

REGULATION | CiiEM Star Student Program

Data | 05/02/2020

Revisão | 01

Código | R.EM.CiiEM.04_01

Preamble

The CiiEM STAR (Science Training and Advanced Research) Student Program is a program aiming to empower students with foundations in research excellence. Students accepted into the program - Starting Student Researchers - are entitled to a set of benefits throughout their academic path.

Research is at the core of knowledge and innovation generation and takes an increasing role in most societal endeavors. Yet, science literacy skills remain poorly incorporated into early University curricula, and lag behind other scientific skills. This prevents students from developing research-directed skills and knowledge until the late stages of their courses, where research-oriented theses are required, at least in the context of Master and Ph. D. degrees. This gap is unnecessary and does not encourage students to develop a critical mindset, which is needed for later high-level professional research activities and also helps to understand the nature of the knowledge they are required to acquire. The value of an early introduction to research is recognized by the certification agencies and by the European Union policies as significant, both to students and to society. Egas Moniz and CiiEM provide a suitable environment for the student's science learning and participation in research activities, and the CiiEM STAR program aims to help fill the gap by providing a path for students to get involved with real research.

The CiiEM STAR student program is based on the scientific knowledge and activities of the CiiEM functional units, wherever possible in the context of established research projects representing a significant added contribution to the student's scientific understanding and capabilities and empowering the participants with significant additional skills that will contribute to the development of a lifelong learning attitude and to the success of their careers.

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Article 1

Students Research Opportunities

Egas Moniz students have plenty of opportunities available for getting involved in Research. The most important step in the process is to connect with a faculty mentor. In general, the best results come from a long-term involvement with a research project and you can get involved with research at any time during your education.

Preferably, CiiEM will promote research themes that have been approved in the last “CiiEM Investiga” calls and are under development. These are listed in <https://ciiem.egasmoniz.edu.pt/pt-pt/research/egas-monizciiem-investiga/results.aspx>

CiiEM will also consider other themes, but they must fall within the scope and strategic plan of the center.

Article 2

Scope and Objectives

1. CiiEM STAR Student is a competitive program which provides financing and facilities needed for students to conduct research throughout the academic year and if appropriate for the duration of his/her major course.

2. Students choose a research mentor, that must be a CiiEM integrated researcher (please note that each mentor can take on only 1 student). The research mentor will be responsible for sharing scientific and technical knowledge and skills, overseeing the student’s work, help the student to make contact with other researchers and assisting with career counselling. The student must be willing to carry out the work required and should develop innovative concepts in collaboration with the mentor. He/she must take a proactive role in learning, in project development and should actively searching for a job when the student is approaching the end of its course. In addition to research, students will have the opportunity to attend periodic didactic sessions that will cover topics such as research methods, statistics, research integrity, ethics, protection of human subjects, and proposal preparation. Students are required to attend the CiiEM Star Student program during at least 6 of the 8 weeks (between February and July to September of each academic year).

| Elaborado por | Alves de Matos |

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3. At the end of each academic year, the student shall write and submit an abstract about the achievements of his/her program. Students must also present their research in the following scientific sessions:

- CiiEM International Congress;
- Whenever possible and appropriate in national or International meetings and Congresses of its research area.

Article 3 Participation

The advantages for the students of participating in the CiiEM STAR Student Program are:

- Research skills - learning how to perform data collection and analysis and literature reviews;
- Time management and organization - learn how to organize the work to obtain the best performance according to the project's objectives and technical demands;
- Teamwork - work with other Starting Student Researchers to carry out joint research and optimize efforts by helping each other;
- Professionalism - The work will be conducted in a serious professional manner in all research tasks and you are expected to assume a responsible and professional attitude towards your project and objectives;
- Critical skills - critical thinking will be valued and stimulated. Thus, you will be encouraged to get a deep understanding of the problem and design innovative ways to overcome the difficulties in order to reach the best possible solution considering the limitations. Importantly, you will be required to understand the nature of the scientific problems and conceptualize its development;
- Ability to learn and adapt - Learn how to improve your research skills and learn new ways to conduct and analyze research;
- Presentation skills and confidence - present your research findings to other staff colleagues and in public meetings in an organized and clear way.

