

**CALL FOR APPLICANTS FOR THE ADMISSION TO THE RESEARCH DOCTORATE  
COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO  
TOPIC IN THE AREA OF THE NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN (PNRR)  
AND IN THE NATIONAL PLAN FOR COMPLEMENTARY INVESTMENTS (PNC)  
ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023 (XXXVIII CYCLE)**

Unofficial english version of DR 426/2023 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

This document is the English version (NOT official) of the Call for the PNRR and PNC PhD Application, cycle XXXVIII, A.Y. 2022/2023. This document is NOT valid for legal purpose and it is for helping foreign students to apply for PhD Admission. Foreign candidates are invited to read the original Call for Applicant, DR n. 426, 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.

**D E C R E E S**

**Art. 1**

**Selections for PNRR and PNC PhD Courses**

The public selections by project, titles and telematic interview for admission to the XXXVIII cycle PhD courses, A.Y. 2022-2023, administrative seat at the University of Palermo, for no. 58 positions, are announced for the PNRR and PNC resources, which bind the assignees to carry out doctoral activities on a specific research topic, indicated in the notices listed and whose research areas are specified in the attached forms.

Possible grants may be financed if funds become available.

N.	PHD COURSE TITLE	
<b>1</b>	<b>ADVANCES IN MODELLING, HEALTH-MONITORING, INFRASTRUCTURES, GEOMATICS, GEOTECHNICS, HAZARDS, ENGINEERING STRUCTURES, TRANSPORTATION (AIM HIGHEST)</b>	
	Total positions 5 of which:	No. 2 notice 341 No. 3 notice 3138
	Coordinator	Prof. Antonina PIRROTTA
	Department	Engineering
<b>2</b>	<b>ARCHITECTURE, ARTS AND PLANNING</b>	
	Total positions No. 4 of which:	No. 1 notice 3277 No. 1 notice 3264 No. 2 notice 341
	Coordinator	Prof. Rosario Marco NOBILE
	Department	Architecture
<b>3</b>	<b>BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY</b>	
	Total positions No. 3	notice 3277
	Coordinator	Prof. Riccardo LO BIANCO
	Department	Agricultural, Food and Forestry Sciences

<b>4</b>	<b>CHEMICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, BIOMEDICAL, HYDRAULIC AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING</b>	
	Total no. 7 positions of which:	No. 2 notice 3138 No. 1 notice 3277 No. 4 notice 341
	Coordinator	Prof. Giorgio Domenico Maria MICALE
	Department	Engineering
<b>5</b>	<b>SYSTEM DYNAMICS</b>	
	Total positions No. 1	notice 931
	Coordinator	Prof. Salvatore Mancuso
	Department	Political Science and International Relations
<b>6</b>	<b>ENERGY</b>	
	Total positions No. 4 of which:	No. 2 notice 3138 No. 1 notice 3277 No. 1 notice 341
	Coordinator	Prof. Eleonora RIVA SANSEVERINO
	Department	Engineering
<b>7</b>	<b>INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES</b>	
	Total positions No. 3 of which:	No. 1 notice 3277 No. 2 notice 3264
	Coordinator	Prof. Ilenia TINNIRELLO
	Department	Engineering
<b>8</b>	<b>MECHANICAL, MANUFACTURING, MANAGEMENT AND AEROSPACE INNOVATION</b>	
	Total positions No. 5 of which:	No. 1 notice 3138 No. 1 notice 3277 No. 3 notice 341
	Coordinator	Prof. Giovanna LO NIGRO
	Department	Engineering
<b>9</b>	<b>EXPERIMENTAL ONCOLOGY AND SURGERY</b>	
	Total positions No. 1	notice 3138
	Coordinator	Prof. Antonio RUSSO
	Department	Surgical, Oncological and Stomatological Disciplines
<b>10</b>	<b>CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>	
	Total vacancies No. 3	notice 3277
	Coordinator	Prof. Elisa Chiara PORTALE
	Department	Culture and Society
<b>11</b>	<b>LEGAL PLURALISMS. ANCIENT AND CURRENT PERSPECTIVES</b>	
	Total vacancies No. 1	notice 931
	Coordinator	Prof. Giuseppe DI CHIARA
	Department	Jurisprudence

