



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI FEDERICO  
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U.A.S.S.M.

**Scuola Superiore Meridionale - Doctoral Programs – 38<sup>th</sup> cycle – Academic year 2022/2023**

### Call for Applications

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**  
**24 AUGUST 2022, 2:00 PM (CET)**

***This document has no legal value. It is only meant to provide information in English about the call for applications***

The Scuola Superiore Meridionale (SSM) hereby announces a call for applications for 70 PhD scholarships for the academic year 2022-2023 in the following Doctoral Programs:

ID	Acronym	Title	Info	ANNEXES FOR DETAILED INFOS
01	ACMA	Ancient Mediterranean Archaeology and Cultures. Historical Research, Preservation, Cultural Heritage, Management, and Use	Program duration: 4 years <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>  Coordinator: Prof. Carlo Rescigno  Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:acma@unina.it">acma@unina.it</a>  webpage: <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/archaeology-and-cultures-of-the-ancient-mediterranean/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/archaeology-and-cultures-of-the-ancient-mediterranean/</a>	1

02	CTO	Clinical and Translational Oncology	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 5 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Sabino De Placido</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:clinical.to@unina.it">clinical.to@unina.it</a>          Webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/clinical-and-translational-oncology/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/clinical-and-translational-oncology/</a></p>	2
03	SPACE	Cosmology, space science & space technology	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Salvatore Capozziello</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:space@unina.it">space@unina.it</a></p> <p>webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/cosmology-space-science-space-technology/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/cosmology-space-science-space-technology/</a></p>	3
04	GEM	Genomic and experimental medicine	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Brunella Franco</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:gem@unina.it">gem@unina.it</a></p> <p>Webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/genomic-and-experimental-medicine-eng/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/genomic-and-experimental-medicine-eng/</a></p>	4

05	GHG	Global History and Governance	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Daniela Luigia Caglioti</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:ghg@unina.it">ghg@unina.it</a></p> <p>webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/global-history-and-governance/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/global-history-and-governance/</a></p>	5
06	LOSPD	Law and Organizational Studies for People with Disability	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 3 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Luigi Maria Sicca</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:lospd@unina.it">lospd@unina.it</a></p> <p>webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/law-and-organizational-studies-for-people-with-disability/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/law-and-organizational-studies-for-people-with-disability/</a></p>	6
07	MPHS	Mathematical and physical sciences for advanced materials and technologies	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Nicola Fusco</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:mphs@unina.it">mphs@unina.it</a></p> <p>Webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/mathematical-and-physical-sciences-for-advanced-materials-and-technologies/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/mathematical-and-physical-sciences-for-advanced-materials-and-technologies/</a></p>	7

08	MERC	Modeling and engineering risk and complexity	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Mario di Bernardo</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:merc@unina.it">merc@unina.it</a></p> <p>Webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/modeling-and-engineering-risk-and-complexity/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/modeling-and-engineering-risk-and-complexity/</a></p>	8
09	MOSES	Molecular Sciences for Earth and Space	<p>Joint degree with the Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa</p> <p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 are funded by the SNS, Pisa and 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Vincenzo Barone</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:moses@unina.it">moses@unina.it</a></p> <p>webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/molecular-sciences-for-earth-and-space/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/molecular-sciences-for-earth-and-space/</a></p>	9
10	TTCL	Texts, Traditions and Book Cultures. Italian and Romance Studies	<p>Program duration: 4 years  <b>No. of scholarships: 7 (of which 2 funded with funds from the Italian Plan for Recovery and Resilience – see attachment for further details)</b>          Coordinator: Prof. Andrea Mazzucchi</p> <p>Contact e-mail: <a href="mailto:ttcl@unina.it">ttcl@unina.it</a></p> <p>webpage:  <a href="http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/texts-traditions-and-book-cultures/">http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/texts-traditions-and-book-cultures/</a></p>	10

Successful candidates will receive a scholarship (including social security contributions) and additional research funding as specified in the ‘Scholarship’ section of this call. Courses will begin on November 2, 2022.



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No fees or contributions are required to enroll in the doctoral program. Successful candidates are only required to pay the annual regional tax throughout the duration of the course.

Admissions to the SSM Doctoral Programs are based on a public competitive exam of all the candidates consisting of an evaluation of the documents submitted by the applicant and, for the shortlisted candidates, an oral interview. The SSM Doctoral Programs combine coursework and research activities. Coursework is generally concentrated in the first year. It is designed to broaden the doctoral students' knowledge and to prepare them for research, with the aim of obtaining a high level of specialization in a specific scientific area and the capacity to pursue independent research. Doctoral students will carry out their studies in accordance with annually approved plans. They must spend at least two semesters of study and research in highly qualified foreign universities or scientific institutions. While spending time at an institution abroad, students will receive a 50% increase of their standard scholarship. At the end of the Doctoral Program, providing that all due obligations have been fulfilled, and after the successful defense of the dissertation, the student will obtain the *PhD* degree in their program of choice.

