

UNIVERSITY OF NAPLES FEDERICO II



PhD in Economics – 42° cycle – academic year 2026/2027

Call for applications of foreign students

APPLICATION DEADLINE

15th april 2026 h 13.00

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

U.D.B.S.

THE RECTOR

HAVING REGARD to the Statute of the University of Naples Federico II;

HAVING REGARD Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984 and subsequent amendments and additions;

HAVING REGARD to Article 4 of Law No. 210 of 3 July 1998 and subsequent amendments and additions;

HAVING REGARD to Article 19 of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 containing provisions on research doctorates;

HAVING REGARD to Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14 December 2021, which issued the "*Regulation on the accreditation of doctoral locations and courses and criteria for the establishment of doctoral courses by accredited bodies*";

HAVING REGARD to Ministerial Decree no. 301 of 22 March 2022, which approved the "*Guidelines for the accreditation of PhDs*";

HAVING REGARD to the Regulations governing the PhD programme of the University of Naples Federico II, issued by Rector's Decree no. 1364 of 11.04.2024;

HAVING REGARD to the resolution of the Council of the Department of Economics and Statistics, PG no. 19749 of 13.02.2026, requesting the urgent issuance of the call for applications for the PhD in Economics for the XLII cycle, a.y. 2026-2027, with the activation of no. 04 total places, of which no. 03 with scholarship, financed with University funds and no. 01 place without scholarship;

HAVING REGARD to Rector's Decree no. 819 of 03.03.2026 authorizing the early issuance of the call for applications for the PhD in Economics of the XLII cycle, a.y. 2026/2027, with administrative headquarters at the University of Naples "Federico II", with the activation of no. 04 total places divided as follows: no. 03 with scholarship, financed with University funds and no. 01 place without scholarship;

DECREES

ARTICLE 1 (Institution)

The XLII cycle of the PhD course in Economics is established with administrative headquarters at the University of Naples Federico II, subject to accreditation by the Ministry of University and Research. A public competition is therefore announced for admission to the PhD course in Economics. **Annex A**), an integral part of this decree, indicates:

1. the selection methods;
2. the number of places put up for competition;
3. the number of scholarships;
4. the duration, the department where the doctorate is administrative and the coordinating professor of the course;
5. the calendar of the exams;
6. the address of the web page where the organization of the course, the research topics and the teaching activities are illustrated.

The places covered by scholarships may be increased following funding from public or private entities. The authorization to enter into the relevant agreement must take place before the start of the examination tests. The agreement may provide for specific modalities of the study and training program.

The publication of the calendar in this announcement represents official notification to interested parties. **Candidates for the competition will not receive any further written communication about the dates of the exams.**

Any changes to the calendar will be promptly announced on the University website, at: <https://www.unina.it/it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati/42esimo-ciclo> which candidates are therefore required to consult constantly.

ARTICLE 2 (Admission requirements)

Those who are in possession of one of the following qualifications can participate in the competition, without age and citizenship limits:

- specialist or master's degree obtained pursuant to Ministerial Decree 509/1999 and subsequent amendments and/or additions;
- degree obtained under the previous educational regulations (whose legal course lasts at least four years);
- equivalent academic qualification obtained at foreign universities.

Those who obtain one of the qualifications listed above by 31 October 2026 can also participate in the competition, under penalty of forfeiture of admission to the course.

All candidates are admitted to the competition procedure subject to reservation.

The Administration may at any time, with a reasoned measure, order the exclusion for lack of the prescribed requirements; this measure will be communicated to the interested party by registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt.

ARTICLE 3
(Qualification obtained abroad)

The suitability of the qualification obtained at foreign universities is ascertained, solely for the purposes of admission to the selection, by the selection committee. In this case, the degree certificate must be submitted, in the manner indicated in Article 4 below, indicating the exams taken and the study plan followed, as well as other documents deemed useful for assessing the suitability of the qualification. All documents must be translated, if not submitted in English.

ARTICLE 4
(Submission of application for admission and qualifications)

The application for participation in the competition must be submitted **from 23 March 2026 exclusively through the online procedure available at: <https://pica.cineca.it/unina/> no later than 13:00 (Italian time) on 15 April 2026.**

To participate in the competition, candidates are required to pay, **under penalty of exclusion**, a contribution of **€ 50.00**, to be made exclusively in the manner indicated in the procedure. This contribution is valid exclusively for the doctoral competition for which the application is submitted. **The contribution paid for the organization of the competition will not be refunded under any circumstances.**

Applications submitted in non-compliance with the provisions of this article will not be taken into consideration.

