



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI TRIESTE**

Area dei Servizi istituzionali  
Unità di staff Dottorati di ricerca



Finanziato  
dall'Unione europea  
NextGenerationEU



*Disclaimer: this is an English translation of the official Call for Application, available in Italian. In case of conflict or discrepancy, the Italian version shall prevail.*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**for the awarding of doctoral scholarships funded under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP)**

**38<sup>th</sup> CYCLE - AY 2022/2023**

(enacted with Rector's decree no. 944/2022 Prot. 150867 of 27 October 2022  
and published on the University Official Notice Board with no. 1995/2022 Prot. 150890)

**OPENING DATE for applications: 28 October 2022 – 13:00 (Italian time)**

**CLOSING DATE for applications: 1 December 2022 – 13:00 (Italian time)**

This Call for Applications is available online on: <https://www.units.it/dottorati/call>

### Art. 1 – DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

The University of Trieste announces a second selection for assigning doctoral scholarships funded by the European Union within the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) as part of the NextGenerationEU programme.

The initiatives are envisaged within Mission 4 “Education and research”, Component 2 “From Research to Business” of the Plan (MC42), as detailed on the attachments of this Call named “Admission-2ndNRRP”.

Doctoral scholarships will be allocated provided funding is granted by the Ministry of University and Research.

The scholarships are offered by the following Doctoral Programmes:

- **Earth science, fluid-dynamics and mathematics. Interactions and methods**
- **Industrial and information engineering**
- **Physics**

The mentioned attachments (“Admission-2ndNRRP”) form an integral part of this Call for Applications and can be found on the dedicated webpage. They include the number and type of the scholarships offered, the documentation to be uploaded, terms and conditions for applying and the schedule of the examinations.

An overview of each Programme, including the curricula, if any, the research topics, the objectives and the job opportunities, can be also found at the top of the “Admission-2ndNRRP” files.

Any additional information which may become available after the publication of this Call, or any changes will be announced on the mentioned attachments.

All positions offered in this Call are funded.

Selection procedures are managed to ensure maximum transparency, impartiality and publicity for potential recipients.

The NRRP “horizontal principles” are hereby ensured, ie environmental sustainability (“*Do no significant harm*” principle – DNSH), sustainable development, equal opportunities, non-discrimination and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

The selected candidates will start their doctoral activity on 31 December 2022.

*Legge 241/1990 - Responsabile del procedimento: Enrico Sartor*



For any issues not expressly regulated by this Call, the general provisions in force and the Regulations on Research Doctorates of the University of Trieste (Rectoral decree no. 261/2022) shall apply (<https://www.units.it/dottorati/> >> Fonti normative).

## Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must hold one of the following qualifications:

1. an Italian second-level qualification known as “Laurea Magistrale” or “Laurea Specialistica”, or else an Italian degree awarded under the former university system (ie prior to D.M. no. 509 of 3 November 1999, as amended by D.M. no. 270 of 22 October 2004);
2. a comparable foreign academic qualification allowing access to Doctoral studies in the issuing country (see art. 3).

The above-mentioned qualifications must be gained **by 31 December 2022**.

Some Doctoral Programmes may require specific university qualifications. Please see the relevant “Admission-2ndNRRP” attachment for information.

Candidates holding a Doctoral degree cannot be admitted to the same Doctoral Programme.

## Art. 3 - INTERNATIONAL DEGREES

Any second-cycle Higher Education qualifications obtained from a foreign institution and considered as equivalent to the required Italian degrees give access to the Doctorate (see art. 2). International degrees are assessed by the Board of Examiners for the sole purpose of admission to the Doctoral Programme, based on the level of the qualification, the length and/or the field of study of the degree programme, in compliance with the relevant laws in force in Italy and in the awarding country, as well as with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of foreign qualifications.

The above-mentioned conditions apply to any candidates - irrespective of their nationality - holding a foreign degree issued by institutions both from a EU and a non-EU country.

The application process is online only (see art. 4.1). Applicants need to upload a certificate of the required academic qualifications along with the relevant Transcripts of Records, as detailed in the “Admission-2ndNRRP” attachment. Candidates are strongly encouraged to provide any other document that might be useful for consideration of their application (e.g. Diploma Supplement, “dichiarazione di valore” issued by the Italian Embassy or Consulate in the awarding country, syllabi, etc.).