### Admission Requirements

To apply for one of the SSM Doctoral Programs (no restriction of age or citizenship applies), candidates should be in possession of one of the following degrees:

- “Laurea specialistica” or “laurea magistrale” (Master’s degree), as defined in the Italian Ministerial Decree nr. 509/1999 and its subsequent modifications and integrations.
- 4 or 5 year “Laurea” degree obtained according to the old organization of the Italian degree system.
- An equivalent degree at the Master level obtained after a 5-year cycle from a foreign university.

Successful applicants who do not already hold the required degree by the deadline of this Call for Applications will be admitted on the condition of obtaining the required degree by the date of enrolment in the Ph.D. program, and will be excluded.

The selection committees will ascertain the equivalence of non-Italian degrees on the basis of the documents attached by the candidate to their application and of any other relevant information. This requirement is not needed if the degree has been already declared equivalent to an Italian academic degree by virtue of an agreement between Italy and the foreign country in which the degree was awarded.

Candidates who are not in possession of the appropriate requirements will be excluded from the procedure at any time during the selection process. Excluded candidates will be notified of the decision and of the reason of their exclusion.

### Applications



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Applications must be submitted online via the platform available at the address <http://www.ssm.unina.it/application/>

**Applications received in any other form will be discarded.**

**The activation of the platform for uploading applications will be announced by a notice posted on the SSM website at the following address: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/application/>. This notice will presumably be posted 10 to 15 days after the publication of the Call for Applications.**

The **deadline** for completing the online application is 24 August 2022 at 2:00 pm (CET). The **deadline** for the submission of reference letters is 26 August 2022, at 2:00 pm (CET).

**Candidates willing to apply for more than one PhD program can do so by submitting a separate application for each of the programs they wish to apply for.**

The following documents **must** be attached to the application, under penalty of exclusion:

- a) **Copy of a valid identity document** (passport or ID card);
- b) **Curriculum vitae** prepared according to the template available at <http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/>;
- c) **Copy of the master's thesis** (candidates who obtained their degree abroad without submitting a thesis are required to attach a description of a comparable research experience). Candidates who, at the date of the application deadline, have not yet submitted their thesis, are required to submit an extended abstract in Italian or in English (max. 1,500 words/9,000 characters long, including bibliography and sources);
- d) **An abstract** in Italian or in English of the master's thesis or of a comparable research experience (max. 1,000 words/6,000 characters long);
- e) **Transcript(s) of records** issued by the applicant's university, listing the exams/courses taken during the degree, the grades/marks awarded, and (if applicable) the final grade. The applicant should also attach the degree transcript(s) of any previous degree(s) (in a single .pdf file). Should the transcript(s) be written in a language other than Italian, English, French, Spanish or German, the applicant must also submit a translation in one of the aforementioned languages. Alternatively, the candidate may submit a **declaration in lieu of certification prepared** in accordance with article 46 of D.P.R. n.445/2000 and subsequent amendments, regarding the grade/mark of the master's degree. Those who have not yet obtained the degree must provide a signed statement containing the list of the courses taken and of the grades received for each of them, for the achievement of their Master's degree (the accompanying declaration in lieu of certification can be prepared using the template available on the website of the SSM at: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/>);



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- f) A **personal statement** in which the applicants explain in a clear and convincing way their research interests and why they decided to apply for the chosen doctoral program in a clear and convincing way (max. 1,000 words/6,000 characters).
- g) Either a **scientific report or a research proposal according to the program of choice (see the annexes). Specifically:**
- A scientific report for the **GEM, MERC, MOSES, MPHS** and **SPACE** doctoral programs. The scientific report must be in English (max 2,500 words/15,000 characters, including a short bibliography). The report must contain a description of the topic of the master's thesis or of a scientific topic of interest to the candidate, organized into sections that clearly describe the state of the art, the objectives, the results obtained, the methodology used and possible applications and future developments;
  - A research proposal for the **ACMA, CTO, GHG, LOSPD** and **TTCL** doctoral programs. Candidates must prepare a **research proposal** (max 2,500 words/15,000 characters), either in Italian or English, written according to the templates available at: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/>.  
  