<u>THE DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING THE QUALIFICATIONS AND THE PROJECT MUST BE SENT EXCLUSIVELY BY UPLOAD WHEN SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION.</u>

For the purposes of the EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATIONS AND THE PROJECT, candidates must submit the following documentation, following the instructions below:

- 1. Graduate candidates Italy**
2. Degree grade and weighted average on the basis of the ECTS of the marks of the exams taken relating to the master's degree and possibly other elements considered suitable for evaluation (e.g. list of exams taken with the relative grades). These qualifications must be presented by means of a declaration in lieu of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments;
3. degree grade and weighted average on the basis of the ECTS of the marks of the exams taken relating to the bachelor's degree and possibly other elements considered suitable for evaluation (e.g. list of exams taken with the relative grades). These qualifications must be presented by means of a declaration in lieu of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments;
4. master's degree thesis and any publications accompanied by a declaration in lieu of affidavit concerning conformity to the original;

5. any other qualifications (by way of example, scholarships, additional academic qualifications) by means of a declaration in lieu of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.
6. any letters of presentation from scholars, which must be submitted in the manner explained below.

2. Graduating candidates in Italy

1. Weighted average on the basis of the ECTS of the marks of the exams taken relating to the master's degree and, if necessary, other elements considered suitable for evaluation (e.g. list of exams taken with the relative grades). These qualifications must be presented by means of a declaration in lieu of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments;
2. degree grade and weighted average on the basis of the ECTS of the marks of the exams taken relating to the bachelor's degree and possibly other elements considered suitable for evaluation (e.g. list of exams taken with the relative grades). These qualifications must be presented by means of a declaration in lieu of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments;
3. any publications accompanied by a declaration in lieu of affidavit concerning conformity to the original;
4. any other qualifications (by way of example, scholarships, additional academic qualifications) by means of a declaration in lieu of certification, made pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments;
5. any letters of presentation from scholars, which must be submitted in the manner explained below.

3. Applicants with a foreign degree

1. Degree certificate, both first and second level, indicating the exams taken and the study plan followed (*the certificate must be presented and/or translated into Italian or English*);
2. Master's degree thesis and any publications accompanied by a declaration in lieu of affidavit concerning conformity to the original;
3. any other qualifications held (scholarships and certificates of attendance of post-graduate courses, qualifications related to the performance of research activities, scores obtained in standardized tests used for the selection of access to university courses at international or national level, etc.);
4. any letters of presentation from scholars, which must be submitted in the manner explained below;
5. Curriculum vitae.

4. Candidates graduating abroad

1. Academic certificate, indicating the exams taken and the study plan followed (*the certificate must be presented and/or translated into Italian or English*);
2. any publications accompanied by a declaration in lieu of affidavit concerning conformity to the original;
3. any other qualifications held (scholarships and certificates of attendance of postgraduate courses, qualifications related to the performance of research activities, scores obtained in standardized tests used for the selection of access to university courses at international or national level, etc.);
4. any letters of presentation from scholars must be submitted in the manner explained below;
5. curriculum vitae.

The application must be printed, signed and uploaded to the platform following the instructions described in the procedure itself, attaching a copy of a valid identity document. The lack of a

signature and/or identity document is a reason for exclusion from the selection.

After closing the application, the candidate can request **reference letters** by filling in the appropriate section, by the deadline for submitting the application (**15 April 2026** at 13.00 - Italian time). The notice of completion of the letter will be sent to the referee only after the final closure of the application. The referee will be automatically notified by the system and must personally fill in the reference letter template in the online procedure and send it by **April 17, 2026** at 1:00 p.m. (Italian time).

The Administration assumes no responsibility for the failure to receive the documentation due to an error attributable to the candidate, or to any misunderstandings attributable to third parties, fortuitous events or force majeure.

Candidates with disabilities, who declare in the computer procedure that they need help, are provided by the procedure itself with information on how to fill out the application, made pursuant to current legislation (Law no. 104/1992 as supplemented and amended by Laws no. 17/1999 and no. 53/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions), and the upload of the relevant medical-health certification.

**ARTICLE 5
(Examinations)**

The examination tests are aimed at ensuring an appropriate comparative evaluation of the candidates and at ascertaining the candidate's preparation and aptitude for scientific research.

The entrance exams are held **on the basis of qualifications, research project and oral exam.**

Candidates must also demonstrate a good knowledge of a foreign language, to be chosen from English, French, Spanish and German.

The exams may also be held in one of the languages listed above.