Candidates obtaining the required degree after the closing date for applications will be admitted conditionally until submission of their degree certificate, provided that they upload all other mandatory items.

If the certificates are delivered in a language other than English, a translation in English or Italian must be uploaded. At this stage, the translation may be provided by the candidates themselves, who take full responsibility for the accuracy and truthfulness of the version.

Upon enrolment, successful candidates shall submit the full supporting documentation, including the official translations, duly **legalized** by the relevant authority in the issuing country (see art. 6.2).

## Art. 4 – APPLICATIONS

### 4.1 – Application procedure

The application deadline is **1 December 2022, 13:00:00** (Italian time).

Applications must be submitted online via the University system <https://esse3.units.it/Home.do>. Applications sent by any other means will not be processed.

Any documentation that may have been uploaded with the application for the previous selections cannot be considered.

The application process consists of three steps:



- 1) Registration: applicants who have never registered on the University site need to register online before applying in order to obtain their username and password (credentials) which will allow them to move on to the second stage. To register, applicants are strongly advised to use [SPID](#) (*Sistema Pubblico di Identità Digitale*), providing that they are eligible to obtain one;
- 2) Application: after registration, applicants need to complete the online application including the upload of the documents listed in the relevant "Admission-2ndNRRP" attachment.
- 3) Payment of the registration fee: for each application an exam registration fee (€ 30.00) must be paid by **1 December 2022** (closing date for applying). Applicants failing to pay within the first day of assessment of qualifications shall be excluded from the competition (see the relevant date on the attachment of the chosen Doctoral Programme). Any payment made after the deadline cannot be considered for admission. The fee is non-refundable, except where more than one payment has been mistakenly made for the same application.

Applicants failing to pay the fee will be excluded. Exclusion will be announced in the "Assessment" file or upon publication of the merit list.

Late applications cannot be submitted: after the closing date and time the online system will no longer allow access to the application. The date and time of application are certified by the online system, and a receipt thereof can be downloaded at the end of the process. Applicants will also receive an email message confirming submission. It is however the candidate's responsibility to ensure that the application is submitted correctly, including the uploaded attachments.

Candidates are strongly encouraged to complete their application and pay the admission fee well in advance of the deadline, in order to avoid any possible crashing of the IT system and subsequent failure of the application process - due to the high number of last-minute applicants.

Requests for password recovery sent after **28 November 2022** cannot be processed.

Candidates residing abroad who are unable to pay online due to banking restrictions in their country of residence must write to [dottorati@amm.units.it](mailto:dottorati@amm.units.it) before **1 December 2022** and provide proof of the said restrictions. If the request is accepted, the candidate will be allowed to pay within a later date (and notified by email). Conversely, if the request for late payment is rejected, the applicant must pay the fee within 3 working days of the office notification.

By submitting the online application, applicants accept the provisions of this Call for Applications and the applicable University Regulations on Research Doctorates.

The Doctoral Office will not respond to applicants inquiring whether their application has been correctly received.

#### 4.2 – Applicants with disabilities and learning impairments (LSD)

Candidates with a recognised disability (pursuant to Law no. 104/1992 as amended by Law no. 17/99), or with a disability of at least 66% may request special aids and up to 50% extra time for completing a written test, where applicable.

Requests must be submitted in writing along with a copy of the certificate from the Public Medical Board (the Italian Commissione Sanitaria), as provided by Law 104/1992, or official acknowledgement of disability, to the Disability Service (Servizio Disabilità). Before visiting the Service, candidates are advised to book an appointment by email or telephone at least 10 working days prior to the date of the examination:

Servizio Disabilità: Sede: Piazzale Europa 1, 34127 Trieste, Building A (right wing), basement floor - tel. 040 558 2570/7663 - fax 040 558 3288 - email [disabili.dsa@units.it](mailto:disabili.dsa@units.it) - website: <https://web.units.it/page/it/dsdi/dis/home>.

