

Reference: Public notice BI_2/CESAM/CURIOSOIL/2024

NOTICE FOR THE AWARD OF RESEARCH GRANTS

A tender is hereby opened for the award of 2 **Research Grant(s)** (RG) under CURIOSOIL – “Awakening Soil Curiosity to Catalyse Soil Literacy” (Reference:101112875) of CESAM, Department of Environment and Planning, under the following conditions:

1. Scientific Area: *Environmental Sciences and Engineering, Education Sciences*

2. Financing Source *CURIOSOIL (Reference:101112875)*

3. Admission Requirements:

Candidates must have:

Master's in Environmental Sciences and Engineering and/or Educational Sciences, or related fields (enrolled in PhD).

Applicants shall have:

- *proven experience in soil quality studies and/or soil literacy education;*
- *a relevant curriculum and scientific activity in the field;*
- *oral and written knowledge of Portuguese and English.*

The proof of enrolment in a Doctoral Program must be made available until the contract is awarded, and the candidates may attach a [declaration of honor](#) to confirm that they meet the requirements for enrolment in an integrated master's degree, master's or doctoral program or in a course that does not confer an academic degree.

If the qualification has been conferred by a foreign higher education institution it must be **recognized by a Portuguese higher education institution**, under the terms of the provisions of article 25 of Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of August 16th, which approves the legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of Higher Education, attributed by foreign higher education institutions, and of paragraph e) of no. 2 of article 4 of Decree-Law no. 60/2018, of August 3rd, and any formalities established therein must be fulfilled by the date of the hiring act.

4. Eligibility: Applicants are eligible if they comply with paragraph a) of no.1 of article 2, of the Research Fellow Statute in the wording given by Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of August 28th, and also the provisions of article 9 of the Scientific Research Grant Regulations of the University of Aveiro. The duration of the RG is, as a rule, annual, extendable to a maximum of two years, in the case of master's degrees, integrated master's degrees and non-degree courses, and the respective duration, including renewal, may be consecutive or interpolated, pursuant to no. 5 of Article 9 of the above mentioned Regulation.

5. Work plan: The work is part of the CURIOSOIL project and includes:

- a) the development of a methodology for assessing soil literacy levels of literacy;
- b) development of didactic and curricular materials for soil education for primary, secondary and higher education (including vocational training and lifelong learning).

6. Applicable legislation and regulations: Research Fellow Statute, as amended by Decree-Law No. 123/2019, of August 28th; Scientific Research Grant Regulation of the University of Aveiro, Regulation No. 292/2020, published in Diário da República No. 61, Series II, of March 26th; Decree-Law No. 66/2018, of August 16th (Legal regime of recognition of academic degrees and diplomas of higher education awarded by foreign higher education institutions).

7. Workplace: The work will be carried out at Department of Environment and Planning of the University of Aveiro, under the scientific supervision of Professora Doutora Sónia Alexandra Morais Rodrigues and at Department of Education under the scientific supervision of Doutora Lúcia Maria Teixeira Pombo.

8. Duration of the grant(s): The grants duration will be 12 months, starting in July 2024, and may be renewed by periods of 12 months up to the maximum limit of approved funding. Under no circumstances shall it exceed the limits defined

in nos. 5 and 6 of article 9, of Regulation no. 292/2020, of February 28th, published in Diário da República, no. 61, Series II, of March 26th (Scientific Research Grant Regulation of the University of Aveiro).

9. Amount of monthly maintenance allowance: The amount of the grants corresponds to 1.259,64€, or according to the table of values of monthly maintenance allowances, set out in *Appendix III of the* Scientific Research Grant Regulation of the University of Aveiro, subject to any updates that may occur and are applicable. The fellow may also be reimbursed for the amount corresponding to the Voluntary Social Security, in case of adherence to this plan.

10. Selection methods: The selection methods to be used will be the following:

1. Documentary curriculum assessment with a weighting of 0-20 values for each of the following criteria:

AC1 - Adequacy and merit of the candidate's curriculum, considering the area of the competition and the work plan (70%);

AC2 – Additional elements certifying the fulfillment of scientific indicators, such as publications in indexed journals and works presented at congresses (30%).

The jury reserves the right to exclude candidates who do not reach the minimum score of 9.5 values (in the scale of 0-20).

2. An interview might be carried out, by videoconference, to candidates with a classification higher than 14 (in the scale of 0-20) in the documentary curriculum evaluation phase, if there is more than one candidate with this classification, which will aim to assess the veracity of the information provided by the candidates, the interpersonal skills of the candidates essential for effective teamwork, the capacity for autonomy and motivation, and the ability to communicate (including knowledge of English). Candidates for any interview will be notified by e-mail. In this case, the final classification results from the following weighting: Documentary curriculum assessment, 80%, Interview, 20%.

3. In case there is no interview, the final classification will be equal to the classification obtained in the curriculum evaluation.

4. The Jury reserves the right not to fill the position if no candidate meets the required profile.

11. Composition of the Selection Jury: Sónia Alexandra Morais Rodrigues, assistant professor as the Chair of the Selection Jury; Jan Jacob Keizer (principal researcher with habilitation), and Lúcia Maria Teixeira Pombo (assistant researcher) as full members; Margarida Morais Marques, researcher; Ana Catarina Bastos, researchers as alternate members.

12. Deadline for applications and how to submit applications: The call is open from 17 to 31st May 2024, and only applications submitted within the deadline will be admitted.

Applications must be formalized, necessarily, by sending an application letter accompanied by the following documents: Curriculum Vitae, certificate of qualifications, declaration of honor and other documents considered relevant. You should also indicate the email address to which you agree to be notified for all purposes under this procedure.

Applications should be sent by email to smorais@ua.pt with the subject "Bolsa CURIOSOIL".

13. Form of publication/notification of results: The results of the evaluation shall be made public no later than 60 working days after the closing date for submission of applications and shall be notified to the applicants. The candidates are informed, in a prior hearing, under the terms established in the Code of Administrative Procedure, of the probable meaning of the final decision, and may, within 10 working days of this notification, express their opinion on this decision. The final results may be appealed to the Rector, to be submitted within 10 working days from the respective notification.

14. Tender duration: The final ranking list of candidates will be valid until 31 October 2024 for the purpose of constituting a reserve list for selection.

The models of the grant contract and of the final report to be prepared by the grant holder and the supervisor are available at [Research fellows - sgrh - Universidade de Aveiro \(ua.pt\)](https://www.ua.pt/~sgrh).