

Annex 1

CALL BY PUBLIC COMPETITION FOR 41 PHD SCHOLARSHIPS M.D. 629/2024 AND M.D. 630/2024 (NRRP FOUND)

XL CYCLE

D.R. rep. n. 761 prot. n. 134778 of June 12th 2024

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 12th 2024
12:00 (midday) Italian time**

* The registration procedure will be automatically interrupted at 12 p.m. sharp,
it is necessary to begin the trials in advance to conclude it by the deadline

Disclaimer

The official and legally binding announcement is the Italian one available [here](#) . The present document cannot be used for legal purposes and it is only meant to provide information in English on the call for applications

academic year 2024/2025

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Art. 1
ANNOUNCEMENT

1. In implementation of Ministerial Decrees n. 629 and 630 of 24 April 2024 which, with funding from the European Union and the Next Generation EU initiative, provided for the allocation of resources under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) for doctoral scholarships, the University of Florence announces, for the 40th cycle, additional **41 doctoral fellowships** for the programmes indicated below.

AREA	PhD programmes	629 I.3.4 Digital and green transition	629 I.4.1 NRRP Research	629 I.4.1 PA	629 I.4.1 Cultural heritage	630 I.3.3. Innovative
biomedicine	Drugs and Innovative Treatment Area					1
	Tuscan Ph.D in Neurosciences	1				1
	Biomedical sciences					3
science	Evolutionary Biology and Ecology			1		1
	Physics and Astronomy					2
	International Doctorate in Atomic and Molecular Photonics					1
	International Doctorate in Structural Biology					1
	Mathematics, Computer Sciences, Statistics					3
	Chemical Sciences					2
social sciences	Development Economics and Local System			1		
	Political and Social Change			1		
	Legal Sciences			1		1
	Social Sciences for Sustainability and Wellbeing		1			2
technology	Architecture and Design Cultures, Knowledge and Safeguarding of Cultural Heritage					1
	Sustainable Management of Agricultural Resources, Forestry and Food					1
	Information Engineering					2
	Industrial Engineering					4
	International Doctorate in Civil and Environmental Engineering					1
	Agricultural and Environmental Sciences					2
	Smart Computing					1
	Sustainability and Innovation for the Design of Built Environment and System Product					1
Urban Future Studies					1	
humanities	Philology, Italian Literature, Linguistics			1		1
	Comparative Languages, Literature and Culture					1
		1	1	5		34

2. The number of positions may be increased by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR) through a specific provision following the reallocation of additional PNRR resources to the University. Notice of

the increase will be given on the University's website at the following address: <https://www.unifi.it/p12670.html> , in this case, the deadlines for submitting applications will not be re-opened.

3. Pursuant to M.D. No. 226/2021, doctoral programmes may be activated upon accreditation or verification that accreditation requirements are maintained by MUR. Therefore, winners will only be able to register following the successful outcome of this verification.

Art. 2

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

1. Doctoral scholarships are activated within the framework of the set topics and in compliance with the eligibility criteria set out in the aforementioned Decrees 629 and 630.
2. The scholarships announced under [M.D. 629/2024](#) are related to Mission 4, Component 1 "Strengthening the supply of education services: from kindergartens to universities" - Investment 3.4 "Advanced university education and skills" and Investment 4.1 "Increasing the number of PhDs and innovative PhDs for public administration and cultural heritage" and are aimed at the implementation of projects addressing the following themes:
 - digital and green transition
 - NRRP Research
 - Public Administration
 - Cultural heritage
3. The scholarships under [M.D. 630/2024](#) are related to the Mission 4, Component 2 "From Research to Industry" - Investment 3.3 "Introduction of innovative doctoral programmes that meet the innovation needs of companies and promote the recruitment of researchers by companies" and are co-funded by companies for the implementation of innovative doctoral programmes to meet research and innovation needs.
4. There are only positions with a scholarship on specific research topics and the scholarship must be used from the start and for the entire three-year duration of the programme. Those who forfeit the scholarship automatically terminate their PhD studies. There are no admissions over and above the prescribed number.
5. All scholarships include a period of study and research abroad; further requirements, including study and research periods in companies/research centers or public administrations and the details of each individual scholarship are set out in Annex 2 "Scholarship Fact Sheets."
6. The duration of the doctoral programme is three years, and it is scheduled to start on 1 November 2023, unless a different timeframe is dictated by the MUR and National Agency for the Evaluation of the University System and Research - ANVUR so that they may verify eligibility for support and the consistency of assigned research projects. The final awarding of scholarships is therefore subject to the confirmed eligibility for ministerial funding. Activities will in any case start by 31 December 2023.
7. Submission of the application for admission, according to the procedures in Article 4, implies the applicants' acceptance of the rules contained in this call and in compliance with the mentioned Decrees
8. All communications to applicants regarding this call will be sent by e-mail. The e-mail address given by the candidate in the application will be used for this purpose.
9. The use, in this notice, of the masculine gender has no discriminatory character but, understood as gender-neutral, responds only to needs of more immediate communication.

