

FLAD Summer Program – Azores

1st-17th July, 2026

Within the framework of the cooperation protocol signed by the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD), the University of the Azores and the Regional Government of the Azores, applications are now open for the first edition of the FLAD Summer Program – Azores. This program is designed for young US citizens of Azorean ancestry, aged 18 to 25, and will take place at the University of the Azores. Up to 20 participants will be selected to take part in this unique opportunity.

Aim

The course aims to:

- i) Provide knowledge on the natural, historical, and cultural heritage of the Azores Archipelago among young Azorean-descendant U.S. citizens.
- ii) Foster scientific, cultural, and economic relations between the Autonomous Region of the Azores and Azorean-descendant communities in the United States.
- iii) Encourage initiative and community leadership among the new generations of the Portuguese-American community in the United States.

Date and location

The course will be held from July 1st to July 17th, 2026, in accordance with the curriculum that will be published on the course website, and will take place at the University of the Azores (São Miguel and Terceira *campi*).

Funding and fees

The costs of the course will be covered by the organization. Covered costs include travel, accommodation, and tuition fees.

Selected students will be required to pay, upon arrival, a registration fee of EUR 50.

Structure of the course

The course will be taught in English and comprises two distinct and complementary components:

- theoretical classes and seminars
- study visits of a practical and cultural nature

This multidisciplinary course involves the participation of the four faculties of the University of the Azores: Agrarian and Environmental Sciences, Business and Economics, Sciences and Technology and Social Sciences and Humanities.

The curriculum will be published on the University website.

Application process

The call is open from **January 20th to February 28th, 2026**, 11:59 PM, Pacific Time / March 1st, 2026, 2:59 AM, Eastern Time.

Applications must be submitted online via the form: [InforEstudante – University of the Azores](#).

Please note that only applications submitted through this form will be considered.

Candidates are required to upload the following documents (written in English):

- *Résumé*, highlighting academic background, scientific and professional interests, and the candidate's work-related skills and abilities
- One recommendation letter from individuals who, having known the candidate in an academic, professional, or community context, can attest to relevant qualities to the application (recommendation letters by family members are not accepted)
- Cover letter explaining the reasons for and expectations of their application, exploring community leadership potential and connection to their Azorean heritage (up to 3000 characters with spaces)
- Copy of transcript

If considered necessary, candidates may be interviewed by representatives of one or more of the three institutions.

Selection and eligibility

Up to 20 participants will be selected in 2026, and a minimum of 15 participants is required for this edition of the course.

In order for applications to be considered eligible, candidates must be United States citizens of Azorean ancestry, and be between 18 and 25 years old.

The selection process, conducted by the three institutions, will be based on the following criteria:

- Academic record: higher education and, where applicable, secondary education.
- Geographic diversity, favoring the composition of a student body from diverse backgrounds. For this purpose, in an initial phase, a quota of 10% is allocated to each of the following higher education institutions (two students per institution): Fresno State University, University of Massachusetts (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell), Bridgewater State University, Rhode Island

University, Rhode Island College, and Bristol Community College. Remaining places will then be ranked globally.

- Motivation and leadership potential within the Portuguese-American community
- Skills, interests, and work capacity

Assessment and Credit Recognition

Throughout the course, each student will develop a portfolio, to be monitored, discussed, and assessed within a WIKI framework.

Successful completion of the course is considered equivalent to one curricular unit, worth 6 ECTS credits, equivalent to 3 U.S. credits.

The University of the Azores will issue, through the appropriate services, a bilingual certificate of participation and completion, to be sent within a maximum of 60 days after the end of the course.

For more information about this call, please contact:

Government of the Azores: geral-drc@azores.gov.pt

FLAD: relacoes.transatlanticas@flad.pt

University of the Azores: carlos.ep.amaral@uac.pt