

Scoring Guidelines
Short-Term Research Placements under the UT Austin Portugal Program – 2022

Eligible Eols will be evaluated on the basis of a candidate’s scientific curriculum, personal motivation and recommendation letter(s). Evaluations will be carried out by Scientific Area and a panel of three experts related to the Area of the Program the application refers to: one Area Director at UT Austin, one Area Director in Portugal and one member of the Program’s Board of Directors. The only exception is for the Area of Medical Physics, where the appointed evaluator at UT Austin will be an expert outside of the Program.

Table 1 – Evaluation Criteria and Weighting

	Scientific curriculum (considering research career length)	Personal Motivation	Recommendation Letters
Guiding questions - General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational and professional achievements; Relevant research achievements considering research career length (e.g., peer-reviewed publications, grants, awards, books, conferences, projects, etc.?) Does the CV reflect relevant research experience /skills in the core Area of the application submitted or in an Area that may substantially benefit from research in the core Area? Candidate’s proven ability for multidisciplinary research) Previous research experience abroad. Ability to work with teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidate clearly explains why he/she is interested in this exchange? Candidate clearly explains how the experience will reinforce his/her career and lead to professional maturity in research? Candidate convincingly explains why the experience could be a logical next step in his/her research career. Candidates explain how the experience may contribute to extending the collaboration with UT Austin beyond the exchange time frame? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidate gathers support from respectful, credible sources? The letters confirm information obtained through the CV and motivation letter? The letters provide clear, strong arguments that make the candidate worthy of support through a grant?
Weighting	60%	30%	10%

Evaluation Method

Each evaluator will score each award criterion on a scale from 0 to 5. There will be no thresholds per individual evaluation criterion, but there will be a threshold for the overall weighted score.

0	FAILS	Fails to meet the criterion.
1	POOR	The criterion is inadequately addressed, and there are serious weaknesses.
2	FAIR	The criterion is broadly addressed but with significant weaknesses.
3	GOOD	The criterion is well addressed but with a number of shortcomings.
4	VERY GOOD	The criterion is very well addressed, with a few shortcomings.
5	EXCELLENT	The criterion is successfully addressed with no or minor shortcomings.

Based on the individual evaluation reports, the overall consensus score is calculated by:

- Applying the median to the individual scores per criterion to obtain the consensus score at criteria level;
- Applying the weighting to the consensus score at criteria level;
- Summing all the weighted criteria to obtain the overall consensus score from 0 to 15;

Example – Scoring of Application

	Evaluator 1	Evaluator 2	Evaluator 3	Median	Weight	Weighted criteria
Scientific Curriculum	4	5	5	5	0,60	9
Support Letters	5	5	5	5	0,10	1,5
Personal Motivation	5	4	4	4	0,30	3,6
	14	14	14		100%	14,1
						<i>Above the threshold</i>

Ranking for funding - Threshold

Only applications with a final weighted score equal to or higher than 10, will be ranked in descending order and, thus, entitled to financial support depending on the availability of funds.

In case of ex-aequo proposals and as long as funds are available, the priority outlined below will be used to rank applications that achieve precisely the same score.

Scientific Curriculum	Personal Motivation	Letters of Support
Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3

During the evaluation process, the panel may wish to interview candidates to clarify any information provided in the EoI. Candidates should be available to hold this virtual meeting with the panel or a member of the panel.

Feedback to Applicants

The evaluation process is expected to last up to 2,5 weeks approximately.

All applicants will be notified by e-mail about the final score of their EoI and their entitlement or not to funding under this mobility scheme.