Art. 3

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Those who hold one of the following academic qualifications by the deadline of the call may apply for

the selection, without age or citizenship limitations:

- master's degree awarded in accordance with Ministerial Decree 270/2004;
 - master's degree awarded in accordance with Ministerial Decree 509/1999;
 - degree awarded under the educational systems prior to Ministerial Decree 509/1999, the legal course of which has a duration of at least four years;
 - second-level academic degree awarded by institutions that are part of the AFAM (Higher Education Institutes in the Arts and Music) sector;
 - academic qualification from foreign universities equivalent to the Italian degree required for admission.
2. Those who will be awarded one of the above degrees by 31 October 2024 may also apply. These candidates are admitted to the selection with reserve, and it is their duty to send a self-certificate of the awarding of the academic qualification to the Doctoral Office (dottorato@unifi.it). Failure to submit the above self-certificate by the specified deadline will result in exclusion from the selection.
 3. Those who have already benefited, even partially, from a scholarship for attending a doctoral programme are excluded from the selection.
 4. Failure to possess the academic qualifications as indicated in the preceding paragraphs, also results in exclusion from the course.

Art. 4

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION AWARDED ABROAD

1. Applicants with foreign academic degrees (equivalent to a master's degree) may apply for admission by attaching the qualifications obtained, accompanied by their translation into Italian or English, even a translation completed personally and under their own responsibility. Such candidates are admitted to the selection with reservation and will be excluded from the selection, or, if they pass it, from the doctoral programme in which they are enrolled if it turns out, upon verification, that the degree does not comply with the requirements of this notice and does not, therefore, allow enrolment in the doctoral programme.
2. The academic degree awarded abroad must be comparable in duration, level and subject area to an Italian second-level academic degree. The suitability of foreign degrees not already recognized under current regulations is ascertained by the Doctoral Admissions Board for the sole purpose of taking part in the admissions procedure, in compliance with the relevant regulations in force in Italy and in the country where the degree was awarded, as well as with international Treaties or Agreements on the recognition of degrees for the pursuit of studies. Candidates whose qualification obtained abroad is not suitable for access to the doctoral programme shall be excluded from the selection.
3. By the beginning of the programme, however, the translated degrees, legalized in Italian and accompanied by a "Dichiarazione di valore in loco" (declaration of value) issued by the competent Italian Representations of the country in which the degree was obtained, or else the '[Statements of comparability and verification of the foreign university degree](#)' issued by the ENIC-NARIC center in Italy (CIMEA) containing all the information required to evaluate the degree, must be delivered to the PhD Office together with the application form. For academic qualifications obtained in a country of the European Union, a diploma supplement will suffice.
4. For the purpose of entry into Italy, citizens of non-EU states residing abroad must register on the [Universitaly](#) portal and apply for an entry visa (type D postgraduate visa) at the appropriate Italian Embassy or Consulate.

