

The Polytechnic Institute of Leiria will accept applications to the Master's degree in **Innovation in Food Systems and Nutrition**, for both national and international students, under the following conditions:

### 1. Numerus clausus

1.1. Total number of vacancies for 2025/2026: 25

1.2. Admissions - 1<sup>st</sup> phase: 24

1.3. Admissions - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase: 1 + places left from 1<sup>st</sup> phase.

1.4. Admissions – 3<sup>rd</sup> phase: places left from 2<sup>nd</sup> phase.

### 2. Entry and admission requirements

2.1. People who can apply:

a) Holders of an academic Degree (1<sup>st</sup> cycle of studies) or of a legal equivalent in the areas of Dietetics and Nutrition, Nutritional Sciences or related areas conferred by a national academic institution;

b) Holders of a foreign academic degree (1<sup>st</sup> cycle of studies), or legal equivalent, in Dietetics and Nutrition, Nutrition Sciences or related areas, certified according to the principles of the Bologna Process by a state adhering to the Bologna's process;

c) Holders of a national or foreign academic degree, which is recognized by the Technical-Scientific Council (CTC) of the School of Health Sciences of the Polytechnic Institute of Leiria, as satisfying the objectives of the academic Degree (1<sup>st</sup> cycle of studies) in Dietetics and Nutrition or in related areas;

d) Holders of an academic, scientific or professional curriculum that is recognized as certifying the skills to attend the Master course by the Technical-Scientific Council of the School of Health Sciences of the Polytechnic Institute of Leiria;

e) Undergraduate students who are in the process of graduating in the areas of training whose holding is required for admission to the course and who declare this fact in their application<sup>1</sup>.

2.2. The recognition referred to in paragraphs b) to d) of point 2.1 enables applicants to access to the Master's course but does not grant its holder the equivalence to an academic degree (1<sup>st</sup> cycle of studies) or to the recognition of that degree.

### 3. International Candidates:

3.1. International candidates are those who:

i) Do not hold the Portuguese nationality or the nationality of one of the other member States of the European Union;

ii) Are not family members of Portuguese citizens or citizens of a member State of the European Union<sup>2</sup>;

iii) Do not legally reside in Portugal, uninterruptedly, for more than 2 years on 01/01/2025, as well as their children who reside with them;

iv) Do not hold the statute of equal rights and duties, granted by an international treaty signed by Portugal and the State they are citizens of, on 01/01/2025.

3.2. International candidates must submit their application on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> application phases, except when they apply to the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase according to items a) and b) of point 2.1.

### 4. Selection criteria

4.1. For applications according to items a), b) c), or e) of point 2: The classification will be given in a numerical scale ranging from 0 to 200, after applying the following formula:

$$\text{Classification} = [0.4 \times \text{final degree grade} + 0.2 \times \text{affinity} + 0.4 \times \text{bonus}] \times 10$$

Where:

*Affinity* is the proximity of the scientific area of the Degree (1<sup>st</sup> cycle of studies) that the candidate holds with the area of the Master's degree, expressed in a scale of 0 to 20; *Final degree grade* represents the final classification obtained by the applicant on the 1<sup>st</sup> cycle of studies, up to 20 points; *Bonus* is a classification to be awarded up to 20 points, if it is considered that the candidate has a relevant scientific or professional *curriculum vitae* (CV).

4.2. For applications under d) of no. 2.1:

The classification to be assigned to candidates, for classification purposes, translates into an integer numerical scale from 0 to 200 and evaluates the candidate's academic, scientific and/or professional curriculum, according to the following expression:

$$\text{Classification} = [0.2 \times \text{academic curriculum} + 0.4 \times \text{scientific curriculum} + 0.4 \times \text{professional curriculum}] \times 10$$

Where:

*Academic curriculum* assesses the academic path of the candidate (academic qualifications held) in a scale of 0 to 20 points;

<sup>1</sup> IPLeia students are exempt from presenting this proof, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5.3 of this Notice.

<sup>2</sup> For this purpose, family members are those established in Lei n.º 37/2006, dated August 9: i) The spouse of an European Union citizen; ii) Those living in a legal non-marital partnership with an European Union citizen, or those who have a relation with an European Union citizen, which is duly certified

by the competent body of their member State; iii) Lineal descendants under the age of 21 or those who are under the care of an European Union citizen; the same applies to lineal descendants of the spouse or the partner indicated in the previous paragraph; iv) Lineal ascendants under the care of an European Union citizen; the same applies to lineal ascendants of the spouse or the partner indicated in the paragraph ii).

*Scientific curriculum* assesses the participation of the candidate in congresses, seminars, projects, and technical studies, as well as the technical and scientific production (research articles, books...), awards and similar elements, in a relevant scientific area for the Master's degree, in a scale from 0 to 20 points;

*Professional curriculum* assesses the candidate's training and professional activity considered relevant to the scientific area of the Master's degree, in a scale of 0 to 20 points.