<b>12</b>	<b>EARTH AND SEA SCIENCES</b>	
	Total no. 11 vacancies of which;	No. 4 notice 3138 No. 1 notice 3264 No. 4 notice 341 No. 2 National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics (OGS)
	Coordinator	Prof. Christian CONOSCENTI
	Department	Earth and Sea Sciences
<b>13</b>	<b>PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCES</b>	
	Total vacancies No. 5 of which:	No. 2 notice 3277 No. 3 notice 3264
	Coordinator	Prof. Marco CANNAS
	Department	Physics and Chemistry - Emilio Segrè
<b>14</b>	<b>MOLECULAR AND BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES</b>	
	Total vacancies No. 4 of which:	No. 1 notice 931 No. 1 notice 3277 No. 2 notice 341
	Coordinator	Prof. Giovanna PITARRESI
	Department	Biological, Chemical and Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technologies
<b>15</b>	<b>GENDER STUDIES</b>	
	Total vacancies No. 1	notice 3264
	Coordinator	Isabel Ascension TRUJILLO
	Headquarters	Centre for Advanced Studies, University of Palermo

The forms attached to this call for applicants, one for each course, indicate the required access qualifications, the relevant degree classes and the area in which the research and training activities will be carried out are indicated.

All scholarships, financed from PNRR and PNC resources, shall be paid to the grantees subject to the actual receipt by the University of the relevant sums. The selection procedures are set out in Article 5 of this notice.

The date, place and time of the tests will be published on the website and this publication will serve as notification for all purposes; candidates will therefore not receive any written notice of the date and venue of the tests.

## **Art. 2**

### **Admission requirements**

#### **1. Access qualifications**

Candidates may participate in the selection, without age or nationality restrictions, if they hold one of the following qualifications, belonging to the degree classes specified in the relevant doctoral degree form (attached and numbered with the Competition Code as per Art. 1), for which they are competing:

- Master's degree (Ministerial Decree no. 509/1999);
- Master's degree (M.D. 270/2004);

Not holding a degree belonging to one of the degree classes indicated in the PhD form, will constitute reason for exclusion from the competition procedure.

Candidates in possession of an academic qualification obtained abroad, of at least four years'

duration, equivalent in level of study (Master's Degree) to the Italian qualifications specified above may also participate.

### **All candidates are admitted to the selections with reservations**

If, following verification of the self-certifications produced, the qualification possessed does not comply with the above-mentioned requirements or the declarations produced are untrue, the University may, at any time during the procedure, even after enrolment or commencement of the doctoral course, by order of the Rector, exclude the student from the selection procedure or the doctoral course, without prejudice to the criminal liability arising from false declarations.

### **2. Admission to selection for candidates in the process of obtaining a degree**

Those who obtain the qualification required by the call for applications by the date of enrolment in the PhD course may also apply, on pain of forfeiture of admission to the course.

Admission to the competition will be subject to conditions and candidates must have obtained the qualification by the start date of the course and must provide a replacement declaration (or certification in the case of a qualification obtained in non-EU countries) of achievement, pursuant to Article 46 of Presidential Decree 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.

### **3. Academic qualification obtained abroad**

Citizens in possession of an academic qualification obtained abroad, following the attendance of a training course lasting at least four years, equivalent in terms of level of study to the Italian academic qualifications required for admission to the PhD course, must enclose with the application form the degree certificate issued by the university of origin; if the same has not already been declared equivalent, the Examining Board, integrated by the PhD Coordinator or by a member of the Board of teachers delegated by him, pursuant to art. 2 Law 148/2002, will assess the recognition of the qualification, for the sole purpose of admission to the competition.

Any international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the pursuit of studies

Applicants in possession of degrees obtained in a non-European country, in the event of admission to the course, must produce the aforementioned degrees accompanied by a translation, legalization and "declaration of value in situ", to be provided by the Italian diplomatic-consular representation with territorial jurisdiction, in accordance with the rules in force on the admission of foreign students to degree courses at Italian universities.

Foreign degrees may be replaced by the Diploma Supplement, issued by the competent institutions according to the standards established by the European Commission and concerning the overall educational pathway leading to the degree. The University reserves the right to request the "on-site declaration of value" in cases where there are doubts as to the validity of the degree.