The titles and topics covered by the tests must be relevant to the scientific-disciplinary sectors of reference of the doctoral course and can be differentiated by Thematic Areas.

The Selection Committee has a total of one hundred points divided as follows:

1. 20 points for titles;
2. 30 points for the research project;
3. 50 points for the oral test.

The qualifications that can be assessed and the scores referred to them are:

4. the entire university career, using as evaluation elements the degree grade or the weighted average on the basis of the CFU of the marks of the exams taken and, possibly, other elements deemed suitable by the Commission: up to a maximum of 15 points;
5. scientific publications, master's degree thesis and other relevant qualifications (awards, patents, scholarships, etc.), to be evaluated also in the light of any letters of presentation from scholars: up to a maximum of 5 points.

Candidates who have obtained a score of not less than 8/20 in the evaluation of qualifications and a score of not less than 18/30 in the evaluation of the research project are admitted to the oral test.

The oral test is considered passed only if the candidate obtains a score of at least 30/50.

The final score is given by the sum of the marks obtained in the evaluation of the qualifications, the project and the oral exam.

To take the competition tests, candidates must show one of the following valid identification documents: identity card, passport, car license with photograph, firearms license, identification cards (with a photograph and stamp or other equivalent signature) issued by a State Administration.

The absence of the candidate on the day, place and time of the interview test will be considered as a waiver of the test itself, whatever the cause.

The oral test, at the discretion of the Commission, may be carried out remotely, which guarantees

the recognition of identity.

ARTICLE 6 (Selection Committee and Selection Procedures)

The selection committee is appointed by Rector's Decree pursuant to art. 13 of the University Regulations governing the PhD programme. The composition of the same will be published on the University portal at:

<https://www.unina.it/it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati/42esimo-ciclo>

The Examining Committee, at its first meeting, establishes the criteria and methods for evaluating the competition tests to be formalized in the relevant minutes, in order to assign the scores and judgments attributed to the individual tests.

Before the start of the competition tests, the members of the Commission, having read the list of participants, sign the declaration of absence of incompatibility with the competitors, pursuant to art. 51 and 52 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

The oral test must take place in a classroom open to the public that has a suitable capacity to ensure maximum participation.

The oral test, both in presence and online, must be carried out in such a way as to ensure maximum publicity and participation.

ARTICLE 7 (Merit ranking)

The ranking list will be formulated according to the descending order of the overall score obtained by each candidate in the individual tests and approved by Rector's Decree. In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, the youngest candidate will have priority in the ranking.

Candidates will be declared winners according to the order of the ranking until the number of places in the competition is filled.

In the event of non-acceptance within the deadline referred to in Article 8, paragraph 3 below, or withdrawal by the start date of the courses, an equal number of candidates will take over according to the order of the ranking.

ARTICLE 8 (Admission to the course)

The Rector's Decree approving the merit ranking will be published on **15 May 2026**, in the Official Register of the University, on the University website and at:

<https://www.unina.it/it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati/42esimo-ciclo>.

This publication will represent official notification of the competition results, the winners will not receive any personal communication.

The winners, no later than 5 days from the publication of the aforementioned Rector's Decree, must send - under penalty of forfeiture - to the Doctoral and Scholarship Office, in the manner that will be published together with the Rector's Decree, the request for enrolment in the course.

Successful candidates in possession of a qualification obtained at a foreign university, which has not already been declared equivalent to the Italian master's degree, must also present or send the translated and legalized degree certificate with attached declaration of value on site by the Italian Representation competent for the territory in the country to which the institution that issued the qualification belongs. For further information on this, please refer to the website of the Ministry of University and Research at

<https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studenti stranieri/>

Enrolment requires the payment of the regional contribution for the right to education (payment methods will be available on the University portal at:

<https://www.unina.it/it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati/42esimo-ciclo>.

Registration may not take place after the deadline indicated in paragraph 3 of this article.

After the deadline for registration referred to in paragraph 3 of this article, any places that will be available will be made available to candidates classified as suitable.

The list of names of eligible candidates entitled to enrol and the date by which they must enrol will be published on **27 May 2026**, on the University portal at: <https://www.unina.it/it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati/42esimo-ciclo>.

Such publication will be official notification, candidates who are classified as eligible will not receive any personal communication.

Those entitled who do not register within the deadline indicated in the notice published in the manner described above, will be considered tacitly withdrawn and will definitively forfeit the right to enrolment.

ARTICLE 9

(Award, enjoyment and disbursement of scholarships)

The scholarships will be awarded according to the order of the ranking up to the number of scholarships put up for competition.

