

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II



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PhD programmes – 38th cycle – academic year 2022/2023

Call for applications of foreign students

APPLICATION DEADLINE

July 19th 2022 15 p.m. (CET)

This document cannot be used for legal purposes and it is only meant to provide information in English on the call for applications.

Establishment of the PhD Call

The Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II has opened the call for the PhD programmes of the 38th cycle (2022-2023)¹

The Admission to the PhD programmes will be on a competitive basis. The selection of the candidates will be based on the evaluation of their academic records, written tests and/or interviews, as published in the attachment A-Engl.

Therein, for each PhD Programme the following items are listed:

- The criteria of selection;
- The number of open positions;
- The number of fully funded scholarships (including the number of scholarships and positions solely reserved to candidates with foreign degrees and/or resident abroad);
- the duration, the Coordinator and the Department/Institutions where the PhD student will be registered at;
- the address where candidates must deliver or send their documents and assessment transcripts, and the timetable of the admission exams;
- the webpage address of each PhD course, which provides the candidates with information about the organization, research topics and educational activities.

Positions with scholarships pursuant to Ministerial Decree no. 351 of 9 April 2022 and the Ministerial Decree n. 352 of 9 April 2022 are granted under the condition of the approval of the ministerial funding. The PhD scholarships are granted to the candidates only to pursue the restricted topics indicated in the aforementioned decrees and in compliance with the eligibility criteria pursuant to art. 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Ministerial Decree n. 351 of 9 April 2022 and art. 6 of the Ministerial Decree n. 352 of 9 April 2022.

The places covered by scholarships may be increased as a result of funding by public or private entities. The authorization to sign the relevant agreement must take place before the benning of the examinations procedure of the research doctorate. The agreement may provide for specific modalities of the study and training program.

The timetables reported in the announcement (see attachment A-Engl) should be considered as an official

¹ Pursuant to the MIUR Decree No. 45 of 08/02/2013, PhD programmes can start only after being accredited by the Ministry in accordance with the consistent opinion of ANVUR. Therefore, candidates will be able to enroll once the final ranking list is published, and only if the programme has been accredited for the 38th cycle.

notification to candidates, who will not receive any further written notice about the examinations.

Any changes to the calendars will be promptly on the University website, at <http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione>. The candidates are expected to refer to this link constantly.

Admission Requirements

To apply to the above PhD Programmes candidates (with no restriction about age and citizenship) should have obtained one of the following degrees:

- master degree, equivalent to "laurea specialistica" or "laurea magistrale" (as defined in the Italian Ministerial Decree nr. 509/1999 and its subsequent modifications and integrations);
- academic degree, equivalent to the "laurea vecchio ordinamento" Degree, of a total minimum duration of 4 years;
- an equivalent degree obtained from a foreign university.

The candidates, who does not have completed yet the academic degree during the selection procedure, have to graduate by the date of the enrollment.

Foreign Academic Degree

The equivalence of the degree of the candidates graduated abroad will be evaluated on the basis of the documents attached by the candidate to the application form. The equivalence of the foreign degree will be ascertained only for the purposes of the admission procedure. Refer to the following section for more details on the documents that have to be provided.

Applications

Candidates are expected to submit the applications only through the following link <https://pica.cineca.it/unina/dottorato38/> by July 19th 2022, 15.00 P.M. (CET).

Only candidates with foreign academic degree are exempted from the payment of the examination fee of 50 euro.

In order to assess the academic titles, candidates are expected to upload the following documents on the <https://pica.cineca.it/unina/dottorato38/> platform:

1) Candidates with an italian degree

1. Graduation mark and weighted average on the basis of the CFU of the marks of the relative exams passed during the *Laurea Specialistica / Laurea Magistrale* and other elements deemed suitable for evaluation (for example, list of exams taken with the relative marks). Such titles must be submitted by substitutive declaration of certification, made pursuant to article 46 of Presidential Decree n. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments;
2. graduation mark and weighted average on the basis of the CFU marks of the relative exams passed during the *Laurea Triennale* and other elements deemed suitable for evaluation (e.g. list of the exams taken with the relative marks). These qualifications must be presented by substitutive declaration of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree n. 445/2000 and further modifications;
3. master's degree thesis and any publications accompanied by a "*dichiarazione sostitutiva di atto notorio concernente la conformità all'originale*";

4. any other qualifications (e.g. scholarships, further academic qualifications) by means of substitutive declaration of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree n. 445/2000 and further modifications.
5. Reference letter(s), which must be submitted as explained below.

