



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

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

for the awarding of additional doctoral positions with scholarships co-funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) – Ministerial Decrees 117/2023 and 118/2023 - NextGenerationEU, and other funding

39th CYCLE - AY 2023/2024

(enacted with Rector's decree no. 626/2023 Prot. 118634 of 21 July 2023
and published on the University Official Notice Board with no. 1198/2023 Prot. 118637)

OPENING DATE for applications: 21 July 2023 – 13:00 (Italian time)

CLOSING DATE for applications: 21 August 2023 - 13.00.00 (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 the awarding of additional doctoral positions within the following Doctoral Programmes on offer in the academic year 2023/2024, 39th cycle (see the relevant file name “Admission-NRRP”):

- **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).

The announced doctoral positions are co-funded by the Ministry of University and Research (Ministerial Decrees, M.D. no. 117/2023 and M.D. no. 118/2023) allocating resources for the implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), funded by the European Union, NextGenerationEU.

The mentioned decrees implement Mission 4 “Education and research” of the National Plan, as follows:

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M.D. 117/2023

Component 2 "From Research to Business" (M4C2)

Investment 3.3 "Building innovative doctorates meeting the market innovation needs and promoting recruitment of researchers by businesses"	Innovative doctorates meeting the market innovation needs	Study and research	
		In a company (see definition of "company" under art. 1, par. 19 of M.D. 117/2023)	abroad
		mandatory from 6 to 18 months (see attachments for relevant info)	mandatory from 6 to 18 months (see attachments for relevant info)
		The company and the abroad research periods are conducted separately.	

M.D. 118/2023

Component 1 "Enhancement of the educational offer: from pre-school to university" (M4C1)

		Study and research	
		In a company/research centre/other (see definition of “company” under art. 1, par. 19 of M.D. 117/2023)	abroad
Investment 3.4 “Advanced teaching and university skills”	Green and digital transition	mandatory in a company or research centre from 6 to 12 months (see attachments for relevant info)	mandatory from 6 to 18 months (see attachments for relevant info)
Investimento 4.1 “Increasing the number of doctorates and innovative doctorates on Public Administration and Cultural Heritage”	NRRP research	optional in a company or research centre	
	Public Administration	mandatory in a public organisatin, company or research centre from 6 to 12 months (see attachments for relevant info)	
	Cultural Heritage	mandatory in a company, research centre or public organisation, including museums, educational institutions of the Ministry of Culture, archives, libraries from 6 to 12 months (see attachments for relevant info)	
		The company and the abroad research periods are conducted separately.	

In addition to the scholarships co-funded by the NRRP, some PhD Programmes may offer a few doctoral positions on other funds, as well as non-funded positions.

The selected candidates for NRRP scholarships will start their doctoral activity no later than 30 December 2023, whereas candidates on the other positions will start on 1 November, unless otherwise required.

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Doctoral Programmes subject to accreditation by the Ministry of University and Research under M.D. 226/2021 will be run within the above-mentioned dates, pending the Minister's provision.

The NRRP scholarships be allocated provided the grant is approved by the Ministry, in compliance with art. 7, par. 11 of M.D. no. 117/2023 and with art. 11, par. 8 of M.D. 118/2023. Therefore, this selection procedure will be valid only after positive assessment.

The above-mentioned attachments ("Admission-NRRP") form an integral part of this Call for Applications and can be found on the dedicated webpage. They include the number and type of the scholarships offered, the documentation to be uploaded, terms and conditions for applying and the schedule of the examinations. Every attachment also includes a link to the Programme overview (research topics, objectives of the Programme, Doctoral Board members, etc.).

Additional doctoral positions which may become available after the publication of this Call, or any changes, will be announced on said attachments.

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

The EU "horizontal principles" are hereby ensured, ie gender equality, accessibility for persons with disabilities, non-discrimination, sustainable development (including "*Do no significant harm*" principle – DNSH). All NRRP priorities are also guaranteed under Regulation (EU) 2021/241, such as youth protection and development, and the overcoming the territorial divide.

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.

For any issues not expressly regulated by this Call, the general provisions in force and the University Regulation on Doctorates (Rectoral decree no. 261/2022) shall apply.

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 - as well as some scholarships/positions - may have specific requirements. Please see the relevant "Admission-NRRP" 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.

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

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“Admission-NRRP” 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 until submission of their degree certificate, provided that they upload all other mandatory items.

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, duly **legalized** by the relevant authority in the issuing country (see art. 6.2), including the **official translations**.

Art. 4 – APPLICATIONS

4.1 – Application procedure

The application deadline is **21 August 2023, 13:00:00** (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.