Candidates with a foreign qualification will be admitted to the selection process with reservations and if, following verification, it is found that the qualification does not meet the requirements of this call for applications and therefore does not permit enrolment, they will be excluded from the PhD course.

### **4. Fee for participation in the competition procedure**

No contribution is foreseen for participation in this Call for Proposals.

## **Art. 3**

### **Applications**

In order to apply, candidates have to observe the following online procedures:

a) Register on the Student Portal of the University of Palermo, available at <http://studenti.unipa.it> - To register, select the link "Click here to register on the Student Portal" and follow the instructions. Candidates already registered in possession of a username and password may skip directly to point b).

b) Access the Student Portal using your credentials received by email (username and password). On the page <http://portale.unipa.it/>, select the "LOGIN" button and then the "Student Portal" icon; that is, from the page <http://studenti.unipa.it> activate the link "Click here to access your Reserved Area".

c) Select the link "New Application" from the "PRACTICE" menu at the top. From the proposed list, select the item "PhD/PhD Courses" and then the item "Application for admission to a PhD/PhD Course - Call for applicants".

d) Fill in the application, as indicated in Article 2 point 4 above, **by the closing date of the notice**, published at the link:

The application to take part in the competition for admission to the PhD courses, filled in online, is valid as self-certification made in accordance with Presidential Decree 445/2000 and art. 3 of Law no. 127/97.

The applicant must also attach the following documents in pdf format to the application via upload:

- 1) (Annex A) - Europass Curriculum Vitae.
- 2) (Annex B) - Research project with a concise description of the project, objectives and achievable results, **signed** by the candidate.
- 3) (Attachment C) - Self-certification, made pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000 of the qualification obtained and the examinations taken. In the case of qualifications obtained abroad, attach the Diploma Supplement or degree certificate issued by the university of origin or similar certification (in Italian or English) of the overall educational pathway leading to the degree, which is a requirement for admission.
- 4) (Annex D) - Self-certification, made in accordance with Presidential Decree 445/2000 of additional titles held and any scientific publications.
- 5) Copy of a valid identity document.
- 6) Copy of medical certificate, if any, attesting to a disability of more than 66%.
  - Graduating students who will obtain their degree before the start of the course must enclose a copy of the examinations they have taken or a similar self-certification, made pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000.
  - Graduating students at foreign universities must enclose certification of the examinations taken (in Italian or English), issued by their home university.

**The following reasons shall constitute grounds for exclusion from the competition procedure:**

- the failure to hold a degree belonging to one of the degree classes indicated in the doctoral file;
- access qualifications obtained abroad that are not equivalent in terms of level of study (Master's Degree) to the access qualifications specified in the course outline, which consequently do not give access to PhD courses;
- unsigned self-certifications pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000;
- failure to submit even one of the documents: Signed research project (point 2), self-certification of qualification (point 3), copy of identification document (point 5).

The qualifications and publications possessed and listed in Annex D must in no case be submitted together with the application; in the case of publications, the candidate may indicate an institutional link where the selection board may view them.

Candidates with disabilities must specify in their application, pursuant to Law 104/92, as supplemented by Law 17/99, the assistance they require in relation to their condition, as well as the possible need for additional time to complete the examination tests.

Documents and papers drafted in a foreign language must be translated into Italian or English by and under the responsibility of the applicant.

It is the applicants' responsibility to check that the procedure has been correctly completed via the Student Portal (section "PRACTICES" - "MY PRACTICES"). The application will be deemed to have been duly submitted if at the end of the procedure the programme returns the information that it is in the "DELIVERED" status.

No complaints will be accepted for any malfunctioning of the computer system due to overloading experienced by applicants close to the deadline.

All candidates are conditionally admitted to the competition procedure. Failure to show up for the examination, regardless of the reason, is equivalent to withdrawal.

The Administration may at any time, by reasoned decision, order exclusion for failure to meet the prescribed requirements. This measure will be communicated to the interested party at the e-mail address registered in the student portal.

The University Administration accepts no responsibility in the event of the loss of communications, due to inaccurate information on the candidate's residence, address, e-mail address, or failure or delay in communicating changes thereof.

#### **Art. 4**

##### **Selection Boards for admission tests**

The Selection Board for the admission examination to each PhD course in charge of the comparative evaluation of the candidates, composed in accordance with Article 11 of the Regulation of PhD Courses, is appointed by the Rector by his own Decree, on the proposal of the Board of Lecturers.

