

## **FLAD Program “UP Ensino Superior 2024-25”**

A program supporting new institutional partnerships between Portuguese and US Higher Education Institutions

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This document defines all the administrative details for this request for proposals (RFP).

### **I. Purpose of the Call**

The Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) is launching a new edition of its program to support the creation of partnerships between Portuguese and American higher education institutions (HEIs), called "UP-Higher Education 2024-25", with the goal of stimulating institutional cooperation between HEIs on both sides of the Atlantic.

Proposals are to be submitted by Portuguese HEIs with the purpose of creating new institutional collaborations with US institutions that will achieve mutually supported objectives over the medium to long term. The objectives proposed should be clearly described and measurable. Note that FLAD is seeking projects that demonstrate a significant degree of institutional buy-in from each of the partners, and not just support for one-off international research projects between the US and PT. Proponents should think of this grant as seed funding for other sources of funding that will provide ongoing support for the initiatives after year 1.

Such ideas may include, but are not limited to:

1. Curricular articulation/cooperation, (ex. Development of new *dual or joint degree programs*, new interdisciplinary programs with an international component, international service-learning opportunities, etc.;
2. Adoption and use of technology (ex. Collaborative Online International Learning, COIL, etc.);
3. Short-term training grants for staff/faculty development that link to deeper/ongoing forms of internationalization between the institutions;
4. Shared research networks (ex. joint project development, multilateral networks) that go beyond one-off research mobilities for faculty/graduate students;
5. Talent acquisition (for example, travel support for joint appointments or PhD co-tutelles);
6. Others.

Proposals from any disciplinary or multidisciplinary perspective are welcomed and may be aimed at any level of higher education (undergraduate, graduate, executive education, others).

Universities, polytechnics, colleges, research centers and/or professional schools are eligible to apply. Proposals must involve at least 2 institutions from both sides of the Atlantic and will also include a letter of support from the participating North American institution. Budget proposals should indicate support from both institutions, leveraging the utility of the seed monies requested from FLAD.

FLAD seeks to grant awards from both a geographically and institutionally diverse pool of applicants. Proposals submitted by Portuguese HEIs located in the interior or islands will be favored.

Proposals whose objectives are already covered through other FLAD opportunities will typically not be considered.

## **II. Dates**

- The call will be open between May 15 and September 15.
- Applicants will receive the evaluation results no later than October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Project funding will be disbursed depending on the specific needs of each successful proposal. Support will be made available during 2024 for initiatives to begin during the 2024/25 academic year;
- In exceptional cases we may consider phases for the disbursement of funds.
- The final report for the supported actions must be submitted to FLAD within 90 days of their conclusion, and no later than November 15, 2025.

## **III. Eligibility Criteria**

Applications must be:

- Submitted by Portuguese HEIs;
- Submitted in either English or Portuguese (or both);
- Each proposal, submitted alone or as part of a larger consortium, must identify a PI for the grant affiliated to a Portuguese HEI, plus a point of contact for the US HEI(s) that is/are involved;
- The application must clearly demonstrate in the budget what the financial involvement of the parties is. The budget proposal must show a significant budgetary contribution by the US partner as a required element;
- It is a requirement that the contribution of the US partner HEI be equal to, or greater than, that of the Portuguese HEI;
- There is no standard application form, but proposals shall be submitted via the FLAD website located here: <https://flad.secure.force.com/CandidaturaMain?language=en>

All proposals must include in their supporting documentation:

- A letter of support from the host institution(s) in Portugal;
- A letter of support from one or more partner institutions in the USA.
- A description of the key objectives of the proposal and the joint action activities that are planned (max. 5 pages);
- Timeline
- A budget that explicitly and unequivocally reflects the contributions proposed by the different HEIs involved (FLAD support should be primarily allocated towards the investment made by the Portuguese side);
- Other documents that support the application.
- Submitted via the FLAD website located here: <https://flad.secure.force.com/CandidaturaMain?language=en>

## **IV. Evaluation**

- The evaluation of proposals is the responsibility of a jury organized by FLAD;
- Preference will be given to applications that demonstrate a path to financial self-sufficiency over the medium/long-term;
- Requests that demonstrate some amount of institutional co-funding, or support from third parties (public or private), will be reviewed favorably over those that rely exclusively on this RFP.
- In case of a tie, proposals from institutions located in the interior of Portugal will be favored over

those from coming from large urban coastal regions.

**V. Financing**

- Up to 30,000 euros per selected project to be attributed to the Portuguese HEI (regardless of the total global value involved in the initiative);
- The award granted to each project may not cover the full amount requested;
- FLAD reserves the right to not select any proposal;
- FLAD does not pay institutional overhead costs, so budget requests that include these must calculate those costs as institutional co-financing;

**VI. Additional Information**

Questions about the RFP can be sent to FLAD, by email: [ricardo.pereira@flad.pt](mailto:ricardo.pereira@flad.pt)

Start your application here: <https://flad.secure.force.com/CandidaturaMain?language=en>