Art. 5 APPLICATION

1. The application for admission must be submitted through the online application procedure only available at: sol.unifi.it/domdottpon/login.jsp a starting 12 June 2024 and no later than 12 noon on 12 June 2024.
2. How to apply:
 - log into the site sol.unifi.it/domdottpon/login.jsp;
 - register by entering the requested data;
 - select the selected programme and the scholarship you wish to apply for;
 - complete the online application as indicated in the various screens;
 - attach:
 - a) copy of an identity document;
 - b) **for degrees awarded in Italy:** a [self-certificate](#), dated and signed, (bachelor's and master's degree or combined-cycle degrees) containing a list of exams taken and the corresponding grade, the title of the thesis and final mark;
for degrees awarded abroad: copy of the degree (bachelor's and master's degree) containing a list of exams taken and the corresponding grade, the title of the thesis and final mark;
 - c) **curriculum vitae**;
 - d) **research project** proposal (in .pdf file) and indication of the scholarship you wish to apply for;
 - e) list of publications and other qualifications, if any.
 - make payment of the non-refundable contribution of 30 Euros. Payment must be made by the deadline of the notice, under penalty of exclusion, upon closing the application and in accordance with the instructions of the online procedure.
3. Under no circumstances can the fee be refunded. The candidate will be considered duly enrolled and thus admitted to the selection only after completing payment;
4. For programmes in which the interview is conducted in person, candidates may choose to held the interview remotely by videocall, in this case the choice is allowed only when submitting the application.
5. The application for admission can be submitted for each doctoral programme listed in Annex 2. Candidates who wish to compete for several doctoral programmes must submit separate applications and pay the appropriate fee for each.
6. Application for admission can be submitted for one or more scholarships by **attaching a separate research project proposal for each**.
7. Applicants with disabilities or learning difficulties must attach to the application specialist documentation attesting to the disability and specify any aid needed
8. Once "closed" the online application cannot be modified, nor can it be supplemented with additional documentation. If they wish, respecting the deadline of the call for applications, applicants may submit a new application after requesting cancellation of the previous one.
9. It is in the interest of applicants to complete the application, including payment of the admission fee, well in advance of the deadline. For applications closing at 12 noon on 11 August 2023, payments made by 11.59 p.m. of the same day will be considered valid. It is incumbent on the candidate to verify that the procedure has been completed correctly.

Art. 6 RESEARCH PROJECT GUIDELINES

1. The research project proposal, drafted in Italian or English up to **a maximum of 10,000 characters long** (including: spaces, abstract, references and notes) and may contain up to three tables or figures. The project must focus on the selected topic, as set out in Annex 2 and must include:

- an abstract (maximum 1500 characters, including spaces),
 - state of the art and contextualization of the topic,
 - methodologies,
 - expected results,
 - references.
2. Applicants who wish to compete for more than one scholarship **must attach separate research projects, clearly indicating for each the scholarship to which it refers. The research projects must be saved as .pdf files and combined in a single .zip file.**

Art. 7

ADMISSION AND EVALUATION PROCEDURE

1. Candidates are selected through evaluation of both qualifications and a research project and through a subsequent interview held online using the most widely used videoconferencing applications. The fact sheets in Annex 2 indicate, for each programme, the manner in which the interview will be conducted, whether in person or by videoconference, and any useful information for admission purposes.
2. The admission board makes an initial evaluation on the consistency of the research project and may exclude from interview candidates who have submitted a project that is completely inconsistent with the topic of the scholarship.
3. The interview may be held in one of the foreign languages indicated in the scholarship fact sheet (Annex 2) and may include verification of proficiency in one or more foreign languages and in Italian for foreign nationals.
4. Evaluation method:

EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATIONS	max 30/100	- University academic career (max 20 points) - any further education and professional and research experience (max 7 points) - scientific publications (max 3 points)
RESEARCH PROJECT	max 30/100	aspects relating to the exhaustive discussion of the topic of the scholarship, clarity of presentation, feasibility, methodological rigor and bibliographic reference to the state of the art will be assessed
INTERVIEW	max 40/100	- discussion of the project (max 35 points- max 40 if no language testing is involved) - language test, if applicable (max 5 points) The interview will focus on the topics covered by the research project presented and will also be aimed at the verification of scientific knowledge, research aptitude and the candidate's willingness to gain experience abroad
TO BE ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES MUST SCORE AT LEAST 65/100 points, of which 20/100 AWARDED FOR THE INTERVIEW		

Art. 8

INTERVIEW

1. Candidates for doctoral courses that elect to conduct the interview remotely, or those who made request in their on-line application, to take advantage of this possibility, must ensure the availability of a webcam to enable the Admission Board to identify and view them during the interview. The Board will send the link for conducting the interview.
2. On the day and at the time set for the interview, candidates must be available at the contact provided. Before starting the interview, candidates are required to identify themselves by showing a valid ID.
3. Failure to connect online, or to present on the appointed day or time, or failure to show a valid ID, are grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure.
4. Should technical connection problems occur during the online interview, if the problem affects one or more board members, the exam shall be postponed ex officio to another date; if the problem affects

the candidate, the Admissions Board may justifiably postpone the exam to another date, in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment of candidates.

