



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - NOTICE NO. ED-06/2026

Católica Porto Law School
Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Doctoral Programme in Law | Academic Year 2026/2027

The Católica Porto Law School, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, hereby announces the holding of a new edition of the Doctoral Programme in Law.

The Doctoral Programme in Law takes place under the terms of Decree-Law no. 74/2006, in the wording given to it by Decree-Law No. 65/2018, of August 6th, and is governed by the principles contained in the Regulation on Doctoral Programmes of the Faculty of Law, also having as a reference the University's General Regulation on Doctoral Programmes.

1. Conditions for admission

Eligible candidates:

- a) Holders of a master's degree or legal equivalent;
- b) Holders of a bachelor's degree with a minimum classification of 16 points and, cumulatively, holders of an academic, scientific or professional curriculum of notable quality which, according to recognition by the Regional Scientific Council, reveals the capacity to fulfil the requirements of the program of doctorate.

2. Places available: 5

3. Application period:

Applications	Interviews	Results	Enrolment	Beginning of classes
01 Jun - 28 Jul	11- 23 Sep	28 Sep	01 - 06 Oct	09 Oct

4. Required documentation

- Copy of identification document
- Curriculum vitae
- Certificates of qualifications* from previous university degrees with reference to the final grade



- Two letters of recommendation
- Scientific works produced, namely your master's dissertation or equivalent work

*** Notes:**

» Documents issued outside Portugal must:

a) be legalized by a Portuguese diplomatic or consular authority, or

b) contain the [Hague Apostille](#) issued by the competent authority of the issuing country, in case that country has acceded to the Convention Relating to the Abolition of the Requirement for Legalization of Foreign Public Acts (Hague Conference).

» For documents written in a foreign language other than Spanish, English or French, the respective translation must be submitted and carried out in accordance with the terms set out in notarial law.

5. Submission of the application

Submissions are carried out at <https://secretaria.porto.ucp.pt/CandidaturasOnline> (Check the deadlines in advance to make sure applications are open).

Candidates will receive an email confirming the receipt of the application, together with payment information (ATM reference for candidates residing in Portugal and IBAN for candidates residing abroad). Application will only be completed following said payment.

6. Applications assessment and publication of the results

Admission to the doctoral course follows a principle of selectivity, depending on academic merit and the motivation and availability demonstrated by the candidate. The admission committee will carry out the assessment as follows:

- a) A curricular assessment, based on the scientific work produced, including, for masters, the master's dissertation;
- b) An interview, to assess, in particular, the candidate's motivation and availability.

The results procedure will be sent to each candidate's email, on the dates scheduled for this purpose.

7. Functioning of the doctoral programme

Duration:

- 4 years (8 semesters) – in full-time attendance mode, integrating a doctoral course, lasting two semesters (60 ECTS), and a thesis preparation phase, lasting six semesters (180 ECTS);
or



- 6 years (12 semesters) – in part-time attendance mode, integrating a doctoral course, lasting two semesters (60 ECTS), and a thesis preparation phase, lasting ten semesters (180 ECTS).

The academic phase includes participation in seminars on subjects that crosscut the various branches of Law and has a double objective: on the one hand, to help students consider new perspectives and approaches in legal research, and, on the other, to propose research lines. At the same time, students must attend courses of an essentially methodological nature. Each year, students will attend and be assessed on various modules offered by the School of Law.

After completing the first semester of the doctoral course, students choose the topic of the thesis and propose an academic supervisor to the Scientific Council. Once the topic is approved, students have another six months to prepare the thesis project, which will be assessed by a jury composed of the supervisor and two or three members appointed by the Plenary Scientific Council of UCP's Faculty of Law. Admission to the phase dedicated to preparing the thesis itself is dependent on the approval of this project.

Classes will take place after work at the Universidade Católica Portuguesa facilities in Porto – Foz campus, on Fridays (in the afternoon) and on Saturdays (in the morning).

8. Fees

The values of tuition fees and other fees are fixed annually and published in a specific document (Table of fees and tuition fees), meaning that the values to be applied in subsequent academic years may change.

Extract of the Fees and Tuitions table

(Does not exempt the consultation of the complete and updated document available [HERE](#))

Fees	
Application	210 €
Enrolment (including school insurance and card)	460 €
Tuition fees	
1st Year (1st and 2nd Semesters) – 10 monthly payments	429,40 €/month
2nd, 3rd and 4th Year - Full-time attendance regime – 30 monthly payments	283,40 €/month
5th and 6th Year – Part-time attendance regime – up to a maximum of 20 monthly payments	214,70 €/month

9. Additional information

- About the doctoral programme <https://fd.porto.ucp.pt/pt-pt/doutoramento>
- About applications <https://www.candidaturas.porto.ucp.pt/doutoramento-direito/>



10. Contacts

For more information, please contact us:

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Porto, May 15th 2026

The Dean of Católica Porto Law School
Universidade Católica Portuguesa

(Prof. Doutora Marta Portocarrero)