The proposal must prove the candidates' knowledge of the state of the art in the field, their scientific and methodological soundness, their scientific interests and their adherence to the research themes promoted by the program of their choice. The proposal is non-binding for the purpose of the subsequent choice of thesis topic. For the **GHG** and **TTCL** doctoral programs, the proposal must also contain a discussion of a text, such as, for example, a book or essay or a public document (minimum 500/3,000 characters-max 1,000 words/6,000 characters) that particularly inspired the applicant in her/his choice to pursue her/his studies as well as in the conception and writing of the project itself. For the **CTO** doctoral program, the candidates must also add to the proposal a short review of clinical trials (max 1,000 words/6,000 characters) that have most shaped the applicant's understanding of the kind of work he or she would like to do as a PhD student.
- h) **Copies of up to 3 scientific publications by the applicant, if available** (in a single .pdf file).
- i) A **signed Statement of Veracity** prepared using the template available on the website of the SSM at: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/>.

During the application procedure, applicants may also ask **two** scholars to write **recommendation letters** in support of their applications. Scholars must send these letters following the guidelines they will receive from the online submission system once the candidate submits the application.

### Selection Process

The selection process is based on the comparative evaluation of the candidates aimed at assessing



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their level of competence, talent, motivation, and inclination for scientific research relevant to their chosen field of study.

Selections will be based on the evaluations of the following elements:

- Academic record and qualifications.
- The scientific report/research proposal and the personal statement.
- The oral interview (for candidates admitted to this stage of the procedure).

All candidates must prove that they have a good knowledge of at least one foreign language. For the **GEM, GHG, LOSPD, MERC, MOSES, MPHS, SPACE** and **CTO** doctoral programs, a good knowledge of English is mandatory. In these cases, the interview may be conducted entirely in English.

The selection committees will evaluate each candidate by assigning a maximum score of 100 points divided as follows: 60 points maximum for the evaluation of their academic record, qualifications and scientific report or research proposal and 40 points maximum for the oral interview. Candidates will be shortlisted for the interview if they obtain a score of at least 40 points out of 60 points for the evaluation of their academic record and scientific report/research proposal. To be admitted to the final ranking, applicants must score at least 30 points on the oral interview.

For the **ACMA** and **TTCL** doctoral programs for which it is deemed necessary for the research activities, the selection committees will verify the level of competence in Italian of non-Italian candidates and their ability to participate satisfactorily in the programs' educational and research activities.

The outcome of the evaluation, the list of candidates admitted to the oral interviews, and the interview schedule will be published by **6 September 2022** on the SSM website at the following URL: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/>.

Interviews will take place between **8 September 2022** and **13 September 2022**.

Publication of the outcome of the evaluation, the shortlisted candidates for the interviews and the schedule of the interviews on the SSM website must be considered as an official notification to the applicants, who will not receive any further notification via post or email.

**Shortlisted candidates may be interviewed by video conference (e.g., Skype, Zoom, Teams, etc.).**

At the interview, candidates must present a valid identity document.

The final score will result from the sum of the points the candidate has obtained in the assessment of the academic record and qualifications, the research proposal, and the interview.



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The absence of the candidate on the day, place and time of the interview will be considered as withdrawal, whatever the cause, and the candidate will be automatically excluded from the procedure.

The selection Committees must conclude the selection process by **16 September 2022**.

### Selection Committees

The composition of the Selection Committees will be published on the website of the SSM at <http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/dottorati-bandi-e-avvisi/>.

In the first meeting, which may also be held electronically, the Committees establish the evaluation criteria for the qualifications and the interview and the procedures for assigning the scores.

### Ranking Lists

Candidates will be ranked according to the total sum of the points they scored during the evaluation of the application documents and qualifications and the interview.

Selected candidates will be admitted to the chosen Doctoral Program on the basis of their place in the ranking list until all the available positions are filled.

If a candidate eligible for the enrolment in a Doctoral Program does not accept her/his position, the position will be assigned to the candidate who follows in the ranking list.

### Enrolment Procedure

The Rector of the Università di Napoli Federico II approves the ranking lists. These lists will be published on the SSM website at the following URL: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/> on **19 September 2022**.

The publication of this list represents an official notification of the results to the admitted candidates.

Within and no later than **5 days** from the date of publication of the Rector's Decree of approval, the selected candidates must send the following documents to the *Ufficio Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Studio e all'Ufficio per le attività di supporto all'Accreditamento della Scuola Superiore Meridionale*:

- The enrolment form, duly filled in, dated and signed. The form is available on the University Website <http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/dottorati-bandi-e-avvisi/>



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- A certification in lieu of declaration where the admitted candidate declares she/he has not (and that even in the past she/he has not been) accepted any other PhD scholarships at another institution. The enrolling PhD students must also declare they are not attending any other academic course. Should this not correspond to their situation, candidates must sign a declaration confirming they have asked to be suspended from the other academic course.
- The copy of an identity document, duly undersigned.
- The proof of payment of the regional tax: amounts and modalities will be published on the University website. The deadline for the payment of this fee is set at the 15<sup>th</sup> day following the last useful day for enrolment.

