

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO II



PhD programmes – 37th cycle – academic year 2021/2022

Call for applications of foreign students

APPLICATION DEADLINE

May 27th 2020 12 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 36th cycle (2021-2022)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.

The timetables reported in the announcement (see attachment *A-Engl*) should be considered as an official notification to candidates, who will not receive any further written notice about the examinations.

Due to the unpredictability of the evolution of the health emergency from COVID-19 and in order to ensure continuity in carrying out training and research activities, in the first semester of the academic year 2020/21, the doctoral activities may be provided, if necessary, using a blended learning approach, in presence and remotely.

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 enrol once the final ranking list is published, and only if the programme has been accredited for the 36th cycle.

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.

Candidates who will graduate by October 31st, 2021 can also apply. In such a case, candidates will be admitted conditionally, and they have to deliver a provisional degree certificate to the Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, by November 5th, 2021.

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.

Admission to the selection for reserved positions

The selection for positions reserved to candidates with a foreign degree, or to students with scholarships granted by a foreign Country, will be based on both the assessment of the qualifications and an interview or assessment of the qualifications, evaluation of the research proposal and an interview. Specific merit rankings will be compiled for this selection.

Candidates for reserved positions must attach to their applications the following documents:

- certificate of the master degree with the final marks and the academic curriculum, reporting the examinations passed, their marks, and a short description of their contents. If these documents are in
- a language other than Italian, English, French, Spanish or German, they must be translated into one of the above mentioned languages and the translation must be certified and legalized as a true copy;
- any further qualification (grants/scholarships, certificates of attendance in post degree courses, research activities, scientific publications, marks scored in standard - national or international – tests to be admitted to academic courses, etc.);
- reference letters;
- curriculum vitae.

Candidates for positions reserved to students with scholarship granted from a foreign Country must attach, under penalty of exclusion, to their applications the documents concerning their scholarship.

Candidates for reserved positions will take the interview by video conference (e.g. Skype, or similar), producing a legally valid identity document.

Applications

In order to access the procedure in its English version, foreign candidates are kindly invited to set their browser in a language different from Italian: in such a way all the information will appear in English. Candidates, who are not resident in Italy and do not possess Italian citizenship, are exempted from the payment of the examination fee.

The deadline for completing the application form is May, 27th 2020. Application may be submitted until 12:00 (CET) on that day.

By this deadline the on-line form will be removed, and any filling and printing will be no longer possible. Candidates who have not filled and/or sent the duly completed application form within the deadline will not be admitted to the competitive examination for the award of PhD positions and scholarships.

Candidates must fill distinct application forms for each PhD Programme they wish to apply for and for each application they must attach all the necessary documents.

Candidates resident in Italy or possessing Italian citizenship are kindly requested to refer to the Italian version of the announcement, published in the University Website <http://www.unina.it/didattica/postlaurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione> (see also the Italian D.M. nr. 45/2013).

Candidates who are not resident in Italy and do not possess Italian citizenship are exempted from the payment of the examination fee.

There are two distinct phases in the application process:

A) First, the candidate must register herself/himself as a user (steps 1 - 6)

B) Second, the application form must be filled, printed, signed and sent (steps 7 - 14)

A) How to proceed, for the first phase:

1) login to the webpage www.unina.it

2) on the left side of the main webpage, under the section "**IN PRIMO PIANO**" ...

3) ... click on the link "Presentazione domanda dottorato di ricerca"

4) at the first access, select "Foreign user registration"

Once the form is open, candidates have to:

5) fill in all the required data

6) take note on a separate sheet of the user key and the password automatically assigned by the procedure, to be used later.

B) How to proceed, for the second phase:

7) repeat all the steps 1 – 3, as already done in the first phase

8) click on "System access"

9) insert user key and password

10) click on "Insert a new application" (on the top of the menu, left side)

11) select the PhD program you are interested in applying for

12) fill therein all the requested data

13) check the inserted data; to confirm the inserted data and to send the form, click on "Enter application";

14) click on "Print application" to print the filled form;

15) sign the application form and send it together with all qualifications and related documents

Candidates are required to provide their undersigned form, together with the CV, qualifications and related documents

Candidates, which are not resident in Italy, and do not possess Italian citizenship, are allowed to send all their documents by email to the following address: phdnafedericoii@unina.it

In order to facilitate the selection process, the candidate should scan and convert in a .pdf file all the documents relevant to the selection process (cv, transcripts etc.) along with the application form duly signed. The email to phdnafedericoii@unina.it must mention in the mail object the name of the Ph.D. course that you wish to apply for.

Candidates with a master degree conferred from a foreign University (and which was not yet declared equivalent - by virtue of agreements between the foreign Country and Italy - to the Italian master/specialist degree), requiring - for the sole purpose of admission to the doctoral – that this equivalency be declared, must deliver the certificate of the master degree issued from their University, with the corresponding final grade, the list of the passed examinations and their marks and syllabi, and any other related useful document. Should the certificate be written in a language other than Italian, English, French, Spanish or German, the candidate must also submit its translation into one of the aforesaid languages: this translation must be certified for conformity to the original by the cognizant Italian representative bodies. Also these documents must be delivered, by the June 10th, by email (pdf version of the documents) to phdnafedericoii@unina.it
Lack of presentation of these documents will cause exclusion from the application.