In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, for the sole purpose of awarding the scholarship, priority in the ranking will be given to the candidate who presents the most disadvantaged economic situation, determined according to the criteria used for the payment of fees by the students of this University.

The scholarships have a duration of one year and are renewed under the following conditions:

1. the doctoral student must have completed the program of activities planned for the previous year;
2. The PhD student must be admitted to the following year of the course.

The annual amount of the scholarship amounts to € 16,243.00 (sixteen thousand two hundred and forty-three / 00) including social security contributions to be paid by the recipient, as established by Article 1 of Ministerial Decree no. 247 of 23.2.2022. The scholarship will be disbursed in deferred monthly installments and for its use the total annual personal income limit is set at € 16,243.00 (sixteen thousand two hundred and forty-three / 00) gross. It must refer to the calendar year in which the scholarship is most disbursed. Income of patrimonial origin as well as emoluments of any other nature of a recurring nature, with the exception of those of an occasional nature, contribute to the determination of this income. The amount of the scholarship is naturally excluded from the calculation of this income.

The scholarship is increased by fifty percent for the period of research activity carried out abroad, which cannot exceed a total of twelve months. This period can be extended up to a maximum total of eighteen months, for doctorates in co-tutorship with foreign subjects or activated in an associated form. This increase cannot be used in the country of origin of the doctoral student or in the country where he or she resides.

The doctoral student is required to return, even in the event of withdrawal from the course, the accruals of the scholarship already received, in the event that he/she exceeds the income limit referred to in the previous paragraph, or is in one of the cases of incompatibility referred to in article 11 below.

Those who have already benefited from a scholarship for a PhD course, even for only half of the

duration of the course, cannot take advantage of it a second time.

Scholarships cannot be combined with other scholarships awarded for any reason, except for those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for integrating, with stays abroad, the training or research activity of scholarship holders.

The disbursement of the scholarship is linked to the periods of attendance and study and research activities actually rendered.

Each PhD student is ensured, in addition to the scholarship, an *annual budget* for research activities in Italy and abroad equal to 10% of the annual amount of the scholarship itself.

Those who are entitled to the scholarship must submit at the time of enrolment, a presumptive declaration relating to the total gross personal income and the absence of the causes of incompatibility. This declaration must be repeated at the beginning of each subsequent academic year of attendance of the course. Scholarship recipients will also have to provide for the establishment of an INPS contribution position, by registering with the "Separate Management" of the Institute itself. The registration procedures and the related forms can be found on the Authority's website at www.inps.it.

The tax benefits referred to in Article 6, paragraph 6, of Law no. 389 of 30.11.1989 apply to students enrolled in PhD courses who benefit from the scholarship.

ARTICLE 10 (Taxes)

Those admitted to PhD programmes are required to pay, for each year of the course, the regional contribution for the right to education.

ARTICLE 11 (Obligations, incompatibilities, suspensions)

The doctoral course requires an exclusive and full-time commitment, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 7 below and of article 8, paragraph 2, letter b) of the University Regulations governing the research doctorate. It is the responsibility of the Academic Board to authorize the doctoral student to carry out paid activities, verifying their compatibility with the fruitful performance of the training activities (teaching and research) related to the course. In particular, it is understood that, for doctoral students with a scholarship, paid activities must be limited to those related to the acquisition of skills related to the educational field of the doctorate; for doctoral students without a scholarship, any incompatibility must be assessed in concrete terms deriving from work, without this resulting in behavior detrimental to rights protected at the constitutional level, such as the right to study.

PhD students are required to attend and carry out all the activities envisaged, to submit the oral or written reports required and to comply with anything else established by the PhD Academic Board.

For each doctoral student, research and training activities are ordinarily planned, consistent with the doctoral project, at highly qualified institutions abroad.

By the end of each year of the course, the Academic Board, on the basis of a detailed report on the activities and research carried out by each doctoral student, decides on admission to the following year or proposes to the Rector exclusion from the course.

At the end of the course, PhD students are required to submit to the Academic Board a report on the activities carried out during the PhD programme and on any publications.

The Academic Board, with a reasoned resolution, may also at any time propose to the Rector the exclusion of the doctoral student from the course.

Civil servants admitted to a doctoral course shall benefit, for the normal duration of the course, from leave provided for by collective bargaining or, if employed under public law, from extraordinary leave for study purposes, compatibly with the needs of the administration, pursuant to Article 2 of Law No. 476 of 13 August 1984, as amended, with or without grants and unless explicitly waived, only if they are enrolled for

the first time in a doctoral course, regardless of the disciplinary field. The right to the budget for research activities carried out in Italy and abroad referred to in Article 9, paragraph 10 above remains unaffected.