2) Candidates graduating in Italy

1. Weighted average on the basis of the CFU of the marks of the exams taken during the *laurea specialistica / laurea magistrale* and other elements deemed suitable for evaluation (for example list of exams taken with the relative marks). These qualifications must be presented by substitutive declaration of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree n. 445/2000 and further modifications;
2. graduation mark and weighted average on the basis of the CFU marks of the relative exams passed during the *laurea triennale* and other elements deemed suitable for evaluation (e.g. list of the exams taken with the relative marks). These qualifications must be presented by substitutive declaration of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree n. 445/2000 and further modifications;
3. any publications accompanied by a "*dichiarazione sostitutiva di atto notorio concernente la conformità all'originale*";
4. any other qualifications (e.g. scholarships, further academic qualifications) by means of substitutive declaration of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree n. 445/2000 and further modifications;
5. Reference letter(s), which must be submitted as explained below.

3) Candidates with a foreign academic degree

1. degree certificate, both first and second level, indicating the exams taken and the study plan followed (the certificate must be translated in English);
2. second level degree thesis and any publications accompanied by *dichiarazione sostitutiva di atto notorio concernente la conformità all'originale*;
3. any other qualifications (scholarships and certificates of attendance of post-graduate courses, qualifications linked to research activities, scores reported in standardized tests used for the admission to university courses at national or international levels etc.)
4. Reference letter(s), which must be submitted as explained below;
5. Curriculum Vitae.

4) Candidates graduating abroad

1. academic certificate, indicating the exams taken and the study plan followed (the certificate must be translated if not in English);
2. any publications accompanied by *dichiarazione sostitutiva di atto notorio concernente la conformità all'originale*;
3. any other qualifications (scholarships and certificates of attendance of post-graduate courses, qualifications linked to research activities, scores reported in standardized tests used for the admission to university courses at national or international levels etc.);
4. Reference letter(s), which must be submitted as explained below;
5. Curriculum Vitae.

The application must be printed, signed and uploaded in the procedure following the instructions described in the procedure, attaching a copy of a valid identity document. Lack signature and / or identity document are grounds for exclusion from the selection.

After completing the application, the candidate can request letters of reference by filling in the dedicated section, by the deadline for submitting the application (19 July 2022, 3.00 pm - Italian time).

The notice of completion of the letter will be sent to the referee only after the final closure of the application. The referee will be automatically notified by the system and will have to fill in the letter model himself in the online procedure and send it by 21 July 2022 at 15:00 (Italian time).

The Administration assumes no responsibility for the failure to receive the documentation linked to an error attributable to the candidate, or by any errors attributable to third parties, case fortuitous or force majeure.

To candidates with disabilities, who declare in the procedure that they request further support during the selection, the procedure provides the indications on how to fill in the declaration, pursuant to current legislation (Law No. 104/1992 as supplemented and amended by Laws No. 17/1999 and n. 53/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions), and the uploading of the relative medical certification.

Selection Procedure

The selection procedures are aimed to attain a comparative evaluation of the candidates, and to assess their knowledge and aptitudes for the scientific research. The selections are:

- a) assessment of the qualifications, and written and interview
- b) assessment of the qualifications, and interview.
- c) assessment of the qualifications, research proposal evaluation and interview

In the attachment A) eng, for each PhD programme the selection procedures are indicated.

Moreover, all the candidates must prove a good knowledge of a foreign language (English, French, Spanish and German). Only for the PhD programmes in "Physics" and "Cardiovascular Pathophysiology and Therapeutics", English language will be mandatory during the interview.

All the exams can be taken in one of the above mentioned languages. Required qualifications and subjects of the exams must pertain the frame of scientific interest of each PhD Programmes: they could differ depending on the fields of interest of the PhD Programme itself.

The Admission Board can assign a total amount of 100 marks.

item a) In case the admission to the PhD programme will be assessed by means of assessment of the qualifications, followed by written and interview, the marks will be assigned as here stated: maximum of 20, for the assessment of the qualifications; a maximum of 30, for the written examination; a maximum of 50, for the interview.

