



Disclaimer: this is an English translation of the official Call for Application, available in Italian on this link. In case of conflict or discrepancy, the Italian version shall prevail.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

ADMISSION TO DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES – 39th cycle (AY 2023/24)

issued with Rector's decree no. 436/2023 prot. no. 67791 of 12 May 2023
and published on the University Official Notice Board (no. 747/2023 prot. no. 67792)

OPENING DATE for applications: 12 May 2023 – from 17:00 hours (Italian time)

CLOSING DATE for applications: 15 June 2023 – before 13:00 hours (Italian time)

This Call for Applications is available online on: <https://www.units.it/dottorati/call>

Art. 1 – DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

The *Università degli Studi di Trieste*, hereinafter University of Trieste, announces a selection for admission to the following Doctoral Programmes on offer in the academic year 2023/2024 (39th cycle):

- **Environmental Life Sciences** (attachment 1)
- **Applied Data Science and Artificial Intelligence** (attachment 2)
- **Molecular Biomedicine** (attachment 3)
- **Chemistry** (attachment 4)
- **Circular Economy** (attachment 5)
- **Physics** (attachment 6)
- **Civil - Environmental Engineering and Architecture** (attachment 7)
- **Industrial and Information Engineering** (attachment 8)
- **Personalized Medicine and Innovative Therapies** (attachment 9)
- **Nanotechnology** (attachment 10)
- **Neural and Cognitive Sciences** (attachment 11)
- **Earth Science, Fluid-dynamics and Mathematics. Interactions and methods** (attachment 12)
- **History of Societies, Institutions and Thought. From Medieval to Contemporary History** (attachment 13).

Pursuant to art. 3 of Ministerial Decree D.M. 226/2021, the above Doctoral Programmes can be run only after verification that they meet the requirements for accreditation. Doctoral Programmes officially start on 1st November 2023.

The agreements with companies that are required for the qualification of the doctoral Programmes as "Industrial PhD" (namely, Applied Data Science and Artificial Intelligence, Circular Economy, Personalized Medicine and Innovative Therapies) - pursuant to Art. 10 of Ministerial Decree 226/2021 - are still to be finalized. This qualification is subject to the approval by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) that is granted at a later stage.

The above-mentioned attachments, named "Admission", form an integral part of this Call for Applications and are posted on the dedicated webpage. These attachments include, for each Doctoral Programme, the

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number and type of places offered, the documentation to be uploaded, the terms and conditions for applying and the schedule of examinations.

An overview of each Programme is given at the link on top of the "Admission" files. It includes the description of curricula, if any, research topics, objectives, job opportunities, and the PhD Board, whose final composition will be published by the start of the academic year.

Additional scholarships which may become available after the publication of this Call, or any changes to the calendar or testing modalities, will be announced on the mentioned attachments.

A few scholarships are funded with support from the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR). Other scholarships included in the "Industrial PhD" Programmes, and identified with the code M(FSE+), will be funded with support of the European Social Fund Plus 2021/2027 (ESF+), after approval of the application for funding by the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (FVG).

Selection procedures are managed to ensure maximum transparency, impartiality and publicity to potential recipients.

The University of Trieste adopts a gender equality policy, according to the Plan approved by the University Senate and Board of Directors in their meetings of 21 and 28 January 2022, respectively.

The PNRR and ESF+ "horizontal principles" are hereby ensured, ie sustainable development including the DNSH principle ("*Do no significant harm*"), equal opportunities, non-discrimination and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

For any issues not expressly regulated by this Call, the general provisions in force and the Regulations on Research Doctorates of the University of Trieste (Rectoral decree no. 261/2022) shall apply (<https://www.units.it/dottorati/> >> Leggi e decreti).

Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must hold one of the following qualifications:

1. an Italian second-level qualification known as "Laurea Magistrale" or "Laurea Specialistica", or else an Italian degree awarded under the former university system (ie prior to D.M. no. 509 of 3 November 1999, as amended by D.M. no. 270 of 22 October 2004);
2. a comparable foreign academic qualification allowing access to Doctoral studies in the issuing country (see art. 3).