Candidates with specific learning disorders (LSD) may request up to 30% extra time, where applicable, and in the event of serious issues, they may request special aids aimed at ensuring equal opportunities, provided they submit a medical certificate of diagnosis, in accordance with Law no.170/2010 (art. 3) and the State-Regions Agreement of 24/7/2012. Requests must be submitted to the Disability/Learning



Impairment Service (Servizio Disabili/DSA). Candidates are advised to book an appointment by email or telephone at least 10 working days prior to the date of the examination (see contacts above).

## Art. 5 – ADMISSION EXAMINATION

### 5.1 - Terms and conditions

Terms and conditions of admission, as well as the schedule of examinations, are advertised on the “Admission” information sheets of each Doctoral Programme (see attachments), which shall constitute an integral part of this Call for Applications, as well as notification to all applicants. The Doctoral Office is under no obligation to notify the candidates individually. Candidates are therefore expected to check the relevant website from time to time to take notice of any variations.

Knowledge of English will be tested during the interview. Candidates may be required – if indicated on the Admission attachment - to have a minimum language level.

When sitting the examination, candidates must show proof of identity (ID card, passport or equivalent document issued by the government).

Failure to attend the interview on the scheduled date and time, or to show a valid ID document, shall result in the candidate’s exclusion. The Board of Examiners may agree with the candidate the exact time for the interview.

The University of Trieste is not to be held responsible or liable for any technical failures that may impede the interview.

Interviews are public, i.e. access to the room, whether real or virtual, is ensured to whoever is interested in attending.

### 5.2 – In-person interview (optional videoconference)

In the event that videoconferencing is not the mandatory mode for conducting the interview, applicants wishing to be interviewed remotely must upload, along with their online application, the “[Videoconference form](#)”. The Board of examiners may establish a platform, different from the one chosen by the candidate in order to ensure that the interview is public.

Candidates failing to indicate their account for the videoconferencing are excluded from the selection. Applicants for videoconferencing can nevertheless attend the interview in person at the scheduled time, provided they bring a valid ID document.

Should a candidate – who had not requested a videoconference interview at the time of the application - be unable to attend the interview in person, they can send the videoconference form to the email address indicated in the relevant “Admission” attachment up to four working days before the date of the interview (or within the date indicated in the attachment, where different), by giving reasons for their late request.

The Board of Examiners will inform the candidates whether their request is accepted. If no reply is received, the request shall be deemed rejected and the candidate will need to attend the interview in person. Failure to do so shall result in the candidate’s exclusion. Any requests sent to email addresses other than those indicated in the Admission attachments will not be considered.

### 5.3 – Remote interview (mandatory)

If the videoconference is the only mandatory mode for conducting the interview, candidates must access the platform as indicated on the “Admission-2ndNRRP” attachment and/or on the “Assessments” file.

### 5.4 - Boards of Examiners and shortlists

Boards of Examiners are appointed by the Rector, taking into account gender equality - where possible - to carry out a comparative evaluation of the candidates.

The composition of the Boards will be posted on the “Admission-2ndNRRP” attachment of the relevant Doctoral Programme.



The Boards can carry out their work remotely while ensuring the security and traceability of communication.

The Boards can appoint experts for technical advice on specific topics.

On completion of the evaluation process, each Board will draw up a shortlist in decreasing score order.

The Doctoral Board will assign the scholarships, based on the minutes of the Board of Examiners.

Successful candidates will be offered the places by rank order. However, candidates may not be granted a scholarship, if they are assessed as not having the subject-specific competencies required by the research topic related to the scholarship, despite their final score.

Neither the Doctoral Board, nor the examiners, are bound to the candidate's preferences about the type of scholarship.

The names of the candidates, the results of the assessments and the final shortlists will be posted on the PhD website on the relevant attachments.

Candidates will be notified of the publication on the email account they have entered on the online application.

The Doctoral Office is not to be held responsible for any failed delivery of the notification, or any invalid email account. It is highly recommended to check the spam folder where emails from the University may be addressed by the mail providers.

## Art. 6 – ENROLMENT APPLICATION

### 6.1 - Procedure

Successful candidates must submit the enrolment application and pay the first instalment of fees within 3 working days of the date of the publication of the shortlist, **before 13:00:00**. Should the deadline fall on a Sunday or holiday, it is postponed to the following day. Procedures and deadlines will be posted at the bottom of the relevant shortlist. Publication thereof shall be deemed to constitute official notification.

