

Incentive Program for the Training of Excellence of Young Researchers in Astrophysics and Space Sciences

Pursuant to its goal of providing high-quality training in astrophysics and related subjects at all academic levels, the IA has set up a program of Scientific Initiation Studentships (BICs). These shall be governed by the following rules:

1. **Eligibility:** Students training in the areas of Astronomy, Physics and Physical Engineering, registered for the first time in one of the following degrees in a Portuguese university:

- First cycle (First Degree) in Astronomy, Physics, or related;
- Integrated Master in Physical Engineering, or related;

developing a project at the Institute of Astrophysics and Space Sciences (IA), supervised by a IA researcher.

2. **Application:** A call will be issued every year where the deadlines for the applications and further relevant information will be announced. Eligible students will need to submit online the title and summary of their project, the name of the supervisor, and a copy of their academic record.

3. **Procedure:** The Selection Committee (SeC) shall be composed of

- one representative of the IA Executive Board;
- one representative of each of the IA Thematic Lines;

4. **Selection:** The selection will be based on the academic records and CV of the applicants.

Each year up to two BICs will be awarded in each of the following thematic lines (only in exceptional circumstances the SeC may consider awarding more than two BICs in the same thematic line):

- Towards the detection and characterization of other Earths;
- Towards a comprehensive study of stars;
- The assembly history of galaxies resolved in space and time;
- Unveiling the dynamics of the Universe;
- Space and Ground Systems and Technologies.

5. **Fellowship:** The BICs will have a duration of three months and shall follow extant FCT rules.

6. **Rights and duties:** BIC holders shall have access to IA facilities, including a work space. All candidates must present the outcome of their research at one of the seminars organized by IA. At the end of the grant, successful candidates will receive a certificate.

7. **Non-duplication:** The BICs cannot be accumulated with any other grant. Each student can only receive one BIC in the context of this programme.