Art. 9

ADMISSIONS BOARDS

1. The Admissions Boards for doctoral programmes are appointed by the Rector, on the basis of the proposal by the relevant Academic Board, pursuant to the by the relevant Academic Board, pursuant to the [University of Florence Regulations on Doctoral Programs](#).
2. The list of Admissions Board members is available on the University website at the following address <https://www.unifi.it/p12670.html>.
3. At the end of the interview, the Board draws up the ranking list and delivers the minutes of the meeting to the Rector, who approves the acts by decree.

Art. 10

EXAMS SCHEDULE AND OUTCOME OF THE SELECTION

1. The dates of interviews for each scholarship are indicated in the fact sheet of the individual programmes (Annex 2).
2. The merit ranking, formulated on the basis of the total score awarded to each candidate, will be published at: <https://www.unifi.it/p12670.html>, final rankings will indicate name, surname and the obtained score.

Art. 11

ADMISSION TO PROGRAMMES AND ALLOCATION OF POSITIONS

1. Candidates are admitted to the programme following the order of each ranking list. Candidates are admitted to the courses according to the order of each ranking list. In case of useful placement in more than one ranking list, the candidate must exercise the option for only one of them.
2. Winners will receive instructions on how and by what strict deadline they may accept or decline the position. The instructions will be sent to the e-mail address provided in the application. Those who fail to reply by the deadline will forfeit their place, which will be offered to the next candidate in the ranking list.

Art. 12

ENROLLMENT IN THE PROGRAMME

1. Following the ministerial verification of the funding eligibility and consistency of the assigned research projects, referred to in art. 1 par. 7, those who have accepted the position will receive the necessary information and forms for enrollment purposes. The enrollment procedure is considered completed on payment of the regional fee and stamp duty following the instructions published on the university website (www.unifi.it/p11733.html).
1. Citizens of non-EU states residing abroad must register on the [Universitaly](#) portal and apply for an entry visa (type D postgraduate visa) at the appropriate Italian Embassy or Consulate.

Art. 13

REGIONAL FEE FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRAMME ATTENDANCE

1. Doctoral students are required to pay the stamp DUTY (16 euros) and the regional tax for the right to study, the amount of which, unless otherwise determined by the Region of Tuscany, is set at 140.00 euros.
2. The following individuals are not required to pay the regional fee for the right to university study:
 - the winners and eligible candidates in the ranking list to obtain the scholarship of the Regional Board for the Right to University Study
 - students with recognized disabilities (Art. 3, Paragraph 1 of Law No. 104 of 5 February 1992) or a disability of 66 percent or more;
 - students who are children of incapacity pension holders (Art. 30 of Law No. 118 of 30 March 1971).
3. Admission to the years following the first and to the final exam is subject to verification of payment of the regional fee.

Art. 14

ATTENDANCE AND OBLIGATIONS OF PhD STUDENTS

1. Those enrolled in doctoral programmes must attend courses full time and perform study and research activities on a continuous basis. In particular, doctoral students must acquire, over the course of the three-year period, at least 6 credits by attending customized in-depth courses related to so-called "transferable skills".
2. In addition to the obligations of doctoral students reported in the University of Florence Regulations governing PhD programmes, doctoral students in receipt of scholarships under this call must:
 - produce a semi-annual report indicating the time commitment (broken down into months in the company, onsite, abroad, if any) and a summary of the main activities carried out;
 - carry out a period of study and research abroad as defined for individual scholarships in Appendix 2;
 - carry out a period of study and research in a company, research center, public administration or institution as defined for individual scholarships in Appendix 2. The periods of study and research abroad or in a company, research centre, public administration or other body are distinct and must be carried out in separate entities;
 - ensure compliance with the communication and information obligations provided for under Article 34 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, by indicating in all the documentation that the Programme is financed under the NRRP, with explicit reference to funding by the European Union and to the NextGenerationEU initiative, by displaying the European Union emblem in the documentation and by providing adequate dissemination and promotion of the Programme, including online, on both the Web and in social media, in line with the provisions of the NRRP Communication Strategy;
 - comply with the principle of not causing significant harm to environmental objectives, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.
3. For any further aspects related to the conduct of the doctoral program, please refer to the relevant university regulations.

Art. 15

SCHOLARSHIPS

1. Scholarships are awarded as specified in article 11.
2. In the case of equal merit, preference is given to the candidate with the most disadvantaged economic situation pursuant to D.P.C.M. no. 159 of 5 December 2013, based on the Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator Statement (ISEE) valid for "prestazioni agevolate per il diritto allo studio

Universitario”).

