

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE ADMISSION TO THE  
RESEARCH DOCTORATE COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO**

**Academic Year 2020/2021 (XXXVI Cycle)**

Unofficial English version of DR 1885/2000

24<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

**This document the English version (NOT official) of the Call for PhD Application, cycle XXXVI, A.Y. 2020/2021. This document is NOT valid for legal purpose and it is for foreign students to help them to apply for PhD Admission. Foreign candidates are invited to read the original Call for Applicant, DR n. 1885, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**

D E C R E E S

**Art. 1**

*Institution of PhD courses*

The University of Palermo announces an open competition based on academic qualifications and interview, or on written and oral exams, for PhD Research Courses – academic year 2020/2021 – with the administrative headquarters at the University of Palermo. The three-year courses and the related positions available for candidates with qualifications held abroad are listed below. For each PhD Course is indicated the location of the course, the course Supervisor, the number of positions, and any positions reserved to candidates with qualifications held abroad.

1	ADVANCES IN MODELLING, HEALTH-MONITORING, INFRASTRUCTURES, GEOMATICS, GEOTECHNICS, HAZARDS, ENGINEERING STRUCTURES, TRANSPORTATION (AIM HIGHEST)		
	Ph.D.	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Antonina PIRROTTA	
	Department	Ingegneria	
	Total Scholarships	5	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

2	ARCHITECTURE, ARTS AND PLANNING ARCHITETTURA, ARTI E PIANIFICAZIONE		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Filippo SCHILLECI	
	Department	Architettura	
	Total Scholarships	6	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

3	BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Tiziano CARUSO	
	Department	Scienze Agrarie, Alimentari e Forestali	
	Total Scholarships	5	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

4	BIOMEDICINA, NEUROSCIENZE E DIAGNOSTICA AVANZATA		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Fabio BUCCHIERI	
	Department	Biomedicina, Neuroscienze e Diagnostica Avanzata	
	Total Scholarships	10	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* funded by Fondazione Ri.MED 1* funded by dalla UTMB

5	CHEMICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, BIOMEDICAL, HYDRAULIC AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Giorgio Domenico Maria MICALE	
	Department	Ingegneria	
	Total Scholarships	9	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* funded by CINID

6	DINAMICA DEI SISTEMI SYSTEM DYNAMICS		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Carmine BIANCHI	
	Department	Scienze Politiche e delle Relazioni Internazionali	
	Total Scholarships	8	1* reserved to a student from University of Tunis, El Manar, Migrants project 1* funded by Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano Bogotà, reserved to a student from same university 1* funded by Shangai University and reserved to a student from same university

7	DIRITTI UMANI: EVOLUZIONE, TUTELA E LIMITI HUMAN RIGHTS: EVOLUTION, PROTECTION AND LIMITS		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Isabel Ascension TRUJILLO PEREZ	
	Department	Giurisprudenza	
	Total Scholarships	8	2 reserved to a student with a foreign degree

			1* funded by University of Coahuila and reserved to a student from the same university
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8	ENERGY		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Eleonora RIVA SANSEVERINO	
	Department	Ingegneria	
	Total Scholarships	8	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 2* funded by 50% ENEA and 50% UNIPA 1* funded by ENEA 1* funded by CNR and STMicroelectronics S.r.l.

9	HEALTH PROMOTION AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Giuseppa CAPPUCCIO	
	Department	Scienze Psicologiche, Pedagogiche e della Formazione	
	Total Scholarships	6	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

10	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Ilenia TINNIRELLO	
	Department	Ingegneria	
	Total Scholarships	7	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 4* funded 50% by INRS and 50% by UNIPA

11	MATEMATICA E SCIENZE COMPUTAZIONALI MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCES		
	Ph.D	Standard in convenzione con UNICT e UNIME	
	Coordinator	Prof. Maria Carmela LOMBARDO	
	Department	Matematica e Informatica	
	Total Scholarships	10	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 3* funded by UNICT 3* funded by UNIME

12	MECHANICAL, MANUFACTURING, MANAGEMENT AND AEROSPACE INNOVATION		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Giovanna LO NIGRO	
	Department	Ingegneria	
	Total Scholarships	9	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* funded by Fondazione Ri.MED

