



# MIT-Portugal Internships Program Overview

The MIT-Portugal program matches leading Portuguese companies, start-ups, universities, and research institutes with access to emerging talent from the world's leading university for science, technology, and engineering. MIT-Portugal sits within MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI), MIT's award-winning global internship program.

## How does it work?

- Working closely with partner companies, MIT-Portugal recruits MIT students and matches them with a host company and project.
- Projects are designed to align the skills and interests of the students with the needs of the host.
- Internships typically last 3 months during the summer, and there is also scope for placements during the academic year.
- MIT-Portugal helps prepare students with logistical and cultural preparation for the departure, as well as facilitating the visa process (if a visa is required).

## Who are the students?

- All students from first year undergraduate up to PhDs are eligible, and from all schools and departments.

## Which projects work best?

- Interns should have a designated supervisor. Interns should be in the office at least three days per week, and ideally five.
- Projects need a clear deliverable that the student can present to the team upon completion. Many hosts will set interns tasks in areas they would like to explore further but may not have the bandwidth or resources to dedicate a full-time employee to.

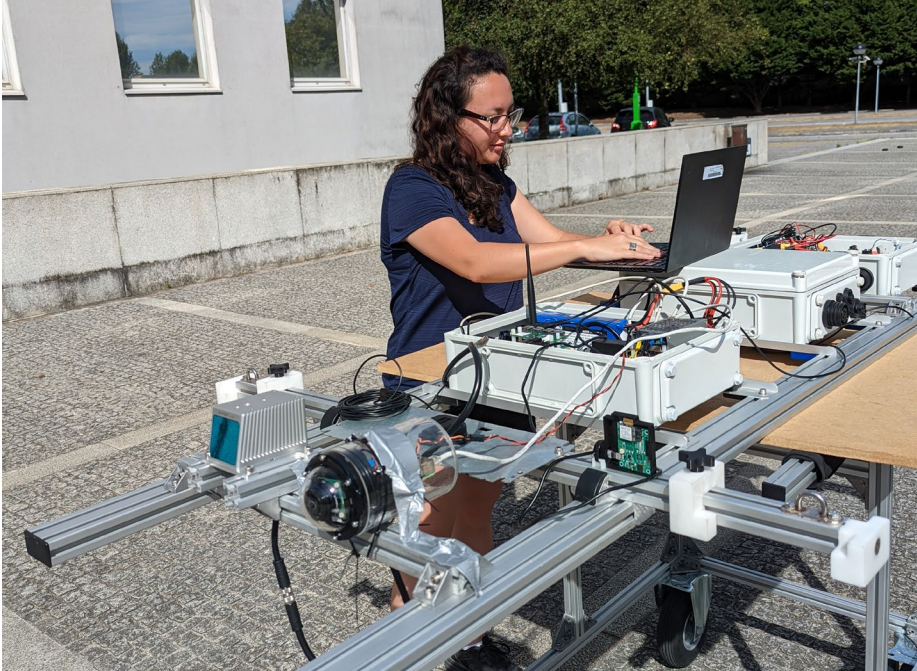
## Visas

- US passport holders can travel to Portugal for 90 days without a visa. Non-US or EU passport holders may have to apply for a tourist visa in order to enter the country. MIT-Portugal supports students in this process.
- If a non-EU student is interning for over 90 days, they are required to apply for a student visa prior to departure. Hosts and interns work together to apply for a visa with guidance from MIT-Portugal. The process can take several months.

*I found working in Portugal to be a really enjoyable and fulfilling experience. The work still felt very high caliber, but I appreciated the friendlier culture. I got to know my colleagues well and felt very welcome in the lab*

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**Fiona Gillespie, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science '23, Intern at INES TEC's Center for Robotics and Autonomous Systems in Porto**



“ This internship taught me how to design parts to align to a concept and meet specifications, receive feedback and modify my designs, simulate the design, and finally integrate hardware to physically test my work. I found the work challenging but very engaging, and through the internship, I got a glimpse of what life could be like as a mechanical engineering in a small company.

Erin Menezes, Mechanical Engineering '24, Intern at OceanScan ”

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MIT-Portugal provides host companies with CVs and cover letters for interview and selection

Mar  
30

Late May/Early June:  
Internships begin and typically last 8-10 weeks

Host organization submits [Project Form](#) to MIT-Portugal to circulate to students/ recruit on campus

Jan &  
Feb

No later than March 30: Interns and hosts confirm placements. An internship agreement is drafted and signed.

June

## Past hosts

Building Global Innovators, Burel, CEIIA, doDOC, Iberian Nanotechnology Lab (INL), Imaginando, Institute for Systems and Computer Engineering, Technology and Science (INESC TEC), Instituto Superior Tecnico - Instituto de Sistemas e Robotica, IPATIMUP, Mario Martines- Atelier de Arquitectura Marioway, Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology, OceanScan, Performetric, Portugal Ventures, Secret City Trails, Universidade de Lisboa, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, University of Coimbra

## Cost

- Host companies typically cover the costs associated with the internships: flights, visas, and a stipend for the student's summer living costs to ensure opportunities are open to students regardless of their economic background. Cost-sharing is available for certain industries and sectors (eg. Non-profit, social impact).
- Hosts typically send funds to MIT as a lump sum for MIT to disburse directly, or can cover some of the costs directly with the student.

MIT students bring fresh perspectives, new technical knowledge, an entrepreneurial spirit and invigorating enthusiasm to these environments

For more information visit [misti.mit.edu/portugal](https://misti.mit.edu/portugal) or email [mitportugal@mit.edu](mailto:mitportugal@mit.edu)