

PUBLIC NOTICE: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS NO. 1/2026

**Católica Medical School
-Lisbon-
Academic year 2026/2027**

**3rd Cycle
PhD in Medical Sciences
1st Phase**

The PhD in Medical Sciences, in association with the Universidade Católica Portuguesa Faculty of Dental Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing, governed by the principles of the Regulation of Study Cycles of the Católica Medical School, approved by the Order NR/REG/0244/2023, of 25th May 2023, and the General Regulation of Doctorates of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, approved by the Order NR/REG/0049/2024, de 24th de January 2024 and by the other conditions contained in this Public Notice.

1. Conditions of admission of applicants

Applicants may apply to the PHD in Medical Sciences:

- a) if they hold a master's degree or legal equivalent in the areas of Medicine, Dental Medicine, Biomedical Sciences, or Health and Life Sciences.
- b) Holders of a foreign higher academic qualification in the areas identified in the previous paragraph, awarded following a first cycle of studies organized following the principles of the Bologna Process by a State adhering to this process.
- c) exceptionally, if they hold an undergraduate degree with a minimum grade of 16 and, cumulatively, hold a particularly relevant academic or scientific curriculum that is recognised as attesting to their ability to complete this cycle of studies by the Scientific Council of the unit.

2. Number of Vacancies:

There are **fifteen (15)** available vacancies.

3. Deadlines

Applications (<i>online</i>)	From 2 nd February to 25 th May 2026
Curriculum Analysis and Interviews(<i>online</i>)	From 1 st to 5 th June 2026
Results (<i>online</i>)	15 th June 2026
Registration (<i>online</i>)	From 15 th to 18 th June 2026
First Day of Classes (<i>in person</i>)	16 th October 2026

Note: The last day for applications and registrations coincides with the payment deadline.



4. Necessary documentation

During the application process, all applicants must complete an online form and attach the requested documents:

- Passport-type photo;
- Identification document – Citizen Card or, if another type of document, the tax identification number is also required (only applicable for national citizens).
- Academic Degree Certificate(s) with the indication of the final average.
- Detailed Curriculum Vitae, including reference to published or other duly documented work.
- Motivation letter, may include the aim of the project to be developed (maximum 2 pages);
- Other documents containing elements that the applicant considers relevant to the assessment of their application.

Notes:

- Applicants must indicate the branch of knowledge and speciality in which they intend to complete their doctorate.
- Original documents/certificates are not required during the application; however, it is compulsory to present all original documents submitted after registration and in person at the Academic and Administrative Services of the Católica Medical School.
- Original documents issued abroad in accordance with the legislation of the respective country, and documents issued outside Portugal legalized by a foreign civil servant, are considered legalized under Portuguese Law if the signature of the public servant is certified by a Portuguese diplomatic agent or consular officer in the respective State and the signature of that agent is authenticated with the respective consular seal. In cases of documents issued by signatories to the Hague Convention of 5th October 1961, the papers will be legalized by apostille, under the terms of Article 3 of the Convention.
- Documents are only accepted if they are in Portuguese or English. Documents in other languages must be presented as an official translation in English or Portuguese, duly certified and issued within the terms of notarial law.

5. Submission of the application

The application to the PhD in Medical Sciences is submitted via the online system, on the website: <https://www.fm.ucp.pt/pt-pt/doutoramento-em-ciencias-medicas/candidaturas>. After submitting all the documents and information requested during the application process, the applicant will have access to the payment information. The application will only be completed once payment has been made.

All notifications regarding this procedure will be sent to the email address indicated on the application form.

6. Assessment of applications and publication of results

The selection and ranking of candidates will be carried out by the jury, which is made up of the Course Coordinator:

- **Professor António Medina de Almeida**, Dean of Católica Medical School;
- **Professor Marlene Maria Tourais de Barros**, Universidade Católica Portuguesa Faculty of Dental Medicine;



- **Professor Ana Margarida Mineiro Rodrigues Zaky**, Dean of Universidade Católica Portuguesa Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing;
- **Professor Pedro Manuel Torres Rio Dias Mateus**;
- **Professor João Pedro Monteiro e Louro Machado de Simas**;
- **Professor Paulo Oom Ferreira de Sousa**;
- **Professor Francisca Maria Pais Horta Leite**;
- **Professor André Ricardo Maia Correia**;
- **Professor Manuel Luís Vila Capelas**.