The jury may decide to carry out interviews, in which case the classification will be given in a numerical scale ranging from 0 to 200, and shall assess the candidates' academic, scientific, and/or professional curriculum, along with the applicant's performance in the interview, and is calculated by applying the following formula:

$$\text{Classification} = [0.15 \times \text{academic curriculum} + 0.25 \times \text{scientific curriculum} + 0.25 \times \text{professional curriculum} + 0.35 \times \text{interview}] \times 10$$

As follows:

*Academic curriculum, scientific curriculum, and professional curriculum* assess what is established above.

*Interview*, in a numerical scale ranging from 0 to 20, assesses verbal expression, critical thinking, motivation, and responsibility, where:

*Verbal expression* – assesses the line of thought shown by the candidate through verbal/written language, fluency, transparency of ideas, and logical reasoning;

*Critical thinking* – assesses the innovation of the presented choices and their justifications, as well as argumentative skills in theoretical or real scenarios;

*Motivation and responsibility* – assesses the nature, intensity and durability of the motivations, interests, and preferences.

#### 4.3. Tie-breaker: best final grade in 1st cycle course

## 5. Application

**5.1.** Application must be submitted at <https://infoestudante.ipleiria.pt/> and only considered valid after uploading the supporting documentation mentioned in 5.2, and after paying the application fee, within the established deadline.

#### 5.2. Supporting documents<sup>3</sup>

The list of documents necessary for the application process is presented below, and those indicated in b), c) and d) are considered mandatory, and their absence may lead to exclusion:

a) Detailed *Curriculum vitae*, and other documents that the candidate considers relevant to assess academic merit. All information indicated in the application which is relevant to assess the curriculum merit must be proven by presenting

the corresponding certificates, under penalty of not being considered in the evaluation of the application;

b) ID card and VAT number. Foreign candidates may present another identification document that indicates their nationality. If candidates manifest their opposition to the reproduction/copy of the identification document, they must request an appointment with the Academic Services, within the deadline established for the application, to show the identification document in person;

c) Academic certificate, indicating the academic degree obtained and the final classification. Candidates holding a foreign qualification must instruct the application with an official document issued by an official academic Institution where the applicant has completed the academic degree, indicating the academic degree, the final classification, and the assessment scale used. Failure to prove the final classification of the academic degree under the terms mentioned above will result in the award of a final classification of 10 points on a scale of 0 to 20.

d) International students must present a certificate issued by a competent authority of knowledge of the language in which the course is taught, or a related language, at a level equal to or higher than the B2 level in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages;

e) Other documents attesting that the candidate meets the necessary requirements for applying under their National contingent.

**5.3.** Candidates who submit their application according to item e) of point 2.1 and do not submit proof of the required qualifications, until 11.04.2025 (1<sup>st</sup> phase) until the day 25.07.2025 (2<sup>nd</sup> phase) or until the day 08.09.2025 (3<sup>rd</sup> phase) are excluded from the phase to which they apply. They can, however, request the transition of their application to the next phase (if any) on the application platform, with no additional cost.

**5.4.** Candidates who are not placed due to a lack of vacancies can request, on the application platform, that their application be transferred to the next stage, if there is one, at no additional cost, and that it remain unchanged.

## 6. Calendar and registration

### 6.1. Calendar

Period	1 <sup>st</sup> phase	2 <sup>nd</sup> phase	3 <sup>rd</sup> phase
<b>Applications</b>	26.02.2025 - 31.03.2025	09.06.2025 - 14.07.2025	20.08.2025 - 04.09.2025
<b>Publication of results</b>	24.04.2025	30.07.2025	11.09.2025
<b>Registration</b>	29.04.2025 - 06.05.2025	01.08.2025- 11.08.2025	16.09.2025- 18.09.2025

**6.2.** Admitted candidates who do not register within the established deadlines lose the right to their respective place.

<sup>3</sup> The presentation of the originals may be required at any time. For foreign qualifications, the documents must be authenticated by the official education services of that country, and recognized by a Portuguese

consulate or have the Hague Convention apostille, under penalty of exclusion. The same should happen with regard to translations of documents whose original language is not Spanish, French, English or Italian (translation into one of these languages is mandatory).

**6.3.** The student's registration and/or enrollment is only confirmed after the single payment of the first monthly installment, including the registration or enrollment fee, with the exception of those who are candidates for scholarships within the scope of the social support system for attending courses taught at higher education institutions. In the case of International Students, payments correspond to 30% of the total basic fee, plus the registration fee.

**7. Credits for previous training and professional experience**

As established in the applicable legislation and in the Institute's regulations, candidates who intend to continue their studies may request that their previous training and professional experience be considered for the application, at the moment of the application.

**8 Starting date:** October of 2025

**9. Location of classroom teaching activities:** Escola Superior de Saúde de Leiria

**10. Regime and days:** Distance Learning. Synchronous classes: Weekdays from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm (time zone - Lisbon). Classroom lessons: Week to be defined.

**11. Prerequisites:** not applicable

**12. Language:** English and Portuguese

**13. Minimum number of students for the degree:** 16.

**14.** Detailed information on objectives, study plan, admission and entry conditions, selection, ranking criteria and working conditions can be found at [www.ipleiria.pt](http://www.ipleiria.pt).

**15.** If vacancies remain, after completion of all application phases, applications after the deadline may be accepted as long as integration conditions exist.

Polytechnic Institute of Leiria

President,

Carlos Manuel da Silva Rabadão