The above-mentioned qualifications must be gained **by 31 October 2023**.

Some Doctoral Programmes may require specific university qualifications. Please see the relevant "Admission" attachment for information.

Candidates holding a Doctoral degree cannot be admitted to the same Doctoral Programme.

Art. 3 - INTERNATIONAL DEGREES

Any second-cycle Higher Education qualifications obtained from a foreign institution and considered as equivalent to the required Italian degrees give access to the Doctorate (see art. 2). International degrees are assessed by the Board of Examiners for the sole purpose of admission to the Doctoral Programme, based on the level of the qualification, the length and/or the field of study of the degree programme, in compliance with the relevant laws in force in Italy and in the awarding country, as well as with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of foreign qualifications.

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The above-mentioned conditions apply to any candidates - irrespective of their nationality - holding a foreign degree issued by institutions both from a EU and a non-EU country.

The application process is online only (see art. 4.1). Applicants need to upload a certificate of the required academic qualifications along with the relevant Transcripts of Records, as detailed in the "Admission" attachment. Candidates are strongly encouraged to provide any other document that might be useful for consideration of their application (e.g. Diploma Supplement, "dichiarazione di valore" issued by the Italian Embassy or Consulate in the awarding country, syllabi, etc.).

Candidates obtaining the required degree after the closing date for applications will be admitted conditionally, provided that they upload all other mandatory items. The degree certificates must be submitted **within 10 days of their graduation**.

If the certificates are delivered in a language other than English, a translation in English or Italian must be uploaded. At this stage, the translation may be provided by the candidates themselves, who take full responsibility for the accuracy and truthfulness of the version.

Upon enrolment, successful candidates shall submit the full supporting documentation, including the official translations, duly **legalized** by the relevant authority in the issuing country (see art. 6.2).

Candidates on reserved places who are granted a PhD scholarship from abroad or a fellowship funded by international mobility programmes (eg MSCA) need to submit proof of the scholarship award. In case of suspension or loss of the scholarship, the University has no obligation to finance the remainder of the scholarship.

Art. 4 – APPLICATIONS

4.1 – Application procedure

The application deadline is **15 June 2023, 13:00 hours** (Italian time).

Applications must be submitted online via the University system <https://esse3.units.it/Home.do>. Applications sent by any other means will not be processed

The application process consists of **three steps**:

- 1) **Registration**: applicants who have never registered on the University site need to register online before applying in order to obtain their username and password (credentials) which will allow them to move on to the second stage. To register, applicants are strongly advised to use [SPID](#) (*Sistema Pubblico di Identità Digitale*), providing that they are eligible to obtain one;
- 2) **Application**: after registration, applicants need to complete the online application including the upload of the documents listed in the relevant "Admission" attachment.

The reference letters – where required - must be uploaded on the University platform by the reference person indicated in the application. Applicants must enter the email addresses and personal details of the reference persons, who will receive an email notification with instructions on how to proceed with the upload of the letter, as soon as the application process is completed.

The applicant and the reference person will eventually receive a notification that the document has been uploaded. The letters, as uploaded by the reference person, will be available to the Board of examiners. Applicants can send a reminder on the platform to the reference persons or change their names by the application deadline (**June 15, 2023, 13:00** Italian time).

The deadline for the reference person to upload the letter is **June 19, 2023, 13:00** Italian time.

Reference letters sent by any other means will not be considered.

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3) **Payment of the registration fee:** for each application an exam registration fee (€ 30.00) must be paid by **15 June 2023** (closing date for applying). Applicants failing to pay within the first day of assessment of qualifications shall be excluded from the competition (see the relevant date on the “Admission” attachment of the chosen Doctoral Programme). Exclusion will be announced in the “Assessment” file. The fee is non-refundable, except where more than one payment has been mistakenly made for the same application.

Candidates residing abroad who are unable to pay online due to banking restrictions in their country of residence can write to dottorati@amm.units.it before 15 June 2023 and provide proof of the said restrictions. If the request is accepted, the candidate will be allowed to pay the fee within the date of their enrollment.