Qualifications will be assessed in agreement with the rating reported, as follows:

- the entire university career, using the graduation grade or average weighted on the basis of the CFU, the marks of the exams taken and, possibly, others elements deemed suitable by the Commission as evaluation elements: up to a maximum of 15 points;
- scientific publications, master's degree thesis and other relevant qualifications (awards, patents, grants of study, etc.), any reference letter(s): up to a maximum of 5 points.

To be admitted to the written test, the candidate must get no less than 8/20 in the assessment of his/her qualifications.

The written test consists in the preparation of a text on a topic chosen by the candidate from among those (minimum three) indicated by the commission.

Candidates who have passed the written test with a score of not less than 18/30 are admitted to the interview.

To pass the interview, the candidates are expected to obtain a score of at least 30/50.

item b) In case the admission to the Phd programme will be assessed by means of assessment of qualifications and interview, the marks will be assigned as here stated: a maximum of 30 for the assessment of the qualifications, and a maximum of 70 for the interview. Qualifications will be assessed by following the rating here below reported:

- the entire university career, using the graduation grade or average weighted on the basis of the CFU, the marks of the exams taken and, possibly, other elements deemed suitable by the Commission as evaluation elements: up to a maximum of 22 points;
- scientific publications, master's degree thesis and other relevant qualifications (awards, patents, grants of study, etc.), any reference letter(s): up to a maximum of 8 points.

To be admitted to the interview, the candidate must get no less than 12/30 in the assessment of his/her qualifications.

To pass the interview, the candidates are expected to obtain a score of at least 42/70.

Item c) In case the admission to the Phd programme will be assessed by means of assessment of the qualifications, research proposal evaluation and interview, the marks will be assigned as here stated: a maximum of 20 for the assessment of the qualifications, a maximum of 30 for the evaluation of the research proposal, a maximum of 50 for the interview.

Qualifications will be assessed by following the rating here below reported:

- the entire university career, using the graduation grade or average weighted on the basis of the CFU, the marks of the exams taken and, possibly, other elements deemed suitable by the Commission as evaluation elements: up to a maximum of 15 points;
- scientific publications, master's degree thesis and other relevant qualifications (awards, patents, grants of study, etc.), any reference letter(s): up to a maximum of 5 points.

To be admitted to the interview, the candidate must get no less than 8/20 in the assessment of his/her qualifications and 18/30 in the research proposal's evaluation.

To pass the interview, the candidates are expected to obtain a score of at least 30/50.

The final score will correspond to the sum of the marks assigned in the assessment of the qualifications, written examination (if required), and interview.

To take the examination, candidates will produce one of the following legally valid identity documents: identity card, passport, driving license. The candidate will be considered as a renouncer, if she/he, for any reason, will be absent on the day, place and time scheduled for the examinations. The interview may be held remotely.

Additional Information Merit Ranking Lists

PhD Programmes offering different positions will have two distinct merit ranking lists: one for not-reserved positions, a second one for reserved positions (i.e. position reserved to candidates graduated abroad).

Candidates will be ordered in the final lists by following the decreasing order of the sum of their marks. In the case of parity in marks between two or more candidates, precedence is given to the youngest candidate.

Selected candidates will be admitted to the chosen PhD programme on the basis of their standings in the ranking list until all the positions available, with and without grants, have been filled.

Should any reserved position, with and without grants, remain vacant, it could be used to increase the number of the not-reserved ones (and vice versa).

If a candidate - eligible for enrolment in a PhD Programme – does not complete the enrollment procedure by the deadline established in the next section or, in case of renouncement by the beginning of the academic activities, the position will be assigned to the candidate who follows her/him in the ranking list.

Enrollment procedure

The Rectoral Decrees approving the rankings of the PhD courses will be published, from the September 14th 2022, in the Official Register of the University, present on the University website and at the address <http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-diammissione>.

This publication will formally notify the winners of the competition results.

The winners, no later than the next five days from the date of publication of the Rectoral Decree approving the ranking list, must deliver the enrolment form duly filled in: the form is available on the University Website: <http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione>;

That form will include the following documents:

- 1) a substitute self-certificate confirming the awarding of a master's degree, and its final grade;
- 2) a substitute self-certificate where the admitted candidate declares she/he is not (and that even in the past she/he has not been) a recipient of other PhD scholarships; the enrolling PhD students must also declare they are not attending a *scuola di specializzazione non medica* (non-medical graduate school), a master's degree or a Ph.D. programme: should this not correspond to their position, candidates must undersign a declaration confirming the suspension of this attendance;
- 3) a declaration where the candidate confirms she/he is informed on the prohibition to attend – all over the duration of the PhD course – a *scuola di specializzazione non medica* (non-medical graduate school), a master's degree or a Ph.D. programme.