The composition of the individual Commissions will be announced after the deadline at [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

## Art. 5 Admission tests

### 1. Selection modalities

The modalities of the selection are indicated, for each PhD, in the individual doctoral course sheets that are an integral part of this call for applications.

The competition will evaluate: project, qualifications and interview.

The **interviews** are public and will take place exclusively electronically, through the Microsoft Teams platform;

Each applicant may participate in the selections for more than one PhD, by submitting separate applications; this, however, shall not be a constraint on the timetable of the tests.

In the case of Research Doctorates divided into curricula, each candidate shall indicate one or more curricula during the online application, according to the order of priority in which they are interested. The curricula are indicated in the attached forms, each relating to an individual PhD.

The list of candidates and the annexes to the applications are made available to the coordinators of the doctoral courses who will forward them to the Chairs of the Commissions.

### 2. Evaluation criteria: project, qualifications and interview

The Commissions for the evaluation of the candidates have a total of 100 points distributed as follows:

**Project evaluation** - maximum 30 points

The test is considered passed with a minimum mark of 21/30.

- For the **projects evaluation**, the Commissions will have a maximum of 30 points and the candidate will be admitted to the oral test if the project receives an evaluation of at least 21 points. The project will be assessed by applying the following criteria:

*Originality of the project*: maximum 10 points

*Congruence with the research topics in the PNRR and PNC projects and specified in the candidate's chosen course sheet, in the section 'Field of research and training activity'*: maximum 10 points

*Methodological rigour*: maximum 5 points;

*Knowledge of relevant scientific literature*: maximum 5 points.

**Titles**- maximum 10 points

- For the **assessment of qualifications**, each Commission will use the following criteria:

*Access title for the competition*: Points 0

*Other university degree*: Points 0.5 (max. 1 point)

*PhD qualification*: Points 1 (max 2 points)

*Certificate of postgraduate university courses*: Points 0.5 (max 1 point)

*Attendance at specialization schools recognized by the MUR*: Points 0.2/year (max 1 point)

*2nd level University Master's degree recognized by the MUR*: Points 0.5 (max 1 point)

*Post-graduate periods spent at Italian or foreign scientific institutions*: Points 0.1/month (max 3 points).

*Scientific publications*: Points 1 (max 4 points), only publications published by the call deadline, which are relevant to the course objectives and have an ISBN, ISSN, ISMN or DOI will be assessed.

The maximum total score awarded for titles and scientific publications may not exceed 10 points. Scores above 10 will be considered equal to 10.

The assessment of qualifications is carried out before the oral test takes place, with a document attached to the minutes.

- **Interview** - maximum 60 points.

The test is considered passed with a minimum mark of 31/60.

The test will be designed to ascertain the candidate's preparation, skills and aptitude for scientific research. The examination consists of an interview in which the candidate will present the research project attached to the application.

All candidates have to take part in the interview by the **Microsoft Teams platform**, under penalty of exclusion from participation, present a valid identification document deposited in copy with the application.

Applicants must be equipped with a personal computer (laptop or desktop), possibly also a tablet, Internet connection with a speed of at least 1024 Kbs download and 512 Kbs upload, webcam and microphone.

The candidate can also demonstrate a good knowledge of the English language.

The list of candidates admitted to the interview, together with the score for the assessment of the project

and qualifications, will be made public by the Commission itself, by posting it on the notice board of the examination center and will be published at [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/) no later than the day before the date scheduled for the interview.

The examination procedures, venue details and timetable for each PhD course will be published at: [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/) and will count for all intents and purposes as official notification and convocation of the candidates, who will therefore not have to wait for further communication.

The dates of the competition tests, pursuant to Article 6 of Presidential Decree 487/1994, will be published at least fifteen days before the start of the selection tests.

Any variations in the dates or place of the tests will be published on the same link and will be considered for all intents and purposes as official notification and convocation of the candidates, who therefore do not need to wait for further communication.

Failure to provide a personal email address, failure to connect, absence or unavailability of the candidate on the appointed day/time, failure to produce a valid identification document, constitute grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure.