Late applications cannot be submitted: after the closing date and time the online system will no longer allow access to the application. The date and time of application are certified by the online system, and a receipt thereof can be downloaded at the end of the process. Applicants will also receive an email message confirming submission. It is solely the candidate’s responsibility to ensure that the application is submitted correctly, including the uploaded attachments. The Doctoral Office will not respond to individual inquiries on the status of applications.

Candidates are strongly encouraged to complete their application and pay the admission fee well in advance of the deadline, in order to avoid any possible crashing of the IT system and subsequent failure of the application process - due to the high number of last-minute applicants.

Requests for password recovery sent after **12 June 2023** cannot be processed.

By submitting the online application, applicants accept the provisions of this Call for Applications and the applicable University Regulations on Research Doctorates.

4.2 – Applicants with disabilities and learning impairments (LSD)

Candidates with a recognised disability (pursuant to Law no. 104/1992 as amended by Law no. 17/99), or with a disability of at least 66% may request special aids and up to 50% extra time for completing a written test, where applicable.

Requests must be submitted in writing to the Disability Service along with a copy of the certificate from the Public Medical Board (the Italian Commissione Sanitaria), as provided by Law 104/1992, or official acknowledgement of disability. Before visiting the Service, candidates are advised to book an appointment by email or telephone at least 10 working days prior to the date of the examination:

Servizio Disabilità e DSA: Sede: tel. 040 558 2570/7663 - email disabili.dsa@units.it - webpage: <https://web.units.it/page/it/dsdi/dis/home>

Candidates with specific learning disorders (LSD) may request up to 30% extra time, and in the event of serious issues, special aids aimed at ensuring equal opportunities, provided they submit a medical certificate of diagnosis, in accordance with Law no.170/2010 (art. 3) and the State-Regions Agreement of 24/7/2012. Requests must be submitted to the Disability and Learning Impairment Service (Servizio Disabilità/DSA). Candidates are advised to book an appointment by email or telephone at least 10 working days prior to the date of the examination (see contacts above).

Art. 5 – ADMISSION EXAMINATION

5.1 - Terms and conditions

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Terms and conditions of admission, as well as the schedule of examinations, are advertised on the “Admission” information sheets of each Doctoral Programme (see Attachments), which shall constitute notification to all applicants. The Doctoral Office is under no obligation to notify the candidates individually. Candidates are therefore expected to check the relevant website from time to time to take notice of any variations.

Knowledge of English will be tested during the interview. Candidates may be required – if indicated on the Admission attachment - to have a minimum language level.

When sitting the examination, candidates must show proof of identity (ID card, passport or equivalent document issued by the government).

Failure to attend the interview on the scheduled date and time, or to show a valid ID document, shall result in the candidate’s exclusion.

The University of Trieste is not to be held responsible or liable for any technical failures that may impede the interview.

Interviews are public, i.e. access to the room, whether real or virtual, is ensured to whoever is interested in attending.

5.2 – In-person interview (optional videoconference)

Applicants unable to attend the interview in person – where the remote mode is not mandatory - may be interviewed remotely. To apply for the remote interview, they need to complete and upload, along with their online application, the “[Videoconference form](#)”, duly signed.

Candidates must be reachable on the day and time scheduled for the interview (see calendar on the relevant Admission attachment). The Board of Examiners may agree with the candidate the exact time for the interview. Candidates having applied for videoconferencing can nevertheless attend the interview in person at the scheduled time, provided they bring a valid ID document.

Candidates who wish to attend the interview remotely, but had not applied for it by the deadline of the online application (15 June), can send the videoconference form to the email address indicated in the relevant “Admission” attachment up to four working days before the date of the interview (or within the date indicated in the attachment, where different), by giving reasons for their late request. The Board of Examiners will inform the candidates whether their request is accepted. If no reply is received, the request shall be deemed rejected and the candidate will need to attend the interview in person. Failure to do so shall result in the candidate’s exclusion.

Any requests sent to email addresses other than those indicated in the Admission attachments will not be considered.

5.3 – Remote interview (mandatory videoconference)

If the videoconference is the only mode identified by the PhD Programme for conducting the interview, candidates must access the platform as indicated on the “Admission” attachment and/or on the “Assessments” file.