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Students are expected to:

- Prepare an abstract of the research project;
- Prepare an oral presentation of their work at the end of the program;
- Attend mandatory seminars and career mentoring sessions;
- Complete all program requirements;

All deviations must be fully justified in writing.

Article 4

Eligibility criteria

At the time of enrolment, the candidates must participate in a Course at the Egas Moniz University Institute of Health Science or at the Egas Moniz Polytechnic School of Health.

The selection of trainees is based on the interest and academic achievement demonstrated by the candidates. Applicants must be students who have completed at least one year at the time of enrollment in the program. Students must commit to follow a specific training program with mandatory seminars at Egas Moniz and to spread its work through Congresses and Peer-reviewed Journals (whenever possible).

Article 5

Deadline and evaluation

The deadline for submissions is 1 September, for the starting academic year. Candidatures can be submitted at any time and they will be evaluated after the next deadline. The results will be communicated to the applicants within a month of the deadline and the winning ones presented on the Egas Moniz/CiiEM web site.

Whenever selection criteria need to be applied, evaluation will be made on the basis of the average academic classification of the applicant, declared interest in scientific

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research, relevance for planned career and previous work performed in recognized laboratories.

Follow up evaluation will be performed annually by CiiEM in the bases of an activity report prepared by the student and validated by the mentor. This must be delivered by September 15 of the corresponding year. CiiEM will communicate to the Egas Moniz board a justified recommendation for the continuation or termination of the student's participation in the CiiEM Star Student program, on the basis of this report and other relevant factors. In case the report failed to be delivered in time without adequate written explanation/reason agreed by the Mentor, the student's participation will automatically end. If this happens to the first year's report no benefits will be granted as there will be no formal proof of attendance of the program.

Article 6

Students financial benefits

Students receive a 3% discount in the last year, on the Egas Moniz course fee participation if:

- 80% attendance to the mentoring and seminars is achieved at least during the first year;
- At least, one research work (oral communication) as the first author in any of the above mentioned scientific events is accomplished.

Moreover, for outstanding achievements, students can also receive in a cumulative manner:

- 2% extra off the course fee during the last year, if they participate as co-authors of a published/accepted peer-review article during the program.

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- 2% extra off the course fee during the last year, if they are the first author of a published/accepted peer-review article during the program. Further publications as first author will increase this amount by 1% each.
- If the program is interrupted due to insufficient performance or failure to deliver the annual report indicated in Article 5 the cumulative discounts will not be applied in any circumstances.

Article 7

Rules

1. Participants must be active Egas Moniz students, with the university fees fully paid.
2. During the application and the training program, letter(s) of recommendation from family members are not allowed, and mentors must be free of any conflicts of interest after acceptance into the program. Failure to follow this rule will result in exclusion from the CiiEM STAR Student program.
3. The standard monetary benefits of this program will be applied during the last year of the course.

Article 8

Application

1. Application instructions are available at the CiiEM website (<https://ciiem.egasmoniz.edu.pt/pt-pt/research/startup-egas-moniz.aspx>);
2. Application form: Complete the application form available at the Academic Services and downloadable from the CiiEM web site or at the CiiEM Observatory.
3. Curriculum vitae: Fully disclose your previous scientific experience if available and academic achievements (including classifications). Please add header and footer indicating your name and page number (Page X of Y).
4. Two letters of recommendation.

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5. Send proof of absence of debts to Egas Moniz (obtainable in the Egas Moniz administrative services).
6. Send all the required documents to inesgomes.ciiem@egasmoniz.edu.pt.

Article 9

Final dispositions

This regulation can be changed by the Egas Moniz/CiiEM Management whenever deemed necessary.

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Annexes

- Curriculum Vitae containing previous research experience and academic experience;
- Two letters of recommendation;
- Proof of absence of debts to Egas Moniz.

All send to inesgomes.ciiem@egasmoniz.edu.pt.