Any waiver of participation in the competition must be sent exclusively by e-mail, with the identity document already submitted in the application form attached, no later than the day before the scheduled examination date, to the following e-mail address: [dottorati@unipa.it](mailto:dottorati@unipa.it)

#### **Art. 6**

##### **Admission to the courses**

The general merit list will be approved by Decree of the Rector, once the regularity of the documents has been ascertained.

Successful candidates will be admitted to the courses in the order defined in the relevant ranking list, up to the number of positions available for each PhD course,

In cases of equal merit, the younger age prevails in the awarding of scholarships.

All scholarships, funded by the PNRR and PNC, will be awarded subject to availability and disbursed following the collection, even partial, by the University of the relevant sums.

The general merit rankings will be published exclusively on the University's website: [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/).

This publication shall count for all purposes as official notification to the successful candidates and will take place after the conclusion of the competition tests. No home notifications will be sent.

Appeals against the ranking list will not be admitted after the 60th day following the approval of the competition documents by rector's decree.

In the event of successful placement in several rankings, the candidate must exercise the option for one doctoral course only.

In the case of medical specialization schools only, the board of teachers of the doctoral course and the board of the specialization school may authorize joint attendance of the specialization course and the doctorate, only if the activity envisaged by the school itself is compatible with the training plan of the doctoral course.

Registered postgraduate students of the specialization school may apply for joint attendance. The board of teachers of the doctoral course shall decide whether to accept the application and at the same time authorize the reduction of the doctoral course to two years, following an assessment of the research activity already carried out in the medical specialization course.

Joint attendance, if authorized, results in the suspension of the awarded PhD scholarship.

#### **Art. 7**

##### **Supernumerary Admissions**

Eligible candidates graduates abroad and successfully passed the examinations, if not awarded by a position, shall be admitted to the PhD Course, without scholarship on a surplus positions, to the extent of 50% of the positions available, pursuant to art. 10 point 9) of the PhD Course Regulations, after obtaining the necessary opinion of the PhD Course Teaching Board, only if:

- They are recipients of scholarships funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) of the Italian Republic or by the government of their country of origin;
- they belong to countries with which there is a specific intergovernmental agreement or convention with the University or, in any case, at no cost to the University itself.

Holders of research grants, as per Art. 22 of Law 240/2010, published on 14.01.2011, who have been awarded a research grant, may request enrolment in the PhD course as winners, renouncing the grant,

or request supernumerary enrolment without a grant, no more than one, according to the order of the general merit list, without renouncing the grant, subject to payment of the fees for access and attendance. The option is irrevocable.

Those who, by the enrolment deadline, are successful in a selection process for the award of a research grant, the contract for which will start at the same time as the start of the courses, must declare this in their application.

#### **Art. 8 Civil servant**

Considering that the total number of available positions is 58, civil servants who are favourably placed in the merit list of successful candidates will be admitted to the doctoral course, subject to payment of the admission and attendance fees.

The successful civil awarded of a scholarship may alternatively:

- keep the doctoral scholarship: in this case, the public administration, which the employment relationship is established, "compatibly with its own needs", places the employee on special leave for study reasons, without allowance, for the duration of the doctoral course (Law 476 of 13 August 1984, as amended by art. 52, par. 57 of Law no. 448 of 28.12.2001 and by Law no. 240 of 30.12.2010 art. 19, point 3, paragraph a);
- Renouncing the scholarship: in this case, the public administration, with which the employment relationship is established, "compatibly with its needs", places the employee on extraordinary leave for study reasons, for the duration of the doctoral course; he/she is admitted to the doctoral course and retains the salary related to his/her employment relationship.

The period of special leave is useful for the purposes of career progression, pension and social security benefits enjoyed by the administration to which it belongs.

Civil servants who have already obtained the degree of PhD, nor civil servants who have been enrolled on doctoral courses for at least one academic year, benefiting from such leave, are not entitled to extraordinary leave, with or without pay. (Law No. 240 of 30.12.2010 art. 19 point 3) paragraph b).