5.4 - Boards of Examiners and shortlists

Boards of Examiners are appointed by the Rector, considering, where possible, gender equality, to carry out a comparative evaluation of the candidates.

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The composition of the Boards will be posted on the “Admission” attachment of the relevant Doctoral Programme.

The Boards can carry out their work remotely while ensuring the security and traceability of communication.

The Board may consult experts for technical advice on specific topics.

On completion of the evaluation process, each Board will draw up a shortlist in decreasing score order. Places and scholarships on subject-specific projects requiring particular competencies may be offered based on the best assessment obtained on such places.

The Doctoral Board will assign the places and scholarships, based on the minutes of the Board of Examiners.

The candidates' preferences about the type of PhD places as well as the project submitted upon application are not binding for the examiners nor for the Doctoral Board.

Successful candidates will be offered the places by rank order. Should two or more candidates obtain the same score on a non-funded place, the younger candidate shall prevail.

The names of the candidates, the results of the assessments and the final shortlists will be posted on the PhD website in the relevant attachments.

Candidates will be notified of the publication on their personal email account.

The Doctoral Office is not to be held responsible for any failed delivery of the notification, or any invalid email account. It is highly recommended to check the spam folder where emails from the University may be addressed by the mail providers.

Art. 6 – ENROLMENT APPLICATION

6.1 - Procedure

Successful candidates must submit the enrolment application and pay the first instalment of fees **within 5 working days** of the date of the publication of the shortlist, **before 13:00 h**. When the deadline expires on a Sunday or a public holiday, it is automatically extended to the next working day.

Procedures and deadlines will be posted at the bottom of the relevant shortlist. Publication thereof shall be deemed to constitute **official notification**. Enrolment on each Doctoral Programme is possible within the limit of places available, where applicable (see art. 6.6).

Candidates failing to submit their enrolment applications by the deadline or submitting incomplete applications shall be considered to have withdrawn and the vacant places shall be made available to the next eligible candidates on the list. Eligible candidates who have not been selected for a place and wish to be considered for a vacant place must file an application by the deadline established for enrolment of successful candidates. Applications submitted outside the said deadlines cannot be considered.

After applying for enrolment, PhD candidates shall consult with the Programme Coordinator for guidance.

As a rule, attendance and research activity of the Doctoral Programme start on 1 November 2023.

Successful candidates who have obtained their degree after the deadline for application (15 June) will have to send the required documentation or, if they have graduated from an Italian University, send a self-declaration in lieu of certificate to dottorati@amm.units.it **within 10 days of their graduation**.

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If the Doctoral Programme offers funded places only, successful candidates cannot accept the position and turn down the scholarship or grant they qualified for.

Before the start of their activity, any PhD student shall inform the University Prevention and Protection Service of the type of activity they will perform by filling out the dedicated form. For further information: http://www.units.it/prevenzione/procedure/nuovi_arrivati.php.

Con il perfezionamento dell'immatricolazione al dottorando sarà assegnato un numero di matricola e con le stesse credenziali potrà accedere a tutti i servizi di Ateneo per i quali si rende necessario effettuare il login (moodle, posta elettronica istituzionale, etc.).

Candidates maintain their “**pre-enrolled**” **student status** until achievement of their qualification and until completion of the document verification process. Once the process is completed, the PhD candidate is enrolled and will be given their student number and credentials to access the University online services (Moodle, e-mail account, etc.).

6.2 – Candidates holding a foreign degree

In order to complete their enrolment, successful candidates holding a foreign qualification must submit the supporting documentation which was uploaded at the time of application for admission, bearing the **legalization or Apostille** stamp.

They shall also submit an **official translation** of their certificates in English or Italian (if they are delivered in a different language), ie legalized by the local Italian Embassy or Consulate or sworn before a Court in Italy.

6.3 – Candidates residing outside Italy

Upon arrival in Italy, successful candidates from abroad must provide a copy of their Italian tax code and an address in Italy.

Recipients of doctoral scholarships also need to have a bank account in Italy, and must enter the relevant bank details on the student management system (ESSE3).