Any documentation that may have been uploaded with the application for the previous selection (as per the Call for Applications of 25/05/2022) cannot be considered.

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-NRRP” attachment.
- 3) Payment of the registration fee: for each application an exam registration fee (€ 30.00) must be paid by **21 August 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-NRRP” attachment of the chosen Doctoral Programme). Exclusion will be announced in the “Assessment” file or upon publication of the merit list. The fee is non-refundable, except where more than one payment has been mistakenly made for the same application.

Only candidates from Countries included in [this list](#) are exempt from payment of the exam fee.

Candidates residing abroad who are unable to pay online due to banking restrictions in their country of residence must provide proof of such restrictions and request a delayed payment to dottorati@amm.units.it. If the request is accepted, the candidate will be allowed to pay within five (5) days of the publication of the interview results. Should the deadline fall on a Sunday or holiday, it will be postponed on the following day.

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 however the candidate’s responsibility to ensure that the application is submitted correctly, including the uploaded attachments.

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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 **17 August 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.

The Doctoral Office will not respond to applicants inquiring whether their application has been correctly received.

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 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, to the Disability Service (Servizio Disabilità). 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: tel. 040 558 2570/7663 - fax 040 558 3288 – email disabili.dsa@units.it - website: <https://web.units.it/page/it/dsdi/dis/home>.

Candidates with specific learning disorders (LSD) may request up to 30% extra time, where applicable, and in the event of serious issues, they may request 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/Learning Impairment Service (Servizio Disabili/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

Terms and conditions of admission, as well as the schedule of examinations, are advertised on the attachments of this Call for Applications, which shall form an integral part of this Call, as well as 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 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)

Candidates must attend the interview on the scheduled date and time, as shown on the “Assessments” file of the relevant PhD Programme. The Board of Examiners may agree with the candidate the exact time for the interview.

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Applicants wishing to be interviewed remotely can apply for videoconferencing, if they cannot attend in person. For this purpose, they must upload the “[Videoconference form](#)” with their online application.

Candidates failing to indicate their account for the videoconferencing are excluded from the selection. Applicants for videoconferencing can nevertheless attend the interview in person at the scheduled time, provided they bring a valid ID document.

Should a candidate – who had not requested a videoconference interview at the time of their application - be unable to attend the interview in person, they can send the videoconference form to the email address and within the date indicated in the relevant attachment, 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)

If the videoconference is the only mandatory mode for conducting the interview, candidates must access the platform as indicated on the “Admission-NRRP” attachment and/or on the “Assessments” file.

5.4 - Boards of Examiners and shortlists

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

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

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

The Boards can appoint experts for technical advice on specific topics.

On completion of the evaluation process, each Board will draw up a shortlist in decreasing score order.

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

Successful candidates will be offered the places by rank order. However, candidates may not be granted a scholarship, if they are assessed as not having the subject-specific competencies required by the research topic related to the scholarship, despite their final score.

Neither the Doctoral Board, nor the examiners, are bound to the candidate's preferences about the type of scholarship. Should two or more candidates obtain the same score on a non-funded place, the younger candidate shall prevail.

The results of the assessments and the final shortlists will be posted on the PhD website. Candidates will be notified of their ranking 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 3 working days** of the date of the publication of the shortlist, **before 13:00.00**. Should the deadline fall on a Sunday or holiday, it is postponed to the following 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 subject to the limit of places available.



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

Candidates failing to file their enrolment applications by the deadline or filing 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 same deadline for enrolment of successful candidates. Applications submitted outside the said deadlines cannot be considered.

Successful candidates who have obtained their degree after applying for admission 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**.

Candidates maintain their “**pre-enrolled**” **student status** until achievement of their qualification and until completion of the document verification process by the Doctoral Office. 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.).

Before the start of their activity, PhD students shall consult with the Programme Coordinator and/or Supervisor for guidance, and 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.

6.2 – Candidates holding a foreign degree

In order to complete their enrolment, successful candidates holding a foreign qualification must send by e-mail 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), duly **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](https://www.units.it) 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 - where applicable - 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.

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 are awarded to other eligible candidates by rank order as follows:

- a) any scholarships that may remain available will be advertised on the relevant shortlist;
- b) candidates having applied for vacant places by the deadline shall enroll within the date and according to the terms shown at the bottom of the shortlist, failing which they shall be excluded. Any scholarship will be awarded according to the ranking list and in accordance with Article 7 (see below). The Doctoral office will assign the vacant places within the limit of their number.