Simultaneous attendance of another doctoral course is prohibited.

The suspension of the doctoral course is allowed, at the request of the interested party, in the event of:

1. compulsory maternity leave, pursuant to the provisions of Legislative Decree no. 151 of 26 March 2001. The provisions for the protection of maternity and paternity referred to in the decree of the Minister of Labour and Social Security of 12 July 2007, published in the Official Gazette no. 247 of 23 October 2007, apply to doctoral students;
2. civil service, for a maximum period of one year.

PhD students can also request the suspension of the course, for a maximum duration of six months, for proven reasons provided for by law and for documented serious health reasons.

Suspension of more than thirty days for one of the reasons indicated above entails the obligation to make up in full the periods of interruption of activity and, for scholarship holders, the cessation of the disbursement of the scholarship itself or other equivalent funding for the period of suspension. The entire duration of the doctoral course cannot be reduced due to the aforementioned suspensions and, therefore, it will be extended for a period corresponding to that of the interruption.

The periods of suspension, referred to in paragraph 10, and the periods of extension referred to in Article 22, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the University Regulations governing the PhD programme, may not exceed a total duration of eighteen months, except in specific cases provided for by law.

The PhD student carries out the activity abroad, subject to the authorization of the Academic Board, after consulting the supervisor. For periods not exceeding six months in total, the authorization of the course coordinator, after consulting the supervisor, is sufficient.

The interventions provided for by Legislative Decree no. 68 of 29 March 2012 are extended to doctoral students, in accordance with the procedures set out therein.

ARTICLE 12 (PhD and PhD thesis)

The title of Ph.D., abbreviated to "Dr. Ric." or "Ph.D.", is awarded following the positive evaluation of a research thesis that contributes to the advancement of knowledge or methodologies in the chosen field of investigation. The doctoral thesis is written in Italian or English, or in any other language, subject to the authorization of the Academic Board, and is accompanied by a summary, written in English.

The University, within thirty days of the discussion and approval of the thesis, shall deposit a copy of the same, in electronic format, in the national registry referred to in Article 14, paragraph 1, of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, in a specific open access section. Subject to the authorisation of the Academic Board, parts of the thesis may be made unavailable, possibly even by setting a time limit, in relation to the use of data protected by trade secrets or in the case of publications in the process of submission, in accordance with the regulations in force on the subject. The obligation to deposit the thesis at the central national libraries of Rome and Florence remains unaffected. The University also archives and makes available online the complete text of the doctoral thesis through the Institutional Open Access Archive and takes care of the deposit of the thesis itself at the national libraries of Rome and Florence.

ARTICLE 13 (Processing of personal data)

The personal data of the Data Subject, including any special categories of personal data as well as any personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences, which the authorised personnel of this Administration may come into possession of by virtue of this procedure will be processed in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, the Personal Data Protection Code, containing provisions for the adaptation of national law to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30.6.2003, amended and supplemented by Legislative Decree 101/2018, as amended), as well as by the current

Regulation of the University of Naples Federico II on the processing of Personal Data.

The data collected will be processed for the purposes of this procedure for which they are released and will be used exclusively for this purpose and, in any case, within the institutional activities of the University of Naples Federico II. The Data Subject has the rights referred to in Articles 15 – 22, 77 and 79 of the EU Regulation.

For complete information on the processing of personal data required for participation in this procedure, please refer to the document published on the University website at the link: <https://www.unina.it/it/ateneo/statuto-e-normativa/privacy>.

ARTICLE 14
(Publication of the proceedings of the competition)

This call for applications and all related documents will be made public, exclusively, by electronic publication in the Register of the University of Naples Federico II, on the University website, at the address www.unina.it. They will also be advertised on the *Euraxess* website and on that of the Ministry of University and Research.

The electronic publication in the Official Register of the University of Naples Federico II has the value of official notification to all intents and purposes, therefore no personal communications will be forwarded to the interested parties.

The duration of posting of this notice is set at 90 days, that of the documents related to it at 15 days.

ARTICLE 15
(Postponement)

For anything not established by this call, please refer to the University Regulations governing the PhD programme and the rules contained in Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021.

THE RECTOR
Matteo Lorito

Teaching and Student Services Area The Director: Dr. Maurizio Tafuto Organisational unit responsible for the procedure: Doctoral Office and Scholarships Person in charge of the procedure: The Head of the Interim Office: Dr. Pellegrino Palumbo