6.4 – Candidates from non-EU countries

Successful candidates from non-EU countries will have to register on the [University](#) platform and apply for an entry visa at the Italian Embassy or Consulate in their country of residence.

Upon enrolment, they need to submit their permit of stay in Italy (allowing study at university) or – if still to be delivered – the receipt of their application for the permit.

Non-EU candidates who are awarded a research grant shall submit a permit of stay for the purpose of “scientific research”.

6.5 – Reserved places

Some Doctoral programmes offer places which are reserved for certain groups of candidates: graduates from foreign universities, with or without scholarship (code RB and RF, respectively), candidates who are granted a scholarship by a foreign country (code RC), candidates joining programmes of international mobility (code RD), or – only within the so-called “Industrial PhD Programmes” – highly-qualified staff from companies, research centres or other organisations (code RE).

Selection procedures and timelines for reserved places might be different, and a separate shortlist shall be made.

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Enrolment is allowed after approval from the Doctoral Board, provided that the candidate meets the qualifications as required by article 2.

6.6 – Vacant places

Vacant places will be assigned to other eligible candidates by rank order as follows:

- a)** after the enrolment deadline, any places that may remain available as well as the list of candidates that qualify for such places will be posted on the relevant shortlist. The eligible candidates will be notified by email and, if they wish to be considered for the places, they need to apply for the vacant places by the deadline placed at the bottom of the shortlist. The places will be assigned by rank order.

In order to speed up the process - in the event that there are still places to be covered close to the start date of the Doctoral Programme – candidates may be required to confirm or decline their interest in the vacant place.

The University is not to be held responsible for any failed delivery of the notification.

- b)** candidates entitled to vacant places shall apply for enrolment within the deadline and according to the terms that can be found at the bottom of the shortlist, failing which they shall be excluded.

Note:

- to avoid delays in the Programme schedule, time limits for enrolling on vacant places might be shorter than those required under art. 6.1;
- any scholarships that shall remain vacant is also made available to candidates who have already enrolled on a non-funded place;
- if the Board of Examiners - in addition to the final score - has assessed the candidates competencies based on an evaluation scale in relation to a subject-specific place/project, the best evaluation shall be considered for assigning such place. In the event of equal evaluation, the highest final score following rank order will prevail;
- successful candidates on a non-funded place can decline the offer of such a place and apply for a vacant (funded) place, provided they are eligible for the funded place;
- the Doctoral Board may decide to assign the vacant places also following withdrawal of enrolled candidates, provided that the timely start of the PhD research and training is ensured.

Art. 7 – SCHOLARSHIPS

7.1 – General provisions

Scholarships are available for all applicants, save if otherwise stated in the “Admission” attachments of the Doctoral Programme (reserved places). Upon acceptance of the scholarship, candidates must meet the relevant requirements in accordance with DM 226/2021 and the University Regulations on Research Doctorates. Recipients of PNRR or ESF+ scholarships must also meet the conditions required under the relevant funding programme.

PhD students may waive or suspend their scholarship at any time, if they benefit from an alternative funding, while keeping their place in the PhD Programme, if approved by the Doctoral Board.

Scholarships are granted annually and are renewed every year for the entire duration of the Programme (36 months), as long as the PhD student has successfully completed the planned activities, as assessed by the Doctoral Board.

For exceptional reasons and for scientific needs, the PhD Board may grant an extension of the duration of the Programme and of the scholarship for a period not exceeding 12 months.

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The PhD scholarship is paid in monthly installments for a total annual amount of **€ 16,243.00**, gross of national insurance contributions to be borne by the student. The scholarship may be increased by a maximum of 50% for conducting research abroad for a limited length of time, i.e. not exceeding the number of months, as indicated in the relevant “Admission” attachment. In any event, the scholarship increase can be granted only for uninterrupted stays abroad of at least sixty days.