Enrolment on each Doctoral Programme is subject to the limit of places available.

Candidates failing to submit their enrolment applications by the deadline or submitting incomplete applications shall be considered to have withdrawn and the vacant places shall be made available to the next eligible candidates on the list.

After applying for enrolment, PhD candidates shall consult with the Programme Coordinator for guidance.

Candidates applying for enrolment who have not yet obtained the required academic degree have the “pre-enrolled” student status until achievement of their qualification. Candidates graduating from the University of Trieste will have to inform the Doctoral Office staff of their graduation (email [dottorati@amm.units.it](mailto:dottorati@amm.units.it)) who will verify the information provided. Candidates graduating from other Italian universities will need to submit a self-declaration in lieu of certificate within 10 days of their graduation and **no later than 31 December 2022**.

Before the start of their activity, any PhD student shall inform the University Prevention and Protection Service of the type of activity they will perform by filling out the dedicated form. For further information: [http://www.units.it/prevenzione/procedure/nuovi\\_arrivati.php](http://www.units.it/prevenzione/procedure/nuovi_arrivati.php).

PhD candidates can access the University student management system (ESSE3) and email account, using their credentials obtained upon enrollment.

### 6.2 – Candidates holding a foreign degree

In order to complete their enrolment, successful candidates holding a foreign qualification must submit the supporting documentation which was uploaded at the time of application for admission, bearing the legalization or Apostille stamp.



They shall also submit an official translation of their certificates in English or Italian (if they are delivered in a different language), ie legalized by the local Italian Embassy or Consulate or sworn before a Court in Italy.

### 6.3 – Candidates residing outside Italy

Upon arrival in Italy, successful candidates from abroad must provide a copy of their Italian tax code and an address in Italy.

Recipients of doctoral scholarships also need to have a bank account in Italy, and must enter the relevant bank details on the student management system (ESSE3).

### 6.4 – Candidates from non-EU countries

Successful candidates from non-EU countries will have to register on the [University](#) platform and apply for an entry visa at the Italian Embassy or Consulate in their country of residence.

Upon enrolment, they need to submit their permit of stay in Italy (allowing study at university) or – if still to be delivered – the receipt of their application for the permit.

### 6.5 – Vacant places

Vacant places/scholarships are awarded to other eligible candidates by rank order as follows:

a) after the enrolment deadline, any scholarships that may remain available will be advertised on the relevant shortlist.

Any scholarship will be awarded according to the ranking list and in accordance with Article 7 (see below). The Doctoral office will notify the candidates of the places available and will further assign the vacant places within the limit of their number;

b) candidates entitled to vacant places shall apply for enrolment within the deadline and according to the terms indicated at the bottom of the shortlist, failing which they shall be excluded.

#### **N.B.:**

- to avoid delays in the Programme schedule, time limits for enrolling on vacant places might be shorter than those required under art. 6.1;
- if the Board of Examiners - in addition to the final score - has assessed the candidates competencies based on an evaluation scale in relation to a subject-specific place/project, the best evaluation shall be considered for assigning such place. In the event of equal evaluation, the highest final score following rank order will prevail;
- the Doctoral Board may decide to award the vacant places also following withdrawal of enrolled candidates, provided that the timely start of the PhD research and training is ensured.

## Art. 7 – SCHOLARSHIPS

### 7.1 – General provisions

Scholarships are available for all applicants. Upon acceptance of the scholarship, candidates must meet the relevant conditions, including the NRRP requirements, in accordance with DM 226/2021 and the University Regulations on Research Doctorates.

Scholarships are granted annually and are renewed every year for the entire duration of the Programme (36 months), as long as the PhD student has successfully completed the planned activities, as assessed by the Doctoral Board.

For exceptional reasons and for scientific needs, the PhD Board may grant an extension of the duration of the Programme and of the scholarship for a period not exceeding 12 months.

