

FLAD Reengagement Program

The Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) is pleased to announce the FLAD Reengagement Program, designed to support U.S. students, recent graduates, and early-career professionals who studied abroad in Portugal and wish to return to pursue research or engage in social or community-based projects that will positively impact the development of Portugal.

Objective

According to the [2025 Open Doors Report](#) on *U.S Study Abroad*, Portugal has reached record levels during the academic year 2023/24 as a study abroad destination having hosted 1,923 students, with one of the fastest-growing rates among U.S. study abroad host countries. Over the past decade, the number of U.S students engaging in academic mobilities to Portugal rose more than 500 percent.

Building on this growing demographic trend, the *FLAD Reengagement Program* aims to strengthen academic, cultural, and institutional ties between Portugal and the United States by fostering the reengagement of individuals who have previously studied abroad in Portugal. The program thus promotes their intentional (re)integration and efforts to make an active contribution to Portuguese social development.

In addition to the core engagement and cooperation envisioned by the project, grantees are also expected to get involved with current U.S. study abroad cohorts in Portugal at the time of the mobility, namely FLAD's study abroad program - the Study in Portugal Network (SiPN).

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a U.S. student, recent graduate, or early-career professional, up to 35 years old.
- Demonstrate leadership, autonomy, and community engagement experience.
- Demonstrate a clear project proposal that is designed to make a substantive impact on the social/economic development of Portugal, as evidenced by letters of invitation, pre-established relationships with ngos, universities, social impact startups or similar.

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- Have prior lived experience in Portugal in the form of study, research, internships, or professional/volunteer work. Short-term stays such as tourism or brief visits will not be considered sufficient experience.
- Portuguese language proficiency is not mandatory. However, knowledge of Portuguese language and culture is a plus as an engagement enhancement with the host community.

Funding

Selected grantees will receive a single grant (lump sum) from FLAD ranging from 3,000Eur to 5,000Eur, depending on the project and its budget.

This grant should be considered as a one-time incentive to support the implementation of the proposed project, rather than as a monthly stipend or salary. The sponsorship requires a minimum in-country stay of 30 days. The award should be primarily used as seed money to help with the startup costs of said program.

Grantees are expected to manage this support responsibly, potentially combining it with other personal or institutional resources in the proposal's budget. This grant is intended to facilitate reengagement, not necessarily to provide full project funding.

Eligible Projects

Projects supported under the *FLAD Reengagement Program* may include, but are not limited to:

- Projects that use service-learning methodologies that would benefit non-profit organizations in Portugal;
- Reengagement of Portuguese Americans with organizations and individuals based in Portugal;
- Projects that promote social innovation in Portugal;
- Professional Development & Training, through residencies or placements in Portuguese non-profit institutions aligned with the applicant's goals;
- Community Engagement & Cultural Exchange, fostering U.S.-Portugal cultural ties through civic, social, or artistic collaboration;
- Other innovative proposals that strengthen U.S.-Portugal relations in the not-for-profit sector.

Grantee's Engagement with Current Study Abroad Students

In addition to carrying out their projects, grantees are expected to collaborate with [Study in Portugal Network](#) (SiPN), FLAD's in-house study abroad program, to design and lead activities for current SiPN students. These activities may include workshops,

mentoring programs, cultural exchange sessions, language partnerships, or other suitable engagement formats.

Application Procedure

Applicants must submit the following through FLAD's portal, [here](#). The program operates on a rolling admissions basis, and applicants will receive a response within a maximum of 15 business days following submission

1. A detailed and feasible project proposal (max. 5 pages). Should include:
 1. Title of the project
 2. Scope
 3. Timeline
 4. Purpose & Intended Outcomes
 5. Potential Ideas for Involvement with SiPN
 6. Other relevant information
2. Letter of affiliation or interest from a relevant Portuguese institution.
3. Curriculum vitae.
4. A motivation letter about prior experience in Portugal and how this project will consolidate and expand it. Applicants are encouraged to consider the following themes in their letter:
 1. How the applicant will integrate and engage with Portuguese society via their project.
 2. The tangible outcomes that will result from this project on all those whom the project will include and impact.
 3. How the grant will contribute to the applicant's immediate to long-term plans.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Relevance, creativity and feasibility of the proposed project.
- Demonstration of prior engagement with Portugal.
- Potential for long-term impact on U.S.-Portugal relations.
- Candidate's academic or professional merit.
- Candidate's leadership, autonomy, and potential for community engagement.

Additional information

- The program operates on a rolling admissions basis, and applicants will receive a response within a maximum of 15 business days following submission via the email address indicated in the application form. There will

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be no appeal from the decision.

- Selected candidates must:
 - a) Confirm acceptance of the grant with FLAD within 10 days after the communication of the results;
 - b) Confirm the intended period for the stay in Portugal;
 - c) Arrange the appropriate visa that allows for the type of activity envisioned by the recipient of the grant.
- Any alteration to the previously agreed upon grant period is subject to review by FLAD, which reserves the right to reject the new proposed period. The grant may be cancelled if the approved dates are not respected.
- Within three months after the end of the stay in Portugal, the grantee must submit a report on the project.
- Any work that is published, in whole or in part, as a result of this sponsorship, must refer to the support provided by FLAD.
- Failure to comply with these obligations will invalidate any other application that may be submitted to FLAD.
- Questions or omissions, as well as revisions of this Regulation, if deemed necessary, will be decided by FLAD.

Start your application [here](#).