Any PhD student, whether employed or self-employed, can be awarded the scholarship as long as their income from work is not higher than €15,000 before tax and after social security contributions (for the academic year 2023/24 the applicable tax year is 2024). The doctoral scholarship, as well as any remuneration from tutoring activity according to art. 25, par. 2 and 3 of the Doctoral Regulations do not count towards the income amount. In the event that the PhD student’s income exceeds the mentioned limit, the scholarship will be suspended and withdrawn, and the student will have to pay back the relevant scholarship installments. The said limit does not apply to recipients of PNRR scholarships.

For details on compatibility with work activity, see art. 25 of the above-mentioned Regulations.

Candidates who have already been awarded a doctoral scholarship once, even partially, are no longer eligible to receive another PhD scholarship.

Scholarships cannot be granted along with fellowships or other grants, except for scholarships awarded by Italian or foreign institutions for the purpose of supporting the PhD activity with stays abroad.

Should any PhD student decide to no longer work on the assigned project with their research group and Supervisor, the Doctoral Board may revoke the scholarship and assign a new research project or else dismiss the PhD student.

For information on unemployment benefits following completion of the Doctoral Programme, scholarship recipients are advised to contact the local INPS office (ie the Italian authority for State pensions).

7.2 – Scholarship award

Scholarships are awarded by the Doctoral Board to successful candidates according to their rank order. Where applicable, the Board shall also consider the assessment of the candidate’s competence in the specific research subject required by the place, with a view to allotting as many scholarships as possible.

Should two or more candidates obtain the same score on a funded place (except for subject-specific places), the income value of the candidate’s family, known as Equivalent Economic Indicator (ISEE), shall be considered for the scholarship or grant allocation, and the lowest one shall prevail.

Successful candidates need to confirm acceptance of the scholarship using the appropriate form. Candidates who are granted PNRR or ESF+ scholarships will also need to sign a specific document whereby they agree to comply with all obligations and conditions under the relevant programme. Scholarships cannot be offered to candidates whose competence on the research subject has been assessed as unsatisfactory by the Board of Examiners.

Any scholarships that may be available after the publication of this Call for Applications, or after the selection process, can be assigned only providing that there are any successful candidates according to the criteria given above.

Scholarships will be paid monthly, normally on the 25th day of the month, as from the second month of actual attendance of the PhD activity.

Students starting to attend the activities after November will eventually have to resume attendance, and will be paid the relevant scholarship accordingly.

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Please note that timely payment of the scholarship as from December 2023 (for PhD students regularly starting attendance in November) is not guaranteed to candidates whose supporting documentation for enrolment is received after 10 October 2023, and to candidates applying for enrolment after that date.

7.3 – Scholarships funded by the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+)

7.3.1 – General information

The Region Friuli Venezia Giulia makes available resources of the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+), Operational Programme 2021/2027 - Year 2023 - Priority 2 Education and Training (see notice attached to the Decree no. 17895 of 19 April 2023), to enhance competence and promote flexible upskilling and reskilling opportunities for all taking into account digital skills, better anticipating change and new skills requirements based on labour market needs, facilitating career transitions and promoting professional mobility.

By this initiative, the Region will grant PhD scholarships with the purpose of developing and strengthening the connections with the regional production system and research institutions through co-operation actions with companies or research institutions in the region, or through technology transfer of processes, products, applications or research results.

Such scholarships are hereby offered and their allocation is only possible after prior approval of the project draft submitted by the University of Trieste to the Region FVG.

7.3.2 – Requirements

Candidates applying for ESF+ scholarships must meet all the requirements as per art. 2 and must be resident or domiciled in the Region Friuli Venezia Giulia from the start of the Doctoral Programme/project and for the entire length of their PhD, failing which they will lose their eligibility.

7.3.3 – Responsibilities

In addition to the responsibilities as set out in art. 12, recipients of ESF+ scholarships must submit a final report on their research and relevant results, countersigned by their supervisor. The PhD students will submit their three-year report at the end of the mandatory 36 months of attendance (excluding any suspension periods). Further instructions and deadlines will be given at a later stage.

7.3.4 – Early project termination

Termination of the project before completion is only possible - with no obligation to return the scholarship instalments received – when one of the conditions as set out in art. 7.3.5 applies.

