

NOTICE NO. 067/2025

COMPETITION FOR THE AWARD OF A GRANT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE RESEARCH GRANT REGULATIONS OF UALG AND FCT

Title: 1 Research Grant

A competition is open for the award of one Research Grant (graduated) within the scope of the R&D project 2024.07657.IACDC - AILA, "Assistente Legal baseado em Inteligência Artificial" (AI Legal Assistant), Inteligência Artificial, Ciência dos dados e Cibersegurança de relevância na Administração Pública, with the following conditions:

1. **Scientific Area:** Computer Science.

2. **Admission Requirements:**

Graduation in Computer Science, Informatics Engineering, or related area.

Speaking and writing proficiency in English and Portuguese Languages.

To be enrolled, or have the conditions to be enrolled in the Master in Informatics Engineering at University of Algarve.

3. **Project Objectives:**

This work will take place in the context of the project AILA, and aims to continue the development of a RAG (Retrieval Augmented Generation) system for the Portuguese Consumer Law, and it involves the following tasks:

- a) Finetuning a Language Model for retrieval of questions related to the Portuguese Consumer Law.
- b) Use of a Large Language Model to generate explanations of Portuguese Consumer Law that best apply to a given question.
- c) Design and implement a web interface for the RAG system.
- d) Usability tests with users.

4. **Applicable Legislation and Regulations:** Research Fellow Statute, approved by Law No. 40/2004 of August 18, as amended by Decree-Law No. 65/2024 of October 1, and the University of Algarve Research Grant Regulations (<https://files.dre.pt/2s/2021/10/210000000/0013700149.pdf>). and the Foundation for Science and Technology Research Grant Regulations (<https://files.diariodarepublica.pt/2s/2019/12/241000000/0009100105.pdf>).

5. **Workplace:** The work will be developed at Faculty of Science and Technology from the University of Algarve, under the supervision of professor João Dias.

6. **Duration of grant(s):** The grant will last 3 months, with the start date scheduled for November of 2025.

7. **Monthly maintenance allowance amount:** The monthly maintenance allowance is €1,040.98. The maintenance allowance will be paid monthly by bank transfer. (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Tabela_valores_SMM_2025.pdf).

8. **Candidate evaluation:** In accordance with the provisions of Article 11.2 of the University of Algarve Research Grant Regulations OR the Foundation for Science and Technology Research Grant Regulations In the Science and Technology field, the evaluation of candidates will be based solely on the following criteria:

Applicant's merit (80%)

Motivation letter (20%)

10. Composition of the Application Evaluation Board: The Application Evaluation Board is composed of three full members and one alternate (all PhDs):

- João Dias (President) (Prof. Auxiliar, Departamento de Engenharia Eletrónica e Informática);
- Paula Ventura Martins (Effective member) (Prof^ª. Auxiliar, Departamento de Engenharia Eletrónica e Informática);
- Marielba Zacarias (Effective member) (Prof^ª. Auxiliar, Departamento de Engenharia Eletrónica e Informática);
- Helder Daniel (Replacement member) (Prof. Auxiliar, Departamento de Engenharia Eletrónica e Informática);

11. Publication/Notification of Results: The final evaluation results will be published on the Ualg website, in a list ordered by the final grade obtained, and the successful candidate will be notified via email.

12. Application Deadline and Submission Method: The competition is open from **16/10/2025 to 29/10/2025**.

13. Applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

- a) Official identification document (simple copy or legal equivalent). Applicants of non-Portuguese nationality must present a residence permit, permanent residence certificate, or long-term resident status, valid on the scholarship start date. Any of these may be replaced, in its absence, by a declaration of honor by the candidate. However, this must be submitted during the scholarship contracting phase, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;
- b) Curriculum Vitae;
- c) Copy of the qualification certificates for the academic degrees held, specifying the final grade and, if possible, the grades obtained in all courses taken;
- d) Other documents deemed relevant due to the type and modality of the scholarship.
- e) The Application for Application to the Competition, dated and signed, must be addressed to the President of the Competition Evaluation Panel, <https://www.ualg.pt/sites/default/files/documentos/2022-12/anexo-iii-requerimento-para-candidatura-bolsa-pt.pdf>, by email to jmdias@ualg.pt, with reference AILA in the subject. In the aforementioned application, **you must expressly consent to all notifications related to the bidding process being sent to the indicated email address.**

14. Documents to be submitted for the scholarship agreement:

- a. Individual Taxpayer Registry (INV) information, if the applicant is a nationality other than Portuguese, must be submitted during the scholarship agreement process, under penalty of forfeiture of the scholarship award;
- b. Documents proving that the applicant meets the requirements for the respective type of scholarship, namely, proof of enrollment and registration and the study cycle or course that does not confer an academic degree;
- c. Declaration of the advisor(s) assuming responsibility for supervising the work plan, in accordance with Article 5-A of the Research Scholarship Statute, as well as guaranteeing the necessary conditions for the successful development of the work and compliance with the duties set forth in Article 13 of the Research Scholarship Statute;
- d. Declaration of Commitment to the Exclusive Dedication Regime.

15. Deadlines and Procedures for Complaints and Appeals:

Candidates may, if they so wish, comment on the draft decision to award the requested scholarship, at a hearing for interested parties within 10 business days, under the terms and for the purposes set forth in Article 121 of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

Candidates have the right to complain to the evaluation panel within 10 business days regarding the commission or omission of any act.

An appeal may be filed against the final decision of the application evaluation panel to the Rector within 10 business days of notification.

16. Scholarship Contract:

After receiving all required documentation, a scholarship contract will be signed with the selected candidate(s) in accordance with the attached template.

17. Evaluation of Fellow(s):

At the end of each fellowship contract period, the advisor will evaluate the fellow(s)' work by applying the following criteria, in accordance with the attached template.

- a) Compliance with working hours and attendance;
- b) Compliance with the work plan;
- c) Support given to the research and development needed for the AILA project.

The University of Algarve reserves the right to cancel the fellowship award process, within the scope of the Project in question, whenever funding is not awarded.

University of Algarve, 14 of October of 2025

The Principal Investigator

Professor João Dias