

**Scoring Guidelines**  
**Short-Term Research Placements under the UT Austin Portugal Program – 2024**

The evaluation, selection and notification process will be implemented strictly according to Articles 11 and 12 of Regulation no 913/2021. Eligible Expressions of Interest will be evaluated by a panel of three experts per scientific area. Experts will be looking into the applicant’s scientific curriculum, personal motivation and reference letter(s) .

**Table 1 – Evaluation Criteria and Weighting**

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

<b>0</b>	<b>FAILS</b>	Fails to meet the criterion.
<b>1</b>	<b>POOR</b>	The criterion is inadequately addressed, and there are serious weaknesses.
<b>2</b>	<b>FAIR</b>	The criterion is broadly addressed but with significant weaknesses.
<b>3</b>	<b>GOOD</b>	The criterion is well addressed but with a number of shortcomings.
<b>4</b>	<b>VERY GOOD</b>	The criterion is very well addressed, with a few shortcomings.
<b>5</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>	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

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

<b>Scientific Curriculum</b>	<b>Personal Motivation</b>	<b>Letters of Support</b>
Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3

During the evaluation process, the panel appointed per scientific area 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 six weeks.

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.