



NEW TAX INCENTIVE
IFICI



Portugal's New Tax Regime

For scientific Research and Innovation - IFICI

Following the end of the Non-Habitual Resident (NHR) tax regime, Portugal has introduced a new tax incentive to attract highly skilled professionals in key industries. This regime offers a 20% flat tax rate on income from employment or self-

-employment within eligible sectors and beneficiary entities, with additional tax exemptions on certain foreign-sourced income. The incentive is valid for 10 years, provided individuals maintain Portuguese tax residency and work in a qualified activity.



This incentive is available to **individuals, both foreign and Portuguese, who have not been tax residents in Portugal for the past 5 years** and work in eligible sectors and entities (as detailed in **Annex A**).

This is not available to former beneficiaries of the NHR or the Programa Regressar.

Application Procedure and Deadline

Deadline

- Registration with the Tax Authority: **by January 15 of the year following the registration** of Portuguese tax residency

Required Documentation

- Official form issued by the Tax Authority;
 - Employment contract or commercial certificate (if applicable);
 - Scholarship contract (for researchers);
 - Proof of academic qualifications;
 - Statement from the relevant entity confirming eligibility;
 - Other documents requested by certifying entities.
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Eligible Professional Activities and Categories

Higher Education and Scientific Research

Scientific employment in entities integrated into the national science and technology system; members of governing bodies in technology and innovation centres

Qualified Jobs linked to Productive Investment

Positions in entities benefiting from tax incentives for productive investment (Chapter II, Investment Tax Code)

R&D (SIFIDE II)

Staff whose costs are eligible for the R&D tax incentive system

Certified Startups

Members of startups recognised under the Startup and Scaleup Law

Autonomous Regions

Work carried out by tax residents in the Azores and Madeira, as defined by regional legislative decree.

Qualified Jobs in Strategic Economic Activities

Qualified positions in companies recognised by AICEP or IAPMEI as relevant to the national economy

Highly Qualified Professions

Specific professions in companies benefiting from the Investment Support Tax Regime or in industrial/service companies exporting $\geq 50\%$ of turnover

Key Tax Benefits

Employment Income

- **20% flat tax rate** on income earned in Portugal from eligible activities (instead of progressive rates of 14% to 53% including solidarity surcharge)
- **Exemption** for foreign-sourced employment and self-employment income

Passive Income

- **Exemption** for foreign dividends, interest, and royalties
- **Exemption** for foreign capital gains
- **28% rate** on capital gains from Portuguese movable assets
- Gains on Portuguese movable assets held for **less than 1 year** or exceeding **€86,634/year** may be taxed at progressive rates (12.5% to 48%)
- Portuguese capital gains on **real estate** are generally taxed at **6.5% to 24%**

Pensions

- Portuguese and foreign pensions are taxed at **progressive rates** (12.5% to 48%)

Cryptoassets

- **Exempt** if held for **more than 365 days**
- Otherwise, taxed at **28%**





Social Security Considerations

Registration with Portuguese Social Security (*Segurança Social*) is mandatory for income earners.

- **Self-employed individuals** are exempt from contributions in the first year
- After this period, contributions are **21.4% on 70% of gross earnings**, capped at 12 times the Social Support Index (IAS)

Other important considerations

- Eligibility requires **tax residency each year** and continued participation in qualified activities
 - A **change of activity is permitted** if the new activity begins within **6 months** of the end of the previous one
 - **Regulated professions** require proof of compliance with applicable legal standards and regulations
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Validity and Continuity of the Regime

The IFICI tax incentive is granted for a continuous period of 10 years. This period is not suspended if the taxpayer changes tax residence to another country. However, the taxpayer may return to Portugal and continue to benefit from the regime for the remaining validity period.

Take Advantage of Portugal's Tax Benefits

Portugal is positioning itself as a leading destination for global talent, fostering innovation and economic growth. If you are considering relocating or investing in Portugal, our team can guide you through the process.





**We are here to
support you every
step of the way.**

We offer you solutions.

ANNEX A: Eligible Professional Categories and Economic Activities

This Annex sets out the detailed qualifying professions and economic activities under the IFICI regime.

A.1 Highly Qualified Professions

Applicable to: Professionals working in (i) companies benefiting from the Investment Support Tax Regime, or (ii) industrial and service companies exporting at least 50% of turnover.

Minimum Qualifications: Level 8 EQF (Doctorate) or Level 6 EQF (Bachelor's degree) with at least 3 years of proven professional experience.

Registration: Portuguese Tax Authority (employer confirms via Portal das Finanças).

Qualifying Professions (CPP Codes)

Profession	CPP Reference
General director and executive manager	112
Manager of administrative and commercial services	12
Production and specialised services managers	13
Experts in physics, mathematics, engineering and similar techniques	21
Industrial and equipment designers	216
Doctors	221
University and higher education professors	231
IT and communication experts	25

Eligible Economic Activities for Highly Qualified Professions (CAE Codes)

Activity	CAE Reference
Extractive industries	Divisions 05 to 09
Manufacturing industries	Divisions 10 to 33
Information and communication activities	Divisions 58 to 63
Research and development in physical and natural sciences	Group 721
Higher education	Subclass 85420
Human health activities	Subclasses 86100 to 86904
Extractive industries	Divisions 05 to 09
Manufacturing industries	Divisions 10 to 33

A.2 Qualified Jobs in Strategic Economic Activities

Applicable to: Qualified positions in companies recognised by AICEP or IAPMEI as relevant to the national economy, particularly for attracting productive investment and reducing regional disparities.

Minimum Qualifications: Post-secondary non-higher qualification with credits for pursuing higher education, or a diploma as a higher professional technician. Regulated professions require proof of compliance with applicable legal requirements.

Registration: AICEP or IAPMEI

Qualifying Professions (CPP Codes)

Profession	CPP Reference
General manager and executive managers	112

Qualifying Professions (CPP Codes) - continued

Profession	CPP Reference
Manager of administrative and commercial services	12
Production and specialised services managers	13
Experts in physics, mathematics, engineering and similar techniques	21
Industrial and equipment designers	216
Doctors	221
University and higher education professors	231
IT and communication experts	25
Film, theatre, television, and radio directors, producers, and stage managers	265
Technicians and professionals in science and engineering at an intermediate level	31
Administrators, managers, or general directors of companies	—

Eligible Economic Activities (CAE Codes)

Activity	CAE Reference
Extractive industries	Divisions 05 to 09
Manufacturing industries	Divisions 10 to 33
Electricity, gas, steam, hot and cold water, and air conditioning	Division 35
Construction	Division 42

Eligible Economic Activities (CAE Codes) - continued

Activity	CAE Reference
Accommodation, catering, and similar activities	Classes 5511 and 5512
Information and communication activities	Divisions 58 to 63
Financial and insurance activities	Classes 6420 and 6630
Consulting, scientific, technical, and similar activities	Class 7010 and Divisions 71 to 72
Administrative and support service activities	Class 8211
Education	Class 8542
Human health and social support activities	Division 86 (except subclasses 86905 and 86906)

Note on Fund Management (Class 6630): Companies operating in Portugal must hold a valid licence issued by the Portuguese Securities Market Commission (CMVM) to carry out collective asset management activities, or be directly or indirectly owned by an entity holding a valid fund management licence issued by the competent regulatory authority in any EU or EEA country.

Other Recognised Activities

The following are also considered relevant to the national economy:

- Economic activities developed within the scope of investment projects recognised as having **Potential National Interest (PIN)**
- Economic activities developed within the scope of projects recognised as **Investment Projects for the Interior (PII)**