#### **Art. 9 Course enrolment**

Successful candidates must register online, within a peremptory deadline of 7 days, starting from the day after the publication of the rankings on the website: [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/) According to the instructions that will be published on the aforementioned University website, by accessing the Student Portal (<http://studenti.unipa.it>) with the same credentials obtained during registration, it will be possible to complete online the "Application for enrolment in a PhD programme", accessible through the hypertext path PRATICHE STUDENTE - NUOVA PRATICA - Dottorati di Ricerca. The completion of the application will allow the Administration to provide the necessary self-certifications, to attach by upload the required documentation in pdf format, and to print the MAV with the related enrolment fees, as provided for in art. 12 below, without the payment of which the enrolment procedure will not be successful.

Those who do not regularise their registration respecting above deadline will be deemed to have withdrawn and this decision will be irrevocable.

Once this deadline has passed, the vacancies will be allocated to the successful candidates, by means of the general merit list, to whom the procedure for registration on the Student Portal (<http://studenti.unipa.it>) will be opened, which must be formalized in the same manner and within the same timeframe as set out in the previous paragraphs.

#### **Art. 10 Fees for access and attendance of courses**

Enrolment in doctoral courses is in any case subject to the annual payment of the amounts determined by resolution no. 17 of the Board of Directors of 29.03.2017 and R.D. no. 1647 of 22.05.2017, as specified below:

- a) For applicants with grant:

Administrative fees	€ 200
Regional fee	€ 140
Additional government Tax	€ 16
  
- b) For applicant admitted as supernumerary, without grant:

Regional fee	€ 140
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Are exempted from the payment of admission feed:

- Holders of "student loan" and also people with disability level superior to 66%;
  - holders of research grant financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) for the year in which the scholarship was funded;
  - foreign applicants who are holders of research grants financed by their home country.
- All doctoral students, in any case, must pay the regional tax for the "right to education".

#### **Art. 11**

##### **Grants / Scholarships**

The available grants, according with the received funds, will be awarded in the order of their ranking, until they are exhausted. In the event of equal merit, the youngest candidate prevails.

Under no circumstances may the transfer of the remaining grant to another doctoral student be granted after the course has started.

The amounts of the secretarial fees or the regional fee may vary from year to year, following a resolution of the Academic Bodies or Ministerial or Regional provisions.

A person who has been awarded a scholarship for a PhD course, even for only one year or part thereof, may not apply for it a second time.

The annual amount of the scholarship is **€16,243.28** (Ministerial Decree no. 247 of 23 February 2022) gross of social security charges payable by the doctoral student and subject to INPS social security contribution under separate management.

However, the grant may only be awarded after the doctoral student has provided his/her bank details (IBAN) at the time of enrolment; for payment purposes, the Italian or foreign bank account must be in the declarant's name.

The doctoral candidate must be in possession of a valid tax code and enrolled in the Separate Management System at the National Social Security Institute (INPS);

The duration of the scholarships is one year and is renewed on condition that the doctoral student has completed the programme of activities planned for the previous year and has been admitted to the following year by the Board of teachers.

The cadence of the grant payment is monthly in arrears.

The amount of the scholarship is increased by 50% in proportion to and in relation to periods of training abroad provided for in the training plan; this increase may not be granted for a period exceeding 12 months (this period may be extended up to a maximum of 18 months for doctorates co-supervised with foreign subjects or activated pursuant to Art. 3, paragraph 2 of Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021).

Supernumerary PhD students without a scholarship who go abroad will be eligible for a grant pursuant to Art. 16, paragraph 6 of the Regulation of PhD Courses R.D. no. 3900/2022 of 09/09/2022. The training periods abroad will be governed by the PNRR and PNC projects.

Any scholarships for course attendance are subject to the provisions on tax benefits set out in Article 4 of Law no. 476 of 13.8.1984 and Article 6 point 6 of Law no. 398/89.

For the entire duration of the course, doctoral students are not allowed to combine their scholarship with other scholarships of any kind, except with those granted by national or foreign institutions for the purpose of supplementing the training or research activities of scholarship holders by means of stays abroad (Art. 6 of Law no. 398 of 30 November 1989).

#### **Art. 12**

##### **Attendance and obligations of doctoral students**

Admission to the PhD course entails an exclusive full-time commitment, in accordance with the Regulation of PhD courses at the University of Palermo.

Doctoral students are required to carry out their curricular activities in accordance with the procedures and times set by the Board of teachers, in compliance with the training plan defined in the activation proposal, with the exception of the provisions of Article 12 of Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14/12/2021.