13	MEDICINA MOLECOLARE E CLINICA MOLECULAR AND CLINICAL MEDICINE		
	Ph.D	Standard	
	Coordinator	Prof. Antonino TUTTOLOMONDO	
	Department	Promozione della Salute, Materno-Infantile, di Medicina Interna e Specialistica di Eccellenza	
	Total Scholarships	10	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

14	ONCOLOGIA E CHIRURGIA SPERIMENTALI EXPERIMENTAL ONCOLOGY AND SURGERY		
	Ph.D	Standard	
	Coordinator	Prof. Antonio RUSSO	
	Department	Discipline Chirurgiche, Oncologiche e Stomatologiche	
	Total Scholarships	8	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* funded 43% by Takeda Italia spa and 57% by UNIPA

15	PLURALISMI GIURIDICI. PROSPETTIVE ANTICHE E ATTUALI LEGAL PLURALISMS. HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Giuseppe DI CHIARA	
	Department	Giurisprudenza	
	Total Scholarships	6	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

16	SCIENZE DELLA CULTURA CULTURE SCIENCES		
	Ph.D	Standard	
	Coordinator	Prof. Giulia de SPUCHES	
	Department	Culture e Società	
	Total Scholarships	9	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* reserved to a student from Université de La Manouba – Tunis – Migrants project

17	SCIENZE DELLA TERRA E DEL MARE EARTH AND MARINE SCIENCES		
	Ph.D	Standard	
	Coordinator	Prof. Alessandro AIUPPA	
	Department	Scienze della Terra e del Mare	
	Total Scholarships	7	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* funded by OGS 1* funded by Ambiente s.p.a.

18	SCIENZE ECONOMICHE E STATISTICHE ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Andrea CONSIGLIO	
	Department	Scienze Economiche, Aziendali e Statistiche	
	Total Scholarships	7	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 1* funded 43% project PRIN and 57% by UNIPA

19	SCIENZE FISICHE E CHIMICHE PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCES		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Gioacchino Massimo PALMA	
	Department	Fisica e Chimica – Emilio Segré	
	Total Scholarships	6	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

20	SCIENZE MOLECOLARI E BIOMOLECOLARI MOLECULAR AND BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES		
	Ph.D	Standard	
	Coordinator	Prof. Giovanna PITARRESI	
	Department	Scienze e Tecnologie Biologiche, Chimiche e Farmaceutiche	
	Total Scholarships	6	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

21	SISTEMI AGROALIMENTARI E FORESTALI MEDITERRANEI MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND FOREST SYSTEMS		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Vincenzo BAGARELLO	
	Department	Scienze Agrarie, Alimentari e Forestali	
	Total Scholarships	4	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

22	STUDI UMANISTICI HUMANITIES STUDIES		
	Ph.D	International	
	Coordinator	Prof. Marina Calogera CASTIGLIONE	
	Department	Scienze Umanistiche	
	Total Scholarships	6	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree

23	TECNOLOGIE E SCIENZE PER LA SALUTE DELL'UOMO TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE FOR HUMAN HEALTH		
	Ph.D	Standard	
	Coordinator	Prof. Bruno Giuseppe PIGNATARO	
	Department	Scienze e Tecnologie Biologiche, Chimiche e Farmaceutiche	
	Total Scholarships	9	1 reserved to a candidate with foreign degree 3* funded by Fondazione Ri.MED

\*Starred scholarships will be activated only if the agreement with funding body is signed before the ending of candidates selection.

Each Annex for PhD Course (Scheda) to this announcement lists: Department where PhD course is located, PhD Coordinator, Ordinary position with Scholarship, Reserved position with Scholarship to candidates with foreign degree research topics, mandatory qualifications and how examination is carried out. Refer to Art.3. Positions with grant marked with an asterisk will be activated if the agreement is signed by Financing Agency, before the conclusion of the competition proceedings.

The following external Institutions will pay the grant directly to the assigned doctoral students: UTMB and INRS. All grants funded by external funding agencies will be paid to assignees on condition that the University receives amounts.