Note:

- to avoid delays in the Programme schedule, deadlines for enrolment on vacant places may be shortened;
- if the Board of examiners has scored the candidates on specific competencies required by a scholarship/project, the best assessment shall be considered for assigning such place. In the event of equal score on that scholarship, the highest final score following rank order will prevail;
- the Doctoral Board may decide to award 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, unless otherwise specified on the attachments.

Upon acceptance of the scholarship, candidates must meet the relevant conditions under M.D. 226/2021, the University Regulation on Doctorates and any other special condition as required by the grant.

PhD students may waive 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. Such option does not apply to NRRP or FSE+ scholarships.

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.

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-NRRP” 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). Income from activities provided by [art. 25, par 5](#) of the Doctoral Regulation is not considered. The scholarship does 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. For NRRP and ESF+ scholarship holders, exceeding said limit will also result in the termination of the PhD Programme.

For details on compatibility with work activity, see art. 25 of the University Regulation on Research Doctorates.

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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 other funding, except for additional grants awarded specially for the purpose of supporting PhD research abroad. With regard to NRRP and ESF+ scholarships, respect of the EU principle of additionality of Union funding is hereby ensured, whilst avoiding double funding from other Union programmes for the same expenditure.

Should any PhD student decide to no longer work on the assigned project with their research group and Supervisor, their scholarship will be revoked.

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 candidate's competency in the specific research topic required by the scholarship.

Should two or more candidates obtain the same score on a scholarship, the income value of the candidate's family, known as Equivalent Economic Indicator (ISEE), shall be considered for the scholarship award, and the lowest one shall prevail.

Successful candidates need to confirm acceptance of the scholarship using the appropriate form, including acceptance of the NRRP or ESF+ programme conditions, where appropriate.

Scholarships cannot be offered to candidates whose competency on the research topic has been assessed as unsatisfactory by the Board of Examiners.

Any scholarship that may be available after the publication of this Call for Applications, or after the selection process, is assigned according to the same 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.

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.

7.3.2 – Requirements

Candidates applying for ESF+ scholarships must meet all the eligibility 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.

7.3.3 – Responsibilities

In addition to the responsibilities as set out in art. 11, successful candidates 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 – 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 months in case of single parents;
- c) serious illness;
- d) other serious issues beyond the control of the PhD student preventing regular performance of the activity. In this event, the suspension needs to be approved by the Doctoral Board and 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.

The leave can be granted, by regulation, for no more than 12 months overall.

7.3.5 – Allocation of scholarships

Scholarships are awarded by the Doctoral Board according to the criteria set out in art. 7.2, considering 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.

ESF+ candidates 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 M.D. 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.

Research conducted by NRRP grant holders must meet the NRRP environmental objectives, ie the DNSH (“Do no significant harm”) principle pursuant to art. 17 of Regulation (EU) 2021/852 whilst excluding the so-called “brown” activities ([Commission Notice – Technical guidance on the application of do no significant harm under the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation](#)) and ensuring that the project activity complies with the relevant EU and national environmental legislation.

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

Art. 9 – 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.

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. 10 – FEES

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

In the event that 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. 11 – RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPATIBILITY

The PhD student who is granted the scholarship agrees to:

- sign the specifications on scholarship acceptance;
- conduct study and research at an institution abroad, as specified in the attachments;
- conduct study and research at a company or research centre or other organization, as specified in the attachments;
- submit a report every six months on the main activities performed, including months spent at another institution, in Italy and abroad (via an online platform set up by the Ministry which will be available at a later date) - to be validated by the Coordinator;
- ensure visibility and transparency in all materials and scientific products, as per art. 34 of the EU Regulation 2021/241, by displaying the European Union flag (emblem) and the funding statement (eg "project funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU).

Doctoral 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.

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 Ministerial Decrees no. 930/2022 and no. 933/2022.

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

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

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

Art. 12 – 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.

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>.

The NRRP funding requires better use of research results and protection of intellectual property, while ensuring public access to research data and results (eg publication of original results, raw data and metadata, sources, digital image or visual representations and multi-media materials) in the shortest possible time and with as few restrictions as possible, 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. 13 – 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).

Legge 241/1990 - Responsabile del procedimento: Tatiana Bertolotti



The Officer in charge of the administrative procedure is the Head of the Doctoral Office (*Ufficio Dottorati di Ricerca*) of the University of Trieste, 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.

Doctoral Office
Contacts: Piazzale Europa, 1 – 34127 TRIESTE Central Building, second floor, room 234 ph: +39 040.558.3182 from Mon. to Thu.: 12:00 am to 1:00 pm email: dottorati@amm.units.it web: http://www2.units.it/dott/en/
Opening hours (by appointment): Monday: 3:00 to 4:00 pm Tue., Wed., Thu.: 9:00 to 11:00 am

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