7.3.5 – Leaves of absence

The project and the scholarship can be suspended only in the event of:

- a) mandatory maternity leave;
- b) parental leave for up to six months, or nine in case of single parents;
- c) serious illness;
- d) other serious issues beyond the control of the PhD student preventing regular performance of the doctoral activity. In this event, the suspension needs to be approved by the Doctoral Board and by the Officer in charge at the Region FVG.

In such circumstances, scholarship holders need to submit a substantiated application. The project shall be resumed at the end of the leave of absence.

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The maximum amount of leave of absence that can be granted, by regulation, is no more than 12 months overall.

7.3.6 – Allocation of scholarships

Scholarships are awarded by the Doctoral Board according to the criteria set out in art. 7.2, taking into account that the selected candidates must help develop and strengthen the connections with the regional production system or research institutions through co-operation actions with companies or research institutions in the region, or through technology transfer of processes, products, applications or research results.

Recipients of ESF+ scholarships may conduct their research abroad for up to 6 months during the three years of the Programme. For this purpose, the scholarship amount may be increased as provided by art. 7.1.

Art. 8 – DOCTORAL PROJECT

In accordance with art. 7 of the University Regulations on Doctorates, the doctoral student project consists as follows:

- a) in developing - under the guidance of at least two supervisors - an individual research project in one of the research areas of the PhD Programme, as approved by the Doctoral Board;
- b) in attending courses and other training activities, approved by the Doctoral Board, including complementary skill training provided by art. 4, par. 1 letter f) of DM 226/2021.

The doctoral project involves an exclusive and full-time commitment, approximately 1720 hours per year, except for the provisions of art. 28 of the Regulations.

A specific provision of the University will regulate the achievement of credits to be earned with training activities in Italy and abroad.

Art. 9 – RESEARCH GRANT

Research grants may be offered if advertised in the “Admission” attachments, and are awarded to successful applicants by way of term contracts regulating the research activity.

The winner of the selection will not be allowed to start the doctoral activity before the above contract is signed.

Research grants are regulated by art. 22 of the Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 and by the relevant University Regulations.

Non-EU grant holders living outside Italy will sign a “Hosting Agreement” with the University to obtain an entry visa for “scientific research”. Grant holders shall sign the contract only after completion of the process for obtaining their permit of stay.

Art. 10 – EXCLUSION FROM THE MERIT LIST

All candidates are admitted to this competition, subject to verification that all requirements have been met (art. 43 of D.P.R. 28th December 2000, no. 445). Therefore, the University may exclude a candidate from the competition at any time. The University shall also verify the truthfulness of the candidate’s statements as well as the authenticity of the documents submitted. Any false statements or documents shall be punished as violation of the Criminal Code and of the laws regulating the matter.

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Any non-compliance with the provisions as given in this Call for Applications as well as with the rules in force on Doctoral Programmes will lead to the candidate's exclusion from this competition.

Art. 11 – FEES

Enrolled students pay tuition fees - where applicable - and the regional fee as set out in the "Fees Policy", published on <https://www.units.it/studenti/tasse-e-agevolazioni>.

In the event that the PhD students waive their scholarship in the course of the academic year, they will be exempt from paying the fees as from the following year; should they waive it upon enrolment in their second or third year, they will be exempt from the payment as from that year.

Art. 12 – RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPATIBILITY

Doctoral students are committed to ensuring performance of their PhD activity on an exclusive full-time basis.

Students wishing to perform any working activity outside their PhD project will have to be authorized by the Doctoral Board which will evaluate consistency with the PhD activity.

All students are covered by mandatory national insurance against accidents at work, issued by I.N.A.I.L. (Italian Insurance Against Injuries and Accidents at Work) in compliance with art. 4 of decree D.P.R. no. 1124 of 30 June 1965. They are also provided with third-party liability insurance, which the University has contracted with a major insurance company. Please note that insurances only cover accidents that occur whilst carrying out the PhD activity.

Doctoral students from the Medical area can take part, on request, in clinical activities, provided they are licensed medical practitioners and are covered against professional risks.

To civil servants attending the Doctoral Programmes apply the provisions pursuant to art. 12 par. 5 of DM 226/2021.

