



Coimbra Group Scholarship Programme for Young Researchers from Sub-Saharan Africa - 2025 Edition -

Universities of the Coimbra Group offer **short-term visits (generally 1 to maximum 3 months) to young African researchers from higher education institutions from Sub-Saharan Africa**. The main aim of this scholarship programme is to enable scholars to undertake research in which they are engaged in their home institution and to help them establish academic and research contacts in Europe.

The scholarships are **financially supported by the Coimbra Group member universities** participating in this programme, while the Coimbra Group Office is in charge of the administrative management of the applications.

Please note that **some Coimbra Group Universities may restrict the eligibility to some Sub-Saharan countries only** - to find out if your country is eligible, please refer to the "Remarks" section in the Grants Information below.

In most universities the **language of instruction** is that of the country itself, but in many universities, it is possible to use English as the working language.

The following Coimbra Group universities are participating in the 2025 edition of this scholarship programme:

- Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași (Romania)
- University of Barcelona (Spain)
- University of Bergen (Norway)
- University of Coimbra (Portugal)
- University of Cologne (Germany)
- University of Granada (Spain)
- University of Graz (Austria)
- University of Groningen (The Netherlands)
- Heidelberg University (Germany)
- Istanbul University (Turkey)
- Jagiellonian University in Krakow (Poland)
- University of Padova (Italy)
- University of Pavia (Italy)
- University of Poitiers (France)
- Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic)
- University of Salamanca (Spain)
- University of Siena (Italy)
- University of Turku (Finland)
- University of Würzburg (Germany)

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must fulfil **ALL of the following criteria** at the same time:

- Be born on or after 1 January 1980.
- Be nationals of and current residents in a country in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Be current staff members of a university or an equivalent higher education institution in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Be preferably of doctoral/postdoctoral or equivalent status.
- Be in possession of an acceptance letter/email from the tutor/supervisor with whom the work programme will be undertaken in the host institution. This document is mandatory.
- Use the Coimbra Group Office electronic application process.
- Apply for one university only. Multiple applications will not be considered valid.
- Submit all information in English only.

Submission of Applications

The online application is available until **31 March 2025 at midnight (Brussels time)** on the Coimbra Group website: www.coimbra-group.eu/activities/scholarships

Only the universities listed at the bottom of this page are taking part in the 2025 edition of this Coimbra Group Scholarship Programme.

The Coimbra Group Office will individually acknowledge each application received. Within two weeks of submitting the online application, candidates should receive an email from the Coimbra Group Office confirming whether their application has been validated or not. This will be the **only acknowledgement** of receipt. If candidates do not receive the confirmation message it means that their application was not submitted correctly or there was a technical problem. In that case, please contact office@coimbra-group.eu **no later than 14 April 2025.**

The dates, and the structure, of the visit which will be carried out in the academic year 2025/2026 at the host university will be agreed upon with the host tutor/supervisor at the recipient institution. All **practical details** concerning the mobility period, scholarship payment, certificates and visa procedures should be discussed directly with the host university, and not with the Coimbra Group Office.

Applicants should identify a **research supervisor** at the selected host university (through the website of the university of their choice, or by contacting the contact person at the selected host university and provide his/her name and contact details in the application form.

Applicants are expected to make contact with their research supervisor at the selected host university and submit a **letter/e-mail of acceptance, together with their application form**, which proves that the candidate has been accepted to carry out research under his/her supervision. The letter must clearly state the willingness of the tutor to supervise the work of the candidate during the research stay. This letter should be uploaded on the application form. Applications which do not fulfil this requirement will not be considered. The Coimbra Group Office is unable to help you with finding a supervisor.

Applicants are not expected to provide any other documents at this stage, although they may be requested to do so by the university they have applied for at a later stage.

Female candidates are encouraged to apply under this scholarship programme and will be prioritised.

Selection Procedure

The administrative check of applications will be undertaken by the Coimbra Group Office in order to select candidates who meet the **eligibility criteria**.

Candidates must indicate the name and contact details of an academic supervisor at the host university and provide proof of acceptance (a letter or e-mail). Applications which do not fulfil this requirement will not be considered.

The **selection** of candidates will be undertaken directly by the host universities. They may request additional documents. When the selection has been agreed upon, the host university may send a letter of invitation directly to the successful candidate.

The Coimbra Group Office will contact all candidates and inform them about the **result of their application by the end of June 2025**.

Successful candidates currently employed by a university are responsible for ensuring that their home institution will grant them **leave of absence** to undertake the proposed visit.

Obligations of the Grant Holder

- Comply with the **legal requirements** (in terms of insurance, visa, etc.) of the host country.
- Send to the Coimbra Group Office a **letter/email of acceptance of the scholarship** in the conditions offered by the university at which he/she was accepted and with the benefits outlined in this Call for Applications.
- Include a mention of the Coimbra Group Scholarship whenever results of the research programme are published.

Consent of data use

When submitting an application for a Coimbra Group scholarship, the candidate agrees to allow the Coimbra Group to use their data (name, surname, country, e-mail address) for sending electronic communication to the candidate's email address in connection with future calls for applications of the Coimbra Group Scholarship Programmes.

To withdraw your consent please send an email to info@coimbra-group.eu

The Coimbra Group

The Coimbra Group, which was set up in 1987, is an association of European universities. It aims to increase co-operation amongst its members by enhancing special academic and cultural ties and creating channels of information and exchange.

More information about the Coimbra Group can be found on the association's website: www.coimbra-group.eu.

Further details about the universities taking part in the Scholarship Programme for young African researchers may be found directly on their own web site at the addresses included in the information below.

Contact Details

For further information please contact the Coimbra Group Office at office@coimbra-group.eu

Please refer to the information below for the specific conditions set by each Coimbra Group University participating in this Scholarship Programme