

Call for proposals

Doctoral Fellowships on Neglected Tropical Diseases for Graduates from Portuguese-speaking African Countries

Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) include 14 infectious diseases which affect more than one billion people worldwide, mainly in Africa and, mostly living in extreme poverty. Beyond their negative impact on health, NTDs contribute to an ongoing cycle of poverty and stigma that leaves tens of millions unable to work, without schooling and a stable family and community life.

Aim:

Under the scope of the European Foundation Initiative on Neglected Tropical Diseases – a joint project of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Cariplo Foundation, Merieux Foundation, Nuffield Foundation and Volkswagen Foundation – the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is now launching a Doctoral Fellowship Programme aiming at fostering research in the area of Neglected Tropical Diseases in Portuguese-speaking African Countries.

The Programme

- offers 3 Fellowships (up to 3 years) to young graduates born in portuguese-speaking african countries that wish to obtain a PhD Degree and carry out research in Neglected Tropical Diseases at their native countries.
- draws on the collaboration between African and European Universities and Research Institutions. The Fellow may choose the University, namely in Portugal, at which he/she intends to obtain the PhD Degree, but the research component must be undertaken, at least in part, in an African Institution of its origin country.

Eligibility:

Applicants must live in Portuguese-speaking African Countries or, if living abroad, planning to return to their countries.

A University degree on Medicine or Biomedical Sciences is mandatory.

Fellowship

The fellowship covers the following expenses:

Bursary:

1100€ per month for living expenses.

An allowance of 1100€, in the first year, for relocation expenses

Tuition Fees:

Up-to 2500€ per year

Research:

Up-to 6000€ for research expenses after approval of the PhD research project

Travel Costs:

Maximum 1500 €/year

Annual Renewal of the Fellowship

The annual renewal of the Fellowship will depend on the positive assessment of the student progress.

Application and selection process:

Applications must include all of the following:

- *Short CV of applicant (max. 4 pages).*
- *A summary of the applicant's current work (max. 1,000 words).*
- *A short summary of the PhD project, containing details of the possible institutions involved (max. 1,000 words)*
- *A supporting letter from the proposed supervisors in the proposed institutions should be sent 30 days after the closing date for applications*

The application (in Portuguese and English) must be sent by 30 September 2009 to: ntd2009@gulbenkian.pt.

Please note that an interview may be required as part of the evaluation procedure.

Applications will be evaluated by an international committee appointed by the Gulbenkian Foundation, and decisions will be communicated by the end of October 2009. Selected candidates are requested to provide a authorization of the respective institution (if applicable) and evidence that he/she has been accepted as a prospective student by the University/Research Institution.

Further Information:

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