At the end of each year, doctoral students must submit a report on the progress of their research to the Board of teachers. The board may require doctoral students to prepare interim reports and/or reports in order to assess their training.

The Board of Teachers decides on admission to the following year or, in the event of a negative assessment, on exclusion from the continuation of the course.

Exclusion from the course is not permitted in cases of maternity or serious and documented illness. In the event of an unjustified suspension lasting more than thirty days, no grant may be awarded and the period of suspension is not subject to financial recovery.

In accordance with article 14, point 3) of the Regulation of the PhD courses at the University of Palermo, doctoral students *"...may carry out, as an integral part of their training project, subject to the authorisation of the doctoral board and without increasing the amount of the scholarship, tutoring activities, including paid tutoring, for students on degree and master's degree courses, as well as, within the limit of forty hours per academic year, supplementary teaching activities. For the activities referred to in this paragraph, doctoral students are paid the allowances referred to in Article 1, paragraph 1, letter b) of Decree-Law no. 105 of 9 May 2003, converted, with amendments, by Law no. 170 of 11 July 2003"*.

Doctoral students in the medical area can participate in clinical care activities.

In the case of doctoral courses set up as a result of international inter-university cooperation, the modalities of the course, the awarding of the degree and the final commission are defined according to the provisions of the agreements themselves.

It is the obligation of PhD scholarship recipients to register for separate management.

It is the obligation of doctoral students to spend a period abroad if planned.

### **Art. 13**

#### **Incompatibility**

Enrolment in the doctoral course pursuant to Law no. 33 of 12 April 2022 and implementing decree no. 930 of 29 July 2022 is incompatible with enrolment in Italy and abroad in Level I and II Master's courses

### **Article 14**

#### **Obtaining the title**

The title of PhD, abbreviated as "Dott. 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, accompanied by a summary in Italian or English, is written in Italian or English or in another language subject to the authorization of the board of teachers. At the end of the discussion, the Commission formulates a detailed judgment, which takes into account the judgements expressed by the Board of Lecturers for admission to the following years and to the final examination.

The PhD degree is awarded upon passing the final examination, to be taken before a special Commission set up in accordance with Article 17 of R.D. 3900/2022 of the "Regulation of PhD Courses" of the University of Palermo, after being admitted to the final examinations by the Teachers' Board at the end of the third year of the course, upon payment of an admission fee and the stamp duty required by law.

The University takes care of the deposit of the thesis at the national libraries in Rome and Florence, through the IRIS application for Research and at the same time ensures its public consultation on the web.

The title of PhD is conferred by the Rector, who certifies its achievement by issuing a parchment.

### **Art. 15**

#### **Processing of personal data**

Candidates' personal data shall be processed by the University of Palermo in accordance with current legislation only for purposes connected and instrumental to the competition and to the possible management of the PhD candidate's career, until the PhD degree is awarded. The provision of data is compulsory on pain of exclusion from the procedure.

#### **Art. 16**

##### **Person in charge for the procedure**

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 5 of Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990, the official in charge of the procedure referred to in this notice is Ing. Carmelo Priolo - e-mail: dottorati@unipa.it.

For further information, applicants may contact the Research Strategy Sector - U.O. Doctoral Programmes, Piazza Marina n. 61 - 90133 Palermo, telephone +39 091 238 93135 / 93345 / 99521/ 93127 / 93796.

#### **Art. 17 Final Rules**

For anything not explicitly stated in this call for applications, reference is made to the regulations contained in Law no. 210/98, Ministerial Decree no. 224 of 30.4.1999, Law no. 240/2010, Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14/12/2021, published in GURI no. 308 of 20/12/2021, the Regulations of the Research Doctorate courses at the University of Palermo, issued by Rector's Decree no. 3900 of 09/09/2022, as well as other provisions in force on the subject.

This notice of competition and its annexes are available on the University of Palermo's website at [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

They constitute annexes to this notice:

Sheets relating the 15 PhD, showing the research topics in the PNRR and PNC.

Europass Curriculum Vitae model (Annex A).

Project template (Annex B).

Model Declaration in lieu of certification, concerning the list of titles and publications held (Annex C).

Model Substitute Declaration relating to the certification of the qualification and study plan with the examinations taken and grades obtained (Annex D).

THE RECTOR  
*Prof. Massimo Midiri*