



## **REGULATIONS FOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN SYSTEMS AND COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE**

Within the framework of the merit recognition policy in force at Universidade Católica Portuguesa, the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing awards Merit Scholarships with the aim of encouraging academic excellence among students, hereby approving the present Regulations for that purpose.

### **Article 1**

#### **PURPOSE**

1. These Regulations define the criteria for the awarding of Merit Scholarships to students enrolled in the bachelor's degree in Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience.
2. Merit Scholarships consist of either a full or partial tuition fee waiver and are awarded for the duration of one academic year to students enrolled in the bachelor's degree in Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience.
3. Merit Scholarships are awarded automatically and do not require any application or formal request from students.
4. Merit Scholarships are understood as a full or partial exemption from the payment of the annual tuition fee for the academic year to which they apply. However, this exemption does not cover other fees for which the student remains responsible, such as registration or enrolment fees and the issuance of certificates.

### **Article 2**

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP IN THE FIRST YEAR**

1. For students enrolled in the first year of the bachelor's degree in Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience, the awarding of three Merit Scholarships is based on the admission grade, under the following terms:
  - a) 1<sup>st</sup> place – 100% tuition fee waiver;



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- b) 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 80% tuition fee waiver;
  - c) 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 50% tuition fee waiver.
2. To scholarship allocation, candidates must achieve at least the following minimum admission grades:
    - a) For the 100% tuition scholarship, the admission grade must be equal to or greater than 170 points (on a 200-point scale);
    - b) For the 80% tuition scholarship, the admission grade must be equal to or greater than 160 points (on a 200-point scale);
    - c) For the 50% tuition scholarship, the admission grade must be equal to or greater than 160 points (on a 200-point scale).
  3. The awarding of scholarships is subject to both the candidate's ranking position based on the admission grade and the fulfilment of the minimum threshold required for each scholarship tier.
  4. In the event of a tie, the tie-breaking criterion shall be the rounding of grades to the nearest hundredth.
  5. The tuition fee calculation for students awarded a merit scholarship is based on enrollment in 60 ECTS credits per academic year.

### **Article 3**

#### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE 2<sup>nd</sup> AND 3<sup>rd</sup> YEARS**

1. Three Merit Scholarships will be granted to the students with the top final average scores from the preceding year of the degree program (1st or 2nd year, with the scholarship applying, respectively, to the 2nd or 3rd year).



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2. The Merit Scholarship rules in Article 2., apply to 2nd and 3rd year students.
3. Since Merit Scholarships are awarded annually, a student who was not eligible in the first year may receive a scholarship in the 2nd and/or 3rd year, provided they meet the requirements established in Article 2.

### **Article 4**

#### **EXCLUSION CRITERIA**

1. Candidates will not be eligible for the merit scholarship if they do not meet the minimum admission grade thresholds established for each scholarship level.
2. There will be no tuition fee reduction in the case of a second enrollment in the same course unit.
3. A student will lose the Merit Scholarship in the following situations:
  - a) If they do not achieve sufficient academic performance, which corresponds to failing more than half of the credits;
  - b) If they do not comply with the prescribed study plan.

### **Article 5**

#### **NOTIFICATION OF AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS**

All Merit Scholarship recipients are individually notified by email by the coordinator of their respective program.

### **Article 6**

#### **INTERPRETATION**

Any issues or doubts arising from the interpretation or application of this Regulation shall be resolved by the Program Coordinator and the Board of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing.



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### **Article 7**

#### **WITHDRAWAL OF BENEFIT**

1. The loss, for any reason, of the status as a student at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Portuguese Catholic University constitutes grounds for the termination of the right to receive the Merit Scholarship.
2. The effects of the termination refer to the month in which the student's status was lost.
3. The student is obliged to return any amounts unduly received.

### **Article 8**

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Regulation shall take effect starting from the academic year 2026/2027.