If their academic degree is not officially and automatically equivalent to an Italian one, selected candidates who are non-Italian citizens and who graduated abroad must also send to the PhD office a certificate of their master's degree, which must be previously translated and legalized (with an attached "dichiarazione di valore" / *statement of value*) by the Italian Embassy/Consulate competent in the country where the University which conferred the degree is located.

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

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

**Students who do not fulfill such requirements will not be enrolled in the doctoral program.**

### Scholarship

Scholarships are 4 years long, but they will only be continued at the end of every year on the condition that the Ph.D. student has completed the program scheduled for the previous year, and that they have been admitted to the following one by the Ph.D. Board of their chosen Doctoral Program.

The annual scholarship amounts to € 19,000 (including the social welfare charges due by the student). The scholarship covers the entire duration of the doctoral program.

The instalments will be paid monthly.

The amount of the scholarship is increased by a maximum of 50%, for approved research stays abroad, for no more than 12 months. This increase will not be provided for periods the Ph.D. students spend in the city or province in which they reside.

The grants cannot be held concurrently with other scholarships, except for those granted by other national or foreign institutions with the aim of funding additional training or research activities of



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the candidate abroad.

Scholarships will be paid to the candidate only if the requirements in terms of study and research activities are fulfilled.

In addition to the scholarship, an extra yearly budget equal to 10% of the annual PhD scholarship for the first year and 20% of the annual PhD scholarship for each of the remaining three years will be assigned to the Ph.D. students, to support their research activities in Italy and abroad.

Ph.D. students must enroll in the “Gestione separata” of the INPS (*Italian National Social Security Institute*). To comply with the INPS registration, please refer to the website <http://www.inps.it>

### **Fees and contributions**

Students enrolled in the Doctoral Programs of the SSM are required to pay a fee to the Regione Campania for the “diritto allo studio” for each year of course.

### **Rights and obligations of Ph.D. Students**

Attending a Ph.D. course implies an exclusive, full-time engagement. Doctoral students are obliged to take all the courses, attend all the scheduled activities, present all the oral and written reports required by the Board of the Doctoral program they are enrolled in.

In order to be admitted to the following year, students must fulfil all the requirements set by the Doctoral Program Board each year.

Simultaneous enrolment and attendance of the SSM Doctoral Program with any other university course or program is forbidden.

Students enrolled in a Doctoral Program may request a leave of absence from attending the courses for maternity, serious illness, or civil service (for this last occurrence, for no more than 1 year).

Ph.D. students will have to make up for absences lasting more than 30 days; additionally, such an absence entails the cessation of the grant payment for the period involved.

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

Ph.D. students carry out their activities abroad for a period of at least two semesters, which may be extended to up to 12 months. In such a case, authorizations from the coordinator of the Doctoral Program and of the dissertation supervisor are needed.

### **Dissertation and Degree of Research Doctor**

The degree of “Research Doctor” (in its shorted Italian form “Dott. Ric.”, corresponding to



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“Ph.D.”) is obtained by passing the final examination, i.e., defending a PhD dissertation at the end of the Doctoral Program. The Rector confers it in conformity with the University regulations.

Within 30 days after the defense of the Ph.D. dissertation, the University will deposit a copy of it – as an electronic file – in the MUR’s (Italian Ministry for University and Research) database. The University of Naples Federico II uploads the full text of the Ph.D. dissertations on its freely accessible Open Archive. The University will also transmit a copy of the Ph.D. dissertations to the National Libraries of Rome and Florence. On the basis of a motivated request by the Ph.D. student, the PhD Board can establish an embargo and bar parts of the Ph.D. dissertation from open access, so that third parties will not be able to access specific data, e.g. those covered by patents or specific intellectual property agreements.

### **Access, Treatment of Personal Data and Person in Charge of the Procedure**

All candidates can demand access to the procedures related to the Call, within the framework of the rules and criteria stated in the University of Naples Federico II Regulation about the right to be informed about its administrative acts.

The University will anyway protect the privacy of the candidates’ personal data in all cases.

The Head of the Office for Doctoral Programs, Fellowships and Scholarships at the University of Naples Federico II is responsible for the administrative part of the selection procedure and for all those acts that are not within the competence of the Selection Committees.

### **Advertising of the Call**

This call is published in an electronic format on the website of the University of Naples Federico II and the webpages of the SSM – School for Advanced Studies, on the European website “Euraxess”, on the MUR (Italian Ministry for University and Research) website and advertised in any other relevant newsletters and websites.

All the documents related to this call will be published on the Official Register of the University of Naples ([www.unina.it](http://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.

### **Reference**

As for anything that is not specified in the present summary, one must refer to the official announcement in Italian, published on the SSM website: <http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/dottorati-bandi-e-avvisi/>