Selection Process

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

Selections for **not reserved positions** will be based on:

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

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

Moreover, all the candidates must prove a good knowledge of Italian and/or 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 for this test).

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 selection is based on the assessment of the **qualifications**, followed by **written and oral examination**, the marks will be assigned as here stated: a maximum of 10, for the assessment of the qualifications; a maximum of 30, for the written examination; a maximum of 60, for the oral examination.

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

- academic career: final degree grade (provided they are pertaining to the required qualifications) or grade point average (based on the formative credits) of the marks of the passed examinations: a maximum of 6;
- scientific publications (M.A. dissertation or final essay for the obtainment of your degree and other qualifications): a maximum of 4 (there, no more than 1 can be awarded on the basis of recommendation letters by teachers/experts, or for other pertaining qualifications such as prizes, patents, fellowships).

To be admitted to the written exam, the candidate must obtain no less than 4/10 in the assessment of his/her qualifications.

The written examination will consist in providing a written text on a subject chosen among that ones (at least three) proposed by the Admission Board.

To be admitted to the oral exam, the candidate must pass the written examination with no less than 18/30. To pass the oral exam, the candidate must get at least 36/60.

item b) In case the admission to the Phd programme will be assessed by means of **assessment of qualifications and oral examination**, the marks will be assigned as here stated: a maximum of 20 for the assessment of the qualifications, and a maximum of 80 for the oral examination. Qualifications will be assessed by following the rating here below reported:

- academic career: final degree grade (provided they are pertaining to the required qualifications) or grade point average (based on the formative credits) of the marks of the passed examinations: a maximum of 12;
- scientific publications, (M.A. dissertation or final essay for the obtainment of your degree and other qualifications): a maximum of 8 (there, no more than 1 can be awarded on the basis of recommendation letters by teachers/experts, or for other pertaining qualifications such as prizes, patents, fellowships).

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

To pass the oral exam, the candidate must get at least 48/80 marks.

Item c) In case the admission to the Phd programme will be assessed by means of **assessment of the qualifications, research proposal evaluation and oral examination**, the marks will be assigned as here stated: a maximum of 10 for the assessment of the qualifications, a maximum of 30 for the evaluation of the research proposal, a maximum of 60 for the oral examination.

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

- academic career: final degree grade (provided they are pertaining to the required qualifications) or grade point average (based on the formative credits) of the marks of the passed examinations: a maximum of 6;
- scientific publications, (M.A. dissertation or final essay for the obtainment of your degree and other qualifications): a maximum of 4 (there, no more than 1 can be awarded on the basis of recommendation letters by teachers/experts, or for other pertaining qualifications such as prizes, patents, fellowships).

To be admitted to the oral exam, the candidate must get no less than 4/10 in the assessment of his/her qualifications and 18/30 in the research proposal's evaluation.

To pass the oral exam, the candidate must get at least 36/60 marks.

All the **selections of candidates for reserved positions** will follow the criteria above specified under the item b), i.e. assessment of the qualifications and oral examination and the item c), i.e. assessment of the qualifications, research proposal evaluation and oral examination.

To evaluate the candidates for reserved position the Admission Board is provided with a maximum of 40 marks to assess the qualifications, and with a maximum of 60 marks for the oral exam.

In order to assess the qualifications, the Admission Board will evaluate:

- academic degrees and qualifications of the candidate
- research proposal (if the PhD programme you are applying for requires a research proposal)
- scientific publications (for example M.A. dissertation or final essay for the obtainment of your degree and other qualifications)
- scholarships/fellowships, and certificates confirming the attendance of postgraduate courses
- all the qualifications related to research activities
- recommendation letters by teachers/experts

To be admitted to the oral exam, the candidate must obtain no less than 24/40 marks.

To pass the oral exam, the candidate must obtain at least 36/60 marks.

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

Candidates not resident in Italy and educated abroad, applying for reserved positions, may be interviewed by video conference (e.g. Microsoft Teams).

The final score will be the sum of the marks the candidate has obtained in the assessment of the qualifications, in the written exam, in the oral exam.

To take the examination, candidates will produce one the following legally valid identity document: 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.

Additional Information

Merit Ranking Lists

PhD Programmes offering positions will have two distinct merit ranking lists: one for not-reserved positions, a second one for reserved positions (i.e. position reserved for applicants resident and graduated abroad and/or position reserved for applicants 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).

On the contrary, the additional places with scholarship, referred to in the first part of the Phd Call, reserved exclusively for candidates who have obtained the qualification required for admission to the competition abroad, if not attributed, will not be made available for ordinary admission procedures.

If a candidate - eligible for enrolment in a PhD Programme – does not submit her/his acceptance within 10 days from the date of the publication of the final results of the competition or, in case of renouncement within 60 days from the beginning of the academic activities, the position will be assigned to the candidate who follows her/him in the ranking list.

Enrolment procedure

The Rectoral Decrees approving the rankings of the PhD courses will be published, within the thirtieth day following the date of the oral exam, 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-di-ammissione](http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione).

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

The winners, no later than the next ten 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 any other academic course: 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 – any other academic course.

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/5.html>

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).

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, each week, on the webpage of the ph.d. office <http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione>, **from July 13th 2021.**

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 15.343,28 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 15.343,28 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 18 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. 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 any other university course is forbidden.

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

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 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).