If their academic degree has not been already declared equivalent to the Italian one, admitted candidates which are non-italian citizens and did graduate abroad, must also deliver to the PhD offices a certificate of the master degree, which must be previously translated and legalized (with an attached "dichiarazione di valore" / Declaration of value) by the Italian Embassy/Consulate with competencies on the Country where the University which conferred that degree is located.

Further information are available at the MIUR (Italian Ministry for University and Research) website: <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/>

All the self declarations above mentioned could be reported, in a unique form, which can be downloaded from the University of Naples website: <http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione>.

Together with the enrolling form, a photocopy of an identity document (duly undersigned) and the receipt of the payment of the regional tax for the right to education (tassa regionale per il diritto allo studio) have to be submitted.

In the Rectoral Decree will be established the procedure to send the required documents for the enrollment. Students not fulfilling such requirements will be no longer enrolled in the PhD Programme.

Following explicit or tacit withdrawal by successful candidates before the start of the course, any vacant places will be assigned to the next candidates in the ranking. Should any places with funding become available following withdrawals, the following may apply for such vacant places, according to the rankings: winners who already enrolled without scholarship, winners of a place without funding who haven't enrolled by the deadline for the enrolment, the other eligible candidates in the ranking.

The communication about the vacant places will be published, on the webpage of the ph.d. office <http://www.unina.it/didattica/postlaurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione>, from September 22th 2022.

No further communication will be made to the candidates.

Student grants

The scholarships will be conferred by following the order in the final ranking, until full coverage of the available positions.

For the sole purpose of the assignment of scholarships, in case of parity in marks between two or more candidates, precedence will be given to the candidate with a lower income (the economical status of the candidates will be evaluated with the same procedures adopted for the enrolment fees of the students.)

Scholarships have a yearly duration: they will be renewed on the condition that the PhD student has completed the program scheduled for the previous year, and that he has been admitted to the following one. The annual scholarship amounts to 16.243,00 Euros, including social welfare charges. The grant covers the entire time duration of the PhD programme.

The instalments will be credited monthly, by postponed payments. PhD students with a personal income exceeding 16.243,00 Euros (counted out the scholarship itself) can not be the recipients of the grant.

The amount of the scholarship is increased to a maximum extent of 50% for periods the PhD student spends abroad, for no more than 12 months. This increase will be not supplied for periods the PhD student will spend in her/his own Country, or in the Country in which she/he has the residence.

Scholarships already credited to PhD students exceeding the aforesaid yearly income must be given back to the University. The same if the PhD student does not fulfil the requirement stated below (see section on "Rights and Obligations of PhD Students").

Whoever has already received a student grant for a PhD Programme, even for one half of the total duration of the PhD course, can not apply for a new grant a second time.

The grants can not be added up to other scholarships, except those ones from national or foreign institutions, to integrate training or research activities abroad.

Scholarships will be credited according to the actual periods of attendance to study and research activities. Starting from the second year of the PhD course, in addition to the scholarship (and limited to the availability of resources in the financial budget of the university) an extra- budget will be assigned to the PhD student, to support her/his research activities in Italy and abroad: this budget will be dependent on the typology of the PhD program, and anyhow it will be no less than the 10% of the PhD scholarship amount.

In the act of enrolling, who is eligible for a grant must present a declaration about presumed gross personal income and absence of the above mentioned incompatibilities. Such a declaration must be reaffirmed at the beginning of each subsequent academic year of attendance of the PhD Programme. Moreover, students supported with grants must provide themselves with a "Gestione separata" position, to be registered at INPS (the Italian National Social Security Institute).

To comply with the enrolment at INPS, refer to the website <http://www.inps.it>

Fees and contributions

Students enrolled at PhD Programme are required to pay, for each year of course, the regional tax for education of 140€.

Rights and obligations of PhD Students

Attending a PhD course implies an exclusive and full time engagement.