PhD Courses can not be activated if one of the following conditions occurs:

- If Ministry of Education and Research (MIUR) doesn't accredit the PhD course;
- In case of receiving less than four participation requests;
- If at any time of the competition the candidates that are present are less than four, the Board of Examiners will stop further competition proceedings and it will give notice to the candidates;
- If less than four candidates are not usefully placed on the list.

Examination methods are indicated in the attached form of each PhD course. For each of it, place and exam dates will be published at [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/) and it will represent a notification for all practical purposes and no personal communication will be sent to candidates.

Candidates will not receive any written notice of date and venue of the exam.

The positions with scholarship, set out in this notice, may be increased and / or replaced as a result of additional funding available, also obtained from public and private external entities, through agreements or arrangements to be established into after the publication of this announcement and until 6 months from the beginning of the PhD courses.

Any other grants that may become available, as part of research projects funded on a call for Programmi National Operational Programmes RI 2014-2020 (PON RI 2014-2020), National Operational Programmes of Regional Operational Programmes, other EU Programmes, national, regional, international projects, can be added to the grants funded by the university. Moreover, all applicants who have been awarded a grant by the European Commission before the deadline of this call, shall be awarded of a supernumerary position. The following conditions have to be satisfied: European Commission Grant gross amount must be equivalent or superior to doctorate scholarship amount and candidates must successfully passing this exams.

## Art. 2

### INPS Scholarships

About the INPS Call for universities titled "*Ricerca e selezione di dottorati di ricerca in materia di: industria 4.0; sviluppo sostenibile; welfare e benessere; scienze statistiche e attuariali*", for new 100 Ph.D scholarships, reserved to son and orphan of registered people at "INPS Gestione unitaria delle prestazioni creditizie e sociali" and retired people registered at "INPS Gestione dipendenti pubblici", to the University of Palermo has been assigned 10 Scholarships, to be added to the Scholarships in Art.1.

On 25th february 2020, The University of Palermo signed an agreement with INPS to select candidates for Scholarships listed in following table:

PhD course ciclo XXXVI	Scholarships funded by INPS
MOLECULAR AND BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES	1

ADVANCES IN MODELLING, HEALTH-MONITORING, INFRASTRUCTURES, GEOMATICS, GEOTECHNICS, HAZARDS, ENGINEERING STRUCTURES, TRANSPORTATION (AIM HIGHEST) (Ex Civil, environmental and materials engineering - ciclo 35)	1
MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND FOREST SYSTEMS (Ex Scienze Agrarie Alimentari e Forestali - ciclo 35)	1
HEALTH PROMOTION AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES	1
ADVANCES IN MODELLING, HEALTH-MONITORING, INFRASTRUCTURES, GEOMATICS, GEOTECHNICS, HAZARDS, ENGINEERING STRUCTURES, TRANSPORTATION (AIM HIGHEST) (Ex Civil, environmental and materials engineering - ciclo 35)	1
MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURAL, FOOD AND FOREST SYSTEMS (Ex Scienze Agrarie Alimentari e Forestali - ciclo 35)	1
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	1
CULTURE SCIENCES	1
TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE FOR HUMAN HEALTH	1
SYSTEM DYNAMICS	1

In application of Call for Universities “Università - Ricerca e selezione di dottorati di ricerca”, Art. 5, published on 30th June 2019 on INPS, The University of Palermo selects for potential candidates for previous scholarships and will inform INPS about eligible candidates. The INPS based on official acts will select the beneficiaries of INPS scholarships.

Candidates interest in IPS scholarships have to respect requirements in Art.2 and upload Annex E during online application form. Using Annex E they declare to have INPS requirements and to be sons or orphans of retired user of “Gestione dipendenti pubblici” or sons or orphans users registered at “Gestione unitaria delle prestazioni creditizie e sociali”.

INPS Scholarships are assigned using the same procedure for scholarships listed in Art. 1.

Suitable candidates for INPS Scholarships have no rights on Unipa scholarships listed on Art. 1

### **Art. 3**

#### ***Admission requirements***

#### **1) Qualifications required**

Applicants of any Country and age holding the following requirements, can submit their application:

- Master Degree (Ministerial Decree n. 509/1999),



- Master Degree (Ministerial Decree n. 270/2004),
- Master Degree (Italian old legislation degree)

For Italian old masters degree is used the Interministerial decree n. 233 9<sup>th</sup> July 2009 to evaluate the equipollence.

