowance set by decision of the President of Camões, I.P.:

- **Fernão Mendes Pinto – €750.00/month**, up to a maximum of 11 monthly payments, as defined in the contract to be signed.

Payments will be made by bank transfer to the account indicated on the official form provided by Camões, I.P., once the selection of scholarship holders is completed.

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 provided under the status of the Promoting Company of the Portuguese Language (EPLP).

START OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships will begin on the dates established at the time of publication of the final list of selected scholarship holders.

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 via the Camões, I.P. Services Portal:

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

Applications submitted by 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 future professional development and to the dissemination of Portuguese language and culture (100–400 words)
- Two **recent** letters of recommendation issued by reputable individuals, preferably university lecturers in the field of Portuguese
- A **structured work plan** clearly indicating objectives and execution deadlines, in Portuguese (form available on the Services Portal)

Award of the scholarship is conditional upon full compliance with the requirements of this Opening Notice and receipt of all required documentation.

EXCLUSION OF APPLICATIONS

- Providing false statements will result in cancellation of the application.
- Documents that do not meet the required criteria will not be considered for evaluation or award.
- Each application admitted to the competition and meeting the eligibility criteria will be evaluated by the jury.

APPLICATION EVALUATION

Applications are assessed by a jury composed of:

- **Chair:** Rui Vaz (Director of Language Services)
- **1st Juror:** Rui Azevedo (Head of Division for the Coordination of Portuguese Teaching Abroad – DCEPE)
- **2nd Juror:** Paula Alves (Senior Officer, DCEPE)
- **1st Substitute:** Anna Amado (Senior Officer, DCEPE)
- **2nd Substitute:** Toríbia Cancela (Senior Officer, DCEPE)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CRITERIA

Priority

- Priority will be given to candidates whose scholarship is linked to cooperation agreements or protocols.

Applications will be assessed considering:

- bilateral agreements signed by Camões, I.P. with foreign countries and institutions
- projects arising from Portuguese language and culture training Programs developed by Camões, I.P. with other Portuguese and foreign institutions

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

PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

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 purposes of **prior hearing of interested parties**.

After considering any submissions, the jury will prepare the final ranking list, which will then be approved by the President of Camões, I.P., and published on the Camões, I.P. Portal.

PRIOR HEARING OF INTERESTED PARTIES

Once the provisional results are published, candidates have **10 working days** to exercise their right to be heard. They must submit any arguments they consider relevant, which will then be examined by the jury. A new final ranking list will subsequently 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 based on ancestry, sex, race, language, place of origin, religion, political or ideological beliefs, education, economic situation, social condition, or sexual orientation.

EXCLUSIVITY

It is strictly forbidden to combine a scholarship awarded by Camões, I.P. with any other scholarship of the same nature granted by another Portuguese institution.