The PhD scholarship is paid in monthly installments for a total annual amount of **€ 16.243,00**, gross of national insurance contributions to be borne by the student. The scholarship may be increased by a maximum of 50% for conducting research abroad for a limited length of time, i.e. not exceeding the number



of months, as indicated in the relevant "Admission-2ndNRRP" attachment. In any event, the scholarship increase can be granted only for uninterrupted stays abroad of at least sixty days.

Any PhD student, whether employed or self-employed, can be awarded the scholarship as long as their income from work is not higher than €15,000 before tax and after social security contributions (for the academic year 2022/23 the applicable tax year is 2023). Income from occasional work is not considered, as well as activities provided by [art. 25, comma 5](#) of the Doctoral Regulations. For this purpose, working students need to submit a self-certification thereof before 31 May of the following year. The scholarship does not count towards the income amount. In the event that the PhD student's income exceeds the mentioned limit, the scholarship will be suspended and withdrawn, and the student will have to pay back the relevant scholarship installments.

For details on compatibility with work activity, see art. 25 of the University Regulations on Research Doctorates.

Candidates who have already been awarded a doctoral scholarship once, even partially, are no longer eligible to receive another PhD scholarship.

Scholarships cannot be granted along with fellowships or other grants, except for scholarships awarded by Italian or foreign institutions for the purpose of supporting the PhD activity with stays abroad.

Should any PhD student decide to no longer work on the assigned project with their research group and Supervisor, their scholarship will be revoked.

For information on unemployment benefits following completion of the Doctoral Programme, scholarship recipients are advised to contact the local INPS office (ie the Italian authority for State pensions).

## 7.2 – Scholarship award

Scholarships are awarded by the Doctoral Board to successful candidates according to their rank order. Where applicable, the Board shall also take into account the assessment of the candidate's competence in the specific research subject required by the scholarship.

The Board will also consider the candidate's ability to contribute to achieving the goals and objectives envisaged by the NRRP programme.

Should two or more candidates obtain the same score, the income value of the candidate's family, known as Equivalent Economic Indicator (ISEE), shall be considered for the scholarship award, and the lowest one shall prevail.

Successful candidates need to confirm acceptance of the scholarship using the appropriate form.

Scholarships cannot be offered to candidates whose competence on the research subject has been assessed as unsatisfactory by the Board of Examiners.

Any scholarships that may be available after the publication of this Call for Applications, or after the selection process, can be assigned only providing that there are any successful candidates according to the criteria given above.

Scholarships will be paid monthly, normally on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month, as from the second month of actual attendance of the PhD activity.

## Art. 8 – EXCLUSION FROM THE MERIT LIST

All candidates are admitted to this competition, subject to verification that all requirements have been met (art. 43 of D.P.R. 28<sup>th</sup> December 2000, no. 445). Therefore, the University may exclude a candidate from the competition at any time. The University shall also verify the truthfulness of the candidate's statements as well as the authenticity of the documents submitted. Any false statements or documents shall be punished as violation of the Criminal Code and of the laws regulating the matter.

Any non-compliance with the provisions as given in this Call for Applications as well as with the rules in force on Doctoral Programmes will lead to the candidate's exclusion from this competition.

*Legge 241/1990 - Responsabile del procedimento: Enrico Sartor*



#### Art. 9 – FEES

Enrolled students pay tuition fees - where applicable - and the regional fee as set out in the “Fees Policy”, which are published on <http://www2.units.it/dott/en/?file=DottTasse.inc>.

In the event that the PhD students waive their scholarship in the course of the academic year, they will be exempt from paying the fees as from the following year; should they waive it upon enrolment in their second or third year, they will be exempt from the payment as from that year.

#### Art. 10 – RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPATIBILITY

The PhD student who is granted the scholarship agrees to regularly submit a report on the main activities performed, and to ensure visibility and transparency in all materials and scientific products, as per art. 34 of the EU Regulation 2021/241, by displaying the European Union flag (emblem) and the funding statement (eg “project funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU);

Doctoral students are committed to ensuring performance of their PhD activity on an exclusive full-time basis.

Students wishing to perform any working activity outside their PhD project will have to be authorized by the Doctoral Board which will evaluate consistency with the PhD activity.