The following criteria will be considered when ranking candidates:

1. Curricular Analysis - graded from 0 to 20 and presented to the nearest decimal place - which will consider:
 - a) Research experience, including scientific communications and publications.
 - b) Professional activity, courses, internships, or other relevant experience.
2. Individual Interview - graded from 0 to 20 and presented to the nearest decimal place, which will include a brief presentation of the candidate's personal and scientific background and will focus on two criteria:
 - a) Scientific knowledge, research experience, and professional experience.
 - b) Motivation, availability, communication skills, and interpersonal abilities.
3. Analysis of the Motivation Letter - graded from 0 to 20 and presented to the nearest decimal place - which should include, where applicable, the intention of the project to be developed.

The final classification of the application will consider the score obtained in the Curriculum Analysis, Individual Interview, and Motivation Letter, with the following weighting:

Criterion (expressed on a scale from 0 to 200)	Weighting
Curricular Analysis	50%
Individual Interview	40%
Motivation Letter	10%

The applicants will be ranked according to their final classification (on a numerical scale from 0 to 20).

The results will be communicated to applicants in the online application process and will be expressed as follows: Admitted/Not Admitted/Excluded.

Notes:

- Whenever the Jury deems it necessary, it may ask one or more specialists with a doctorate in the field of specialisation to analyze the application and issue an opinion.
- The call for the interview, indicating the date and time, will be sent and made available in the online application process.
- The link to the interview will be sent to the email address indicated in the application process.



- In the event of a tie in the final ranking of the last candidate, an additional number of vacancies will be created equal to the number of tied candidates with the same application grade as the last candidate.

7. Operation

The PhD in Medical Sciences has a duration of 4 years (240 ECTS) and operates on a hybrid basis. In the 1st curricular year, classes occur mainly after working hours. The language of instruction will be Portuguese, although some classes may be taught in English.

The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years of the PhD in Medical Sciences correspond to the development of the Thesis.

8. Tuition fees, payments, and other fees

The value of tuition fees, payments, and other fees is determined annually and published in a separate document (*Tabela de propinas, taxas e emolumentos*), therefore, the values for subsequent school years may change.

The updated values can be consulted on the link: <https://www.fm.ucp.pt/students?change-language=1>.

The application fee is non-refundable in situations of cancellation, withdrawal, or exclusion of the application.

The registration requires payment of the respective fee (which includes student insurance), as well as the first monthly tuition fee, as indicated in the *Tabela de propinas, taxas e emolumentos*.

9. Registration

Applicants admitted to the PhD in Medical Sciences must register within the deadline established in paragraph 3 of this notice. If the applicant does not register within the established deadline, their application will be withdrawn.

The original documents submitted during the application process must be presented **until 30th October 2026**, under penalty of cancellation of enrollment, and without any refund for payments made until that date. The submitted documents must be original or authenticated copies. For the purpose of archiving in the student's individual record, the Academic and Administrative Services of Católica Medical School may make a copy of the original document, which will be returned to the student, without any additional costs.

10. Crediting of previous education

After admission, students may request credit for previous education. When requested, this will be done in accordance with the Credit Regulations of the Portuguese Catholic University, and the applicable fees will be charged.

11. Other Information

The PhD in Medical Sciences will take place mainly at Católica Medical School.

Some teaching and research project components may also take place at the Universidade Católica Portuguesa Faculty of Dental Medicine or Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing.

Further information about the program is available on the website: <https://www.fm.ucp.pt/pt-pt>.



12. Contacts

<u>Emails</u>	<u>Phone Numbers</u>
Academic and Administrative Services at Católica Medical School: medicina.fm@ucp.pt Treasury Office: tesouraria.sede@ucp.pt	Academic and Administrative Services at Católica Medical School: (+351) 21 872 42 00 Treasury Office: (+351) 21 721 40 79

Academic and Administrative Services of Católica Medical School:

Office hours (in person and via telephone): Monday to Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Online office hours: by appointment, scheduled by e-mail (medicina.fm@ucp.pt)

Location:

Área Académica e Administrativa

Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Estrada Octávio Pato

2635-631 Rio de Mouro

Lisbon, 22nd January 2026

Dean of Católica Medical School

Professor António Medina de Almeida