Ph.D. students recipient of scholarship assigned under Ministerial Decree 351 and Ministerial Decree 352 have to satisfy the following requirements:

- a) for the scholarship PNRR ricerca: candidates are expected to spend a study abroad period of at least 6 months;
- b) for the scholarship Pubblica Amministrazione, Patrimonio Culturale, Transizioni digitali e ambientali: candidates are expected to spend a study abroad period of at least 6 months, moreover candidates are expected to spend a research and study period in private firms, research centres or public entities of at least 6 months and not exceeding 12 months;
- c) for the scholarship funded by Ministerial Decree 352: candidates are expected to spend a study abroad period of at least 6 months, moreover candidates are expected to spend a research and study period in private firms of at least 6 months and not exceeding 12 months.

PhD students are obliged to attend and undertake all the scheduled activities, to present all the oral and written reports required, and carry out whatsoever it is established by the Academic Board of the PhD Programme.

At the end of each academic year the Academic Board, on the basis of a detailed report of the activities and research carried out by each PhD student, will deliberate upon admission to the next year, or will propose to the Rector her/his exclusion from the PhD Programme.

At the end of the PhD programme, the students must submit to the Academic Board a report concerning all the activities they attended to, and their publications, if any.

Contemporary attendance at the PhD Programme and at other Ph.D. programmes, Master's degree and non-medical graduate school is forbidden.

Students enrolled in a PhD Programme may request suspension from attending the courses for maternity, civil service (for this last occurrence, no more than 1 year). The Academic Board will take note of these suspensions.

Students enrolled in a PhD programme may request suspension from attending the course due to serious illness for no more than 6 months.

Suspension with a duration more than 30 days obliges the PhD students to recover all the time corresponding to the interruption of their academic activities; additionally, for PhD students granted with scholarship, this suspension entails the cessation of the grant payment for the period involved.

The entire duration of the PhD course cannot be reduced due to these suspensions: thus, the completion of the course will be deferred for a corresponding time.

PhD students are allowed to carry out her/his activities abroad, for a period no longer – as a whole - than 12 Months, in case of a cotutelle agreement the period abroad can be extended to a maximum of 18 months.

In such a case, the authorization by the Academic Board will be needed, and the previous consent by their supervisors. For periods no longer – as a whole – of 6 months, it will be sufficient the authorization by the PhD coordinator, and the previous consent by the supervisor.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and PhD Thesis

The degree of “Doctor of Philosophy” (in its shorted Italian form “Dott. Ric.”, corresponding to “Ph.D.”) is obtained by passing the final examination, i.e. defending a PhD thesis at the end of the PhD Programme.

The Rector confers it in conformity with the university regulations.

The final dissertation can be written in English, or in a different language, with the previous approval of the Academic Board. By 30 days after the discussion of the PhD thesis, the University will record them – as electronic files – in the MIUR (Italian Ministry for University and Research) data-base.

The University of Naples Federico II uploads the full text of the PhD thesis on its Open Archive, with a free internet access. The University also provides to transfer the PhD theses to the National Libraries of Rome and Florence. On duly justified request by the PhD student, the Academic Board could allow to inhibit parts of the PhD thesis to the open access, so that data covered by industrial secret can not be consulted – for a certain period - by third parties.

Access, Treatment of Personal Data and Responsible of the Procedure

All the candidates are allowed to require an access to the procedures related to the competitive examinations, within the frame of rules and criteria stated in the University Regulation about the right to be informed on its administrative acts.

The University will take care to respect the privacy on the personal data of the candidates. The Chief of the Office for PhD programmes, Fellowships and Scholarships at the University of Naples Federico II is the responsible about any fulfilment of the here announced competitive examinations, apart those acts which are competence of the Admission Board.

Publication of the PhD Call

This call is published in an electronic format on the website of the University of Naples Federico II, on the European website "Euraxess", on the MIUR (Italian Ministry for University and research) website. All the documents related to this call will be exclusively published on the Official register of the University of Naples (www.unina.it).

The electronic publication must be considered as an official notice to all the interested candidates: no personal communication will be sent to them.

All the acts and documents here above cited will be also posted up in the Office for PhD programmes, Fellowships and Scholarships at the University of Naples "Federico II", in Via G. Cesare, 29 – Napoli.

Reference

As for what not specified in the present summary, one must refer to the announcement published in the University Website <http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione> (see also the Italian D.M. nr. 45/2013).