

## The Polytechnic Institute of Beja

### Brief Overview

The Polytechnic Institute of Beja (IPBeja), whose main academic activities initiated in 1986, is a professional and research oriented public higher education institution, duly recognized by the national authorities, located in the south of Portugal, in the region of Alentejo.

The Polytechnic of Beja has about 2500 students, enrolled in both undergraduate (*Licenciatura* /1st cycle, EQF level VI, 180 to 240 ECTS) and postgraduate programmes (*Mestrado* / 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle, EQF level VII, 90 ECTS) and other professional oriented post-graduate programmes (60 ECTS).

The students are served by 188 members of academic and research staff and 172 members of support staff. Regarding its academic and research structure, the Polytechnic comprises:

- 4 High Schools: Agriculture, Education, Health and Technology and Management
- 8 Scientific/Academic Departments
- 17 centers and T&R facilities
- 3 Training and development units: The Library, the Botanical Museum and the Knowledge and Transfer Centre

Assuming the “production and dissemination of knowledge, creation, transmission of cultural and vocational knowledge; guided research and experimental development in a lifelong learning approach” as its major mission, the IPBeja is primarily oriented towards engineering/technological, agricultural sciences teacher training education, but to respond to the expectations and needs of the society in general, the institution has expanded its area of activity to other scientific and technological fields, offering high quality programmes also in management, tourism, social sciences, arts and multimedia, sports and health.

At present, the main challenges rely on the internationalisation, the research and quality development and students employability, considered the cornerstones for a real regional development in the context of globalization and also fundamental for the implementation of the Bologna process and the creation of the European Higher Education Area, to which the Polytechnic Institute of Beja is strongly committed.

As far as **international cooperation** is concerned, the IPBeja is deeply committed with strengthening its cooperation ties by expanding partners and integrating new international projects and challenges.

Currently the IPBeja manages a framework of more than 100 partners worldwide, comprising Higher Education Institutions, Research Centers and Enterprises. Despite the mobility of

students and lectures, the IPBeja also participates in several international cooperation and research projects.

To attract **international students**, assure academic quality and sociocultural integration, the IPBeja offers unit courses and extra tutorial support in English and provide foreign student with all the requested logistic and administrative support (accommodation, Lisbon airport pick up service, welcome programme and other cultural activities).

**More** information to international students:

[https://www.ipbeja.pt/servicos/gmc/Paginas/International%20Students%20\(Erasmus\).aspx](https://www.ipbeja.pt/servicos/gmc/Paginas/International%20Students%20(Erasmus).aspx)

#### **Schools, Programmes and R&D areas**

The Polytechnic Institute of Beja has an academic structure of four schools – School of Agriculture, School of Education, School of Technology and Management and School of Health – each one well-resourced to support active and competence-based learning with a high degree of autonomy, offering a wide range of graduate and also some post-graduate study programmes in the framework of their different educational units.

- **The School of Agriculture (ESA):** Agronomy, Environmental Engineering and Food Sciences and Technology;
- **The School of Education (ESE):** Arts and Multimedia; Education and Special Needs; Social Work and Psycho-gerontology; Sports, Physical Activities and Health;
- **The School of Health (ESS):** Environmental Health; Nursing; Occupational Therapy;
- **The School of Technology and Management (ESTIG):** Computer Sciences; Occupational Safety and Hygiene; Management; Tourism; Applied Law.

**More** Information on the Academic Offer: <https://www.ipbeja.pt/EN/Pages/default.aspx>

#### **Teaching and Research (T&R) facilities**

Supporting both teaching and research activities, the IPBeja has several T&R facilities integrated into its four organizational units, namely:

- **Agriculture, Food Sciences and Environmental Field:** Centre for Science and Food Technology; Agricultural Experimentation Centre; Horticultural Centre; Laboratory for Soil Analysis; Laboratory for Plant Health; Research Unit in Environmental Protection;
- **Education, Sports, Arts and Social Sciences Field:** Competence Center of the School of Education: Centre for Teacher Training; Art and Media Communication Laboratory; Educational Support Center for the Teaching of English; Sports and Health Laboratory;

- **Technology and Management Field:** Materials Laboratory; Interactivity and Information Systems Laboratory; Soils Laboratory; Cybercrime and Informatics Security Center; Unity for Civil Protection;
- **Health Field:** Laboratory for Nursing Practices; *Laboratory for Occupational Therapy Practices.*

### **Contacts**

Web: [www.ipbeja.pt](http://www.ipbeja.pt)

Address:

Polytechnic Institute of Beja  
International Relations Office  
Rua Pedro Soares, APT. 6155  
7800-295 Beja (PT)

Tel: 00351 284 314 400

E-mail - International Relations Office: [gri@ipbeja.pt](mailto:gri@ipbeja.pt)

Contact persons

António Padeirinha (Cooperation Projects – KA2) - [antonio.padeirinha@ipbeja.pt](mailto:antonio.padeirinha@ipbeja.pt)

Maria Cristina Palma (Inter-Instituional Agreements and Mobility – KA1) - [cristina.palma@ipbeja.pt](mailto:cristina.palma@ipbeja.pt)