The University of Trieste is committed to ensuring equal opportunities to all individuals.

Students cannot be simultaneously enrolled on two Doctoral Programmes (with the exception of joint supervisions of theses), but they may be enrolled on a Doctoral Programme and a different degree programme within the limits set out by D.M. no. 930 of 29 July 2022 and D.M. no. 933 of 2 August 2022.

Joint attendance of a Doctoral Programme and a postgraduate Medical Training Programme (residency) is allowed in compliance with art. 7 of D.M. 226/2021 and art. 28 of the University Regulations on Doctorates, with the exception of PNRR-funded scholarships which cannot be granted to medical residency students.

Any doctoral candidates - with the exception of students whose scholarships are funded by a foreign country or by international mobility programmes - are entitled to at least 10% of a PhD scholarship (as set out by the Ministry of University and Research) for their research expenses.

Further information on rights, duties, and compatibility of PhD attendance with other activities, are available on the University Regulations on Research Doctorates.

Art. 13 – DOCTORAL THESIS

At the end of the doctoral training, students shall take an examination in which they need to demonstrate to have achieved results of scientific relevance by submitting a written thesis or a graphic project.

In order to be admitted to the final examination, candidates shall submit their doctoral theses in electronic format by the set deadline.

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Doctoral theses are made public in Open Access, in compliance with the provisions of the Institutional Open Access Policy available on <http://hdl.handle.net/10077/8791>. For PNRR-funded projects, in particular, valorization of research results and intellectual property protection are ensured, while making research results and data accessible as early as possible and with the least possible restrictions, according to the “Open Science” and “FAIR Data” principles.

Terms and conditions for admission to the final examination and for thesis submission are announced every year.

Art. 14 – DATA PROCESSING - ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS - OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

All personal data collected for the purpose of this competition shall be processed and stored, including by automated means, in compliance with art. 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

The provision of personal data is compulsory, as they are required in order to manage the recruitment process. Failure to provide them will result in the applicant exclusion from this competition.

The Data Controller is the University of Trieste having its legal address in Piazzale Europa, 1 – 34127 Trieste.

The data used for the mentioned purposes will be disclosed to or accessed by staff and their co-workers, as instructed by the Controller.

The University may also disclose the controlled personal data to other public administrations, should this be required for the execution of their public functions, as well as to other public bodies, where disclosure is mandatory pursuant to EU provisions or laws and other legal acts.

The collected data are filed and managed by means of University’s servers and/or - should this be required for the administrative management - external servers of service providers, who – for the sole purpose of the required service – may access personal data if duly designated as Processors pursuant to art. 28 of the GDPR Regulation.

Participation in the competition implies tacit consent to the online publication of the applicants’ names and results.

By virtue of artt. 15-21 of the said Regulation, applicants have a number of rights, namely the right to access their personal data, to request to have them rectified, completed or erased or to have the processing of their data restricted, by sending their request via email to the Controller or the Data Protection Officer: ateneo@pec.units.it or dpo@units.it.

Where applicable, candidates have the right of access to the documentation related to this competition, under existing law (L. 241/90 and D.P.R. 184/2006).

The Officer in charge of the administrative procedure is the Head of the Doctoral Office of the University of Trieste (*Unità di staff Dottorati di Ricerca*), pursuant to Law 241/1990. As regards assessment of the candidates, the Chair of each Board of Examiners is in charge of the relevant procedure.

Any scientific publications submitted by the candidates at the time of application shall be used only for the assessment of candidates and the formation of merit lists. Foreign qualifications may be submitted to third parties for the purpose of assessment or verification.

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Doctoral Office	
Location and opening hours	Contacts
<p>Address: Main University building (Building "A") right-hand wing – room 234 Piazzale Europa, 1 - 34127-TRIESTE</p> <p>Opening hours (by appointment): Monday: 3:00 to 4:00 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00 to 11:00 am</p> <p>Telephone assistance: Monday to Thursday: 12:00 am to 1:00 pm.</p>	<p>web: http://www2.units.it/dott/en/</p> <p>telephone: +39 040.558.3182</p> <p>email: dottorati@amm.units.it</p>

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