A candidate, without a Master Degree listed in the PhD Annex or not equivalent to one of the previous list, is excluded from selection.

Foreign qualification, **lasting at least four years** and equivalents to an Italian Master's Degree of the previous list is accepted.

Whoever is already in possession of a title of PhD may also apply for participation in the competition for admission to PhD. In this event if the candidate has already received a grant, may attend the doctorate course but without scholarship, after passing the exams and being in final ranking for a winner's position.

All applicants are eligible for selection, subject to verification of the self-declared statements under the Legislative Decree No 445/2000 and subsequent modifications and integrations. The University may provide, at all times, by measure of the Rector, the exclusion of candidates during the selection procedure or during the PhD course, if candidate's statements aren't true.

## **2) Admission to the selection for candidates who are scheduled to obtain the degree**

Are admitted to apply those students who are scheduled to obtain the degree required in the first paragraph within the **October 31<sup>st</sup> 2020**. In this case the admission to the competition will be considered 'provisional', and candidates will be required to send to the Doctorate Office, under penalty of exclusion, no more than 10 days after been awarded of the title, a substitute self declaration (for title extra UE a certification issued by University) of the certificate required in compliance with art. 46 D.P.R. 28.12.2000 n. 445 and subsequent modifications and integrations.

## **3) Qualifications held abroad**

For a foreign Master Degree resulting from **at least four-year course**, of the same level of an Italian Master Degree that gives access to the PhD courses, not already been declared equivalent to an Italian one, the Board of Examiners and PhD Coordinator (Art. 2 Legge 148/2002) will evaluate its eligibility for the sole purpose of admission to the competition. For this purpose can be used International agreements about recognition of educational qualifications.

Candidates with a foreign degree have to upload, during online application form, a copy of the master degree certification released by their university,

Citizens holding a Non-EU academic degree, in case of admission to the course, have to provide the legalization and "declaration of equivalent value" released by the competent Italian Diplomatic-Consular Representation of the country where the qualification was awarded, according to the regulations governing the admission of foreign students to degree courses in Italian universities.

Foreign full academic qualifications, can be substitute by Diploma Supplements issued the Organization has produced the titles and respecting European Commission Standard. At any time, if doubts arise about the truth of qualifications, the University of Palermo can ask candidate for “dichiarazione di valore in loco”.

Applicants with foreign qualification will be admitted under “condition” and they will be excluded from the doctoral program if, after verification, qualification does not comply with Call requirements and does not allow enrollment to doctorate course.

#### **4) Participation fees to the competition procedure**

In order to submit the application, according to the resolution of the Board of Directors n. 05 of 11.04.2013, candidates have to pay an application fee of € 50.00, by the set deadline for applications submission. Candidates who will not pay within this term will be excluded from the procedures.

The payment, in no case refundable, must be made using either PagoPA service or the Students Portal or Italian PSP office (Prestatori di Servizi di Pagamento). More details about payment procedure at link <https://immaweb.unipa.it/immaweb/public/pagamenti.seam>

Those ones who will pay the competition fee using different ways from those abovedescribed, and not according to the above mentioned terms will not be allowed to participate in the selection proceedings.

Applicants with a disability level higher than 66%, and foreign citizens are exempted from the payment of the Doctoral Research participation fee (Resolution of the Board of Directors No. 05 05.04.2013). Foreign citizens shall be exonerated from the payment of the participation fee if they do not possess the Italian citizenship too.