All students are covered by mandatory national insurance against accidents at work, issued by I.N.A.I.L. (Italian Insurance Against Injuries and Accidents at Work) in compliance with art. 4 of decree D.P.R. no. 1124 of 30 June 1965. They are also provided with third-party liability insurance, which the University has contracted with a major insurance company. Please note that insurances only cover accidents that occur whilst carrying out the PhD activity.

The University of Trieste is committed to ensuring equal opportunities to all individuals.

Students wishing to enroll both at a doctoral programme and another university programme need to reach out to the Doctoral Office for inquiry.

Any doctoral candidates are entitled to at least 10% of a PhD scholarship (as set out by the Ministry of University and Research) for their research expenses.

Further information on rights, duties, and compatibility of PhD attendance with other activities, are available on the University Regulations on Research Doctorates.

#### Art. 11 – DOCTORAL THESIS

At the end of the doctoral training, students shall take an examination in which they need to demonstrate to have achieved results of scientific relevance by submitting a written thesis or a graphic project.

In order to be admitted to the final examination, candidates shall submit their doctoral theses in electronic format by the set deadline.

Doctoral theses are made public in Open Access, in compliance with the provisions of the Institutional Open Access Policy available on <http://hdl.handle.net/10077/8791>.

The NRRP funding requires better use of research results and protection of intellectual property, while ensuring public access to research data and results (eg publication of original results, raw data and metadata, sources, digital image or visual representations and multi-media materials) in the shortest possible time and with as few restrictions as possible, according to the “Open science” and “FAIR Data” principles.

Terms and conditions for admission to the final examination and for thesis submission are announced every year.

#### Art. 12 – DATA PROCESSING - ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS - OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE





All personal data collected for the purpose of this competition shall be processed and stored, including by automated means, in compliance with art. 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

The provision of personal data is compulsory, as they are required in order to manage the recruitment process. Failure to provide them will result in the applicant exclusion from this competition.

The Data Controller is the University of Trieste having its legal address in Piazzale Europa, 1 – 34127 Trieste.

The data used for the mentioned purposes will be disclosed to or accessed by staff and their co-workers, as instructed by the Controller.

The University may also disclose the controlled personal data to other public administrations, should this be required for the execution of their public functions, as well as to other public bodies, where disclosure is mandatory pursuant to EU provisions or laws and other legal acts.

The collected data are filed and managed by means of University's servers and/or - should this be required for the administrative management - external servers of service providers, who – for the sole purpose of the required service – may access personal data if duly designated as Processors pursuant to art. 28 of the GDPR Regulation.

Participation in the competition implies tacit consent to the online publication of the applicants' names and results.

By virtue of artt. 15-21 of the said Regulation, applicants have a number of rights, namely the right to access their personal data, to request to have them rectified, completed or erased or to have the processing of their data restricted, by sending their request via email to the Controller or the Data Protection Officer: [ateneo@pec.units.it](mailto:ateneo@pec.units.it) or [dpo@units.it](mailto:dpo@units.it).

Where applicable, candidates have the right of access to the documentation related to this competition, under existing law (L. 241/90 and D.P.R. 184/2006).

The Officer in charge of the administrative procedure is the Head of the Doctoral Office of the University of Trieste (*Unità di staff Dottorati di Ricerca*), pursuant to Law 241/1990. As regards assessment of the candidates, the Chair of each Board of Examiners is in charge of the relevant procedure.

Any scientific publications submitted by the candidates at the time of application shall be used only for the assessment of candidates and the formation of merit lists. Foreign qualifications may be submitted to third parties for the purpose of assessment or verification.

Contacts	
<p><b>Address:</b> Main University building (Building "A") right-hand wing – room 234 Piazzale Europa, 1 – 34127 TRIESTE</p> <p><b>Opening hours (by appointment):</b> Monday: 3:00 to 4:00 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00 to 11:00 am</p>	<p><b>web:</b> <a href="http://www2.units.it/dott/en/">http://www2.units.it/dott/en/</a></p> <p><b>telephone:</b> +39 040.558.3182 (Monday to Thursday: 12:00 am to 1:00 pm)</p> <p><b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:dottorati@amm.units.it">dottorati@amm.units.it</a></p>

Legge 241/1990 - Responsabile del procedimento: Enrico Sartor