3. The scholarship is disbursed in monthly instalments in arrears; doctoral students who withdraw from the programme lose the right to receive the scholarship from the date of withdrawal.
4. The annual amount of the scholarship is €16,243.00 (before social security charges payable by the recipient). Different amounts, where applicable, are indicated in the fact sheets of individual programmes.
5. The amount of the scholarship is increased by 50% for conducting research activities abroad for a total period not exceeding twelve months. This period may be extended up to eighteen months for doctoral students in co-supervision with foreign entities or doctoral programmes set up under an agreement or consortium.
6. The doctoral student is given a budget for research in Italy and abroad amounting to no less than 10 percent of the amount of the scholarship itself.
7. Scholarships co-funded by other universities or entities are awarded to doctoral student subject to the successful allocation of the respective financial resources to the University and to agreements between the university and the funding bodies.
8. Those who have already been in receipt of a scholarship, even in part, for attending a PhD programme cannot receive one a second time.
9. The University may not be able to disburse the scholarship to students from restricted ("embargoed") countries until they obtain a residence permit.

Art. 16

REVOCATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

1. The scholarship may be revoked in the following cases:
 - implementation of the doctoral programme in a manner that differs from the project accepted for funding, when the necessary authorisation was not requested in advance and subsequently granted by the MUR;
 - failure to carry out the planned minimum period of study and research in a company or abroad;
2. Should the scholarship be revoked, or should the student fail to complete the six-month period covered by the obligation to report to the MUR, the University can request that the doctoral student return the amounts received.

Art. 17

AWARDING OF THE DEGREE

1. The doctoral degree (PhD) is awarded after passing the final exam referred to in Art. 27 of the [University Regulations governing Doctoral Programmes](#).
2. PhD students are required to enter their doctoral thesis, in an electronic version, in the University's dedicated online repository.

Art. 18

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OF RESEARCH RESULTS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Intellectual and industrial property rights to any findings of the PhD student are governed in accordance with current legislation (Copyright Law - Legislative Decree 633/1941 - and Industrial Property Code - Legislative Decree 30/2005 and its subsequent modifications), to the [Regulations for the management of industrial and intellectual property rights with reference to research activities carried out by university personnel](#) and, if necessary, according to what is established in individual

agreements with universities, companies or entities involved.

2. Applicants who are awarded scholarships funded by entities outside the University acknowledge and accept the provisions regarding intellectual and industrial property contained in the agreement between the University and the funding body. The doctoral students' inalienable moral right to be recognized as authors or inventors remains intact.
3. Doctoral students are required to sign appropriate confidentiality undertakings in relation to information, data and documents of a confidential nature of which they may become aware in the course of their work at and/or on behalf of the University.
4. The Ph.D. student is, in any case, guaranteed the opportunity to carry out the normal publication activities envisaged by the programme, as set out in the individual agreements with universities, companies or bodies involved.

Art. 19

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

1. Personal data pertaining to this procedure are collected and processed for the University's institutional purposes in accordance with Articles 13 and 14 of EU Regulation 2016/679 - General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
2. Candidates enjoy the rights provided for by the same Regulations. For more details follow the link <https://www.unifi.it/cmpro-v-p-11360.html>.

Art. 20

PUBLICITY

1. The notice is published in the Official State Bulletin - Selections and Exams Special Series - and, in its entirety, on the University's online noticeboard and on the website at <https://www.unifi.it/p12670.html>.
2. It is also published on the Ministry's website and the European Euraxess website.

Art. 21

THE PROCEDURE MANAGER

1. For all purposes pertaining to this call, the Unit in charge is the Educational Services Area - Process Unit "Educational Offer and Quality of Study Programmes" - PhD Programme, Piazza San Marco 4, 50121 Florence.
2. Information and clarifications on application submission can be requested in writing (dottorato@unifi.it) or by phone at the following numbers 055 2757 668 - 671 - 678 - 681 - 309 Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Thursday from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
3. The Procedure Manager is the Head of the Area dott.ssa Maria Orfeo.

Art. 22

FINAL PROVISIONS

1. Selection documents are public, to which access is permitted in the manner established by Law no. 241 of August 7, 1990.
2. For anything not expressly provided for in this announcement, please refer to the [University regulations governing doctoral programmes](#) and the regulatory provisions cited in the introductory part of the Decree issuing the call, including Decrees [D.M. 629/2024](#) and [D.M. 630/2024](#).



3. The University reserves the right to exclude from the selection procedure provided for in this call candidates who fail to comply with the provisions and deadlines specified herein, or who fail to meet the requirements.