### **Art. 4**

#### ***Application***

In order to apply, candidates have to complete the following online procedure:

- a) Register on the Student Portal at link <http://studenti.unipa.it>. Click on “Clicca qui per registrarti al Portale Studenti” link and follow instructions displayed. Username and password will be sended via email. Those ones who already have username and access password can skip to step b);
- b) Login to Portale Studenti using username and password. Connect to web page <http://portale.unipa.it/>, click on “LOGIN” and then on “Portale Studenti”; alternatively open <http://studenti.unipa.it>, click on “Clicca qui per accedere alla tua Area riservata”.
- c) Refer to "PRATICHE" menu item and select “Nuova Pratica”: within the proposed list, click on “Domanda di partecipazione a concorso per l'accesso ad un corso di Dottorato di Ricerca / PhD Courses - Call for applicants”
- d) Fill the application form and pay the fee required of € 50.00 (fifty/00 only for candidates with Italian master degree), in no case refundable, to be paid as reported in the Art. 2 paragraph 4, before the deadline for applications submission, published at link [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

The application form that has been filled out online to participate in the competition for admission to PhD is considered as self-certification according to D.P.R. n. 445/2000 and Art.3 Law N.127/97.

Candidates should also submit, attached to the application, the following documents in pdf format:

1) copy duly signed self certification of qualification required by the call. It has to include each exam passed. Self certified according to D.P.R. 445/2000 can be used (Annex D). For foreign Qualifications required by the Call, is needed a Diploma Supplement or equivalent certification (In Italian or English language);

Candidates scheduled to obtain an Italian Master Degree before October 31st 2019, have to submit a self certified, according to D.P.R. 445/2000, of all exams and marks passed,. Candidates from foreign Universities have to submit a certification issued by their institution.

2) duly signed Europass curriculum vitae (Annex A);

3) duly signed Research Project. Summary description of the project, of the objectives and of the achievable results (Annex B);

4) duly signed list of qualifications and research publications held (Annex C);

5) duly signed valid copy of an ID;

6) students with physical disabilities higher than 66% must provide a certification.

Foreign citizens must also issue a self-certification according to the D.P.R. 445/2000 to be in possession of the following requisites:

**Causes for exclusion from the selection are:**

- Not hold a valid qualification required by the Call and PhD annexes;
- Foreign qualifications not equivalent to the same level of Italian Master Degree required by the Call and PhD annexes;
- Not signed or not valid Self-Certifications according to DRP 445/2000;
- Not submitting any one of the documents listing in previous points 1,2,3

Foreign citizens must also issue a self-certification according to the D.P.R. 445/2000 to be in possession of the following requisites:

a) enjoy civil and political rights in the states of belonging or provenance;

b) be in possession, with the exception of the ownership of Italian citizenship, of all other requisites envisaged for citizens of the Republic;

The documents (title and publication), reported in the list of qualifications held (Annex C), must in no case be presented together with the application form; If the candidate has publications, he can provide a link for the inspection by the Board of Examiners.

Applicants with disabilities, according to the Law 104/92 and Law 17/99, have to specify in the application form the needed assistance with respect to his/her handicap, as well as the possible need of additional time to complete examination tests.

All the documents written in foreign languages must be translated into Italian or English, on behalf and under the responsibility of the candidate certifying compliance with original document.

Each candidate is responsible about all documents and declaration submitted and to complete the online Application. The Application will be accepted if it is in the state “Bollettino Pagato” or “Consegnata”. It is the candidate's responsibility to verify the Application is one of previous state.

All candidates are admitted under condition to the competition procedure. If candidates do not take the exam at the appointed time, regardless of the justification, they will be excluded.

At Any time, the University Administration may order, for justified reasons, the exclusion for lack of requirements. A notification will be sent to the email address indicated in Portale Studenti during registration. The University Administration is not responsible, in any case, for dispersion of communications due to wrong indications concerning personal and contact data, as permanent address, telephone number or email address, or due to late notification of any modification by the applicant. Each candidate is invited to apply for participation in the competition well in advance of the date of expiry of the announcement.

## **Art. 5**

### ***Board of examiners***

The Board of examiners of each PhD course, composed in accordance with art. 11 of Doctorate Regulations, is nominated by Rector's decree, upon the advice of the board of professors of the PhD.

The composition of each Board will be officially communicated after the expiry of the announcement at the following web address: [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

## **Art. 5**

### ***Admission tests***

#### **1 Admission procedure**

Admission procedures are indicated in each PhD annex and the selection will be based upon Project evaluation, qualifications-publications and remote interview

Each candidate can participate for more different PhD programs, submitting a separate application for each request. In case of overlapping dates the exams dates will not change.

In the case of PhD courses divided in curricula each candidate is required to indicate in the application one or more curricula (in order of priority) which he's interested in. Curricula are listed in the annexes of each PhD.

The list of candidates and documents will be sent to the PhD Directors that will forward them to President of the Board of Examiners of each PhD course.

#### **2 Evaluation criteria: project, qualifications, scientific publications and interview**

The Board of Examiners will assign 100 points so distributed

**Project Evaluation** – max 30 points. The test is passed with a min of 21/30 points;

**Qualifications and Publications** – max 10 points;

**Remote interview** – max 60 points. Test is passed with a min of 31/60 points;

Board of examiners will assign up to 30 points to the Project, splitted in:

*Originality of the project:* maximum 10 points;

*Congruence with the research topics of the doctorate:* maximum 10 points;

*Methodological strictness:* maximum 5 points;

*Knowledge of the relevant scientific literature:* maximum 5 points;

Board of examineers can assign up to 20 points to Qualifications and Publications, splitted in:

*Master Degree required to access to the competition:* Points 0;

*Other second level Master Degree:* Points 0.5 (max 1 point);

*Ph.D title held:* Points 1 (Max 2 points);

*Certified Post-graduate university courses:* 0.5 points (max 1 point);

*Frequency of Specialization schools:* Points 0.2 / year (Max 1 point);

*Master University- second level:* 0.5 points (Max 1 point);

*Post-graduate periods spent in scientific institutions:* Points 0.1 / month (Max 3 points);

*Scientific publications:* Points 1 (max 4 points); will be evaluated only published documents before expiring date of the announcement, which will be relevant to the objectives of the course and provided with ISBN, ISSN, ISMN or DOI.

The overall maximum score assigned to qualifications and publications cannot be more than 10 points.

During the interview the Commission will ascertain the candidate's ability to argue using methodological strictness the presented project and its knowledge of scientific reference.

### **3 Remote interview**

The interview will be performed using Microsoft Teams software following Boards of Examinees instructions. The video communications tools used during interview have to allow candidates recognition. Candidates have to use a Personal Computer (Notebook or Desktop), a tablet is permitted too, an Internet network speed al least 1024 Kbps in download and 512 Kbs in upload, Webcam and microphone are required.

The exams are intended to ascertain the preparation, skills and aptitude of the candidate to scientific research.

During interview the candidate will present the research project attached to the application.

The candidate must also demonstrate good knowledge of the English language.

Before to be examined each candidate must show a valid identity card.

The evaluation of the project, qualifications and scientific publications is carried out before interview.

The list of candidates admitted to the interview, with the relative indication of the scores relative to the project evaluation, qualifications and scientific publications, will be available, before the date of interview, in the structure where the exams are placed

Exams dates will be published at link [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/) at least twenty days before (Art. 6 D.P.R. 487/1994). Any updates (for exceptional reasons) of the dates or place of the tests, will be published at the same link and will be in effect as official notification and convocation of the candidates, who therefore will not have to wait for further communication.

For the purposes of identification and under penalty of exclusion, every candidate must provide a valid ID document – the same document already attached to the application- before the beginning of the exam.

The failure of communication of personal e-mail address, internet connection unavailable, the unavailability of candidates on the appointed day/time, the failure to display the identification document will cause exclusion from the selection proceedings.

### **Art. 7**

#### ***Admission tests for candidates graduated abroad for Reserved Positions***

Candidates graduated abroad, participating in the selection for reserved positions, should make an explicit request in their application form. If a Candidate chooses to apply for a Reserved Position he can't apply for an Ordinary Position;

### **Art. 8**

#### ***International Doctorates***

The Board of Directors approved on 15.05.2019 the following International PhD courses:

- 1. Advances in Modelling, Health-Monitoring, Infrastructures, Geomatics, Geotechnics, Hazards, Engineering Structures, Transportation (Aim Highest)** - agreement with Sveuciliste U Zagrebu, University of Granada e Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)
- 2. Architecture, arts and planning** – agreement with The Technical University of Cluj-Napoca e University of Thessaly
- 3. Biodiversity in Agriculture and Forestry** – agreements with UPV Universitat Politècnica de València
- 4. Biomedicine, neuroscience and advanced diagnostics-** agreement with the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
- 5. Chemical, Environmental, Biomedical, Hydraulic and Materials Engineering** – agreement with Gdansk University of Technology, University of Technology Sydney, The Basque Country University Upv/Ehu, Kth Royal Institute of Technology and Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya;
- 6. System Dynamics** – agreement with University of Bergen e Universidad de Bogota Jorge Tadeo Lozano, University of Tunis El Manar and Shanghai University of International Business and Economics
- 7. Human rights: evolution, protection and limits** - agreement with Universitat de Valencia, University of Makeni, Universidad de Coahuila, Universitat Paris Nanterre;
- 8. Energy** – agreement with University of Pardubice and RTWH Aachen University
- 9. Health promotion and cognitive sciences** - agreement with Lithuanian Sports University;

- 10. Information and communication technologies** - agreement with INRS (Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique), Heriot-watt University of Edinburgh HWU, Universit Libre de Bruxelles ULB, Temple University TML and University of Belgrade UB;
- 11. Mechanical, Manufacturing, Management and Aerospace Innovation** – agreement with University Of Stuttgart, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Friedrich Alexander University of Erlangen, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and University Institute of Lisbon;
- 12. Legal pluralisms. historical and contemporary perspectives** - agreement with University Paris II - Panthèon Assas; Universidad de Malaga
- 13. Economic and Statistics** – agreement with Univrsita’ Di Dubrovnik; Universita’ Di Cipro
- 14. Physical and Chemical Sciences** – agreement with Eberhard Karls University of Tuebingen, University of Turku;
- 15. Mediterranean Agricultural, Food and Forest Systems** – agreement with Università Nacional di Rio Negro e Universidad de Castilla - La Mancha;
- 16. Human studies** - agreement with Universita’ of Porto.

Examinations regarding the PhD Courses mentioned above are ruled by the same procedures of this Public Selection Announcement, and Academic Committees could establish to perform the examination in English. Every Candidates enrolled in an International PhD Course, will spend a period of study abroad at the University in convention with, as referred in the related agreements, training plan and Doctorate Regulations of the University of Palermo DR. n.567 , 2018, 6<sup>th</sup> march.

## **Art. 9**

### ***Admission to the PhD Courses***

The rank list of candidates will be approved by Rector’s Decree, once confirmed the regularity of the proceedings.

Successful candidates will be admitted to each PhD Research Program, according to their order on the rank list, until all available places have been filled. The rank lists will be exclusively published on the official website of the University of Palermo: [www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

This communication is equivalent to an official notification for all successful candidates and it will be published after the completion of all competition examinations, according to the order of tests.

Candidates will not receive personal communications. Will not be all allowed appeals against the rank lists after the sixtieth day from the Rector’s Decree approving the Public Selection Act.

Who has already obtained the title of PhD, if pass admission tests, can be allowed to attend, another Doctoral course but without grant. In case of useful placement in more rankings, the candidate must choose only a single Doctoral Course.

As regards the schools of medical specialization, the PhD Academic Board and the Council of Postgraduate School may authorize the joint attendance of specialized and PhD course to those attending the last year of the postgraduates school, depending on the activity provided for by the school itself and the formative plan of the PhD Course.

Postgraduates enrolled in the last year of postgraduates school may submit the application for joint attendance. The teaching body of the PhD course provides for any acceptance of the application and at the same time authorizes the reduction of the PhD course in two years, after the evaluation of the research activity already carried out during the medical PhD course. The joint attendance, if authorized, implies the cut of any awarded PhD grant. In this case, the application for a joint attendance might be accepted only if the suspension of the award for the year of joint attendance do not draw on the minimum number of awards for the PhD course and the average number of the awards for each course and cycle at the University.

The positions with grant reserved to foreign applicants, not covered by the beneficiaries, will be assigned to the first candidate in the ranking of ordinary places in possession of a foreign degree valid to access to PhD Programme;

#### **Art. 10**

##### ***Supernumerary Admission***

Candidates with qualifications held abroad, who have successfully passed the exams, if not among successful candidates, are admitted to the PhD course, without grant and in supernumerary position, in the amount of 50% of the places available, as mentioned in the Art. 10, paragraph 9) of the Research Doctorate rules and regulations, once the opinion of the Doctorate Academic Board has been acquired, only if:

- they have been awarded by a grant financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Italian Republic, or by their mother country's government;
- they come from countries with which a specific intergovernmental agreement or an agreement with the University of Palermo exists, in any case without charges for the University of Palermo.

Holders of research grant as defined in Art. 22, Law n.240/2010 14.01.2011, if among successful candidates, may apply to be enrolled in a PhD course, renouncing to the research grant, or may apply to be admitted as supernumerary, without grant, no more than one and following the rank list order, without renouncing to the research grant, upon payment of the fees for admission and attendance of PhD courses. The option is irrevocable. Those who, on the due date for registration, are the winners of a selection for the award of a research grant whose contract will run in coincidence with the start of the course, will have to declare it on the application form.

#### **Art . 11**

##### **OMISSIS**



## Art. 12

### *Enrolment Procedure*

Successful candidates admitted through the ranking lists must submit their enrolment form to the University administration within 7 days from the day following the publication of the rank lists on the following website:

[www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

Following the instructions provided on the above mentioned web site, entering the Portale Studenti (<http://studenti.unipa.it>) with the same credentials gained during registration, applicants can access to the “Domanda di Immatricolazione ad un corso di Dottorato di Ricerca”, through the hypertext path PRATICHE STUDENTE - NUOVA PRATICA - Dottorati di Ricerca.

Filling the application will allow applicants to provide the University administration with all the necessary self-certifications, to attach documents in pdf and to print the receipt along with enrolment fees, as established in art. 12, whose payment is binding on successful enrolment procedure.

If a candidate does not enroll before this deadline, she tacitly withdraws from the PhD program and loses the right to enroll. This decision is definitive.

After the deadline, the free positions will be offered to the qualified next candidates on the ranking list, and they will be allowed to enter Portale Studenti (<http://studenti.unipa.it>) and enrol under the terms and conditions indicated in the above mentioned paragraphs.

## Art. 12

### *Fees for admission and attendance of PhD courses*

Enrolment in PhD Courses is in any case subordinate to the annual payment listed below, in compliance with Board of Directors’ resolution n. 17 03/29/2017 and ratified with D.R. Rector’s Decree n. 1647 05/22/2017, and by the Regulations on Doctoral Research of the University of Palermo.

#### **a) For applicants with grant:**

- Administrative fees: € 200.00
- Regional Tax: € 140.00
- Additional government Tax € 16,00

#### **b) For applicant admitted as supernumerary, without grant:**

- Regional Tax: € 140.00
- Additional government Tax € 16,00

Are exempted from the payment of admission fees:

- holders of “student loan” and also people with disability level superior to 66%;
- holders of research grant financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as regards to the year of the financed research grant;
- foreign applicants who are holders of research grant financed by the their country of origin.

In any case, Doctoral students will have to pay the regional taxes for the ‘right to education’.

## **Art. 14**

### ***Grants***

Grants are assigned following the ranking list until grants last.

The grants financed by other Institutions will be assigned after those financed by the University of Palermo following the ranking list, unless otherwise stated by the PhD Board.

If the candidates have equal merit, the candidate younger in age will be given preference over the older in age.

Under no circumstances, as a result of refuse or exclusions made during the course, it will be possible to transfer to another student of the remaining grant.

The amounts of the administrative fees and administrative rights or regional tax may be subject to variations from year to year by decision of the Academic Organs or by Ministerial and Regional Decrees.

Anyone who has already held a grant for a Doctorate course, even for one year or a fraction of it, can't request a second grant and is placed as supernumerary candidate without grant.

Annual gross scholarship is € **15,343.28** (DM n.40 of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018). The student must have a valid tax ID number and register for the "Gestione Separata" at the "Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza Sociale" (INPS).

The duration of the grant is annual and is renewable under the conditions that the doctoral student has completed the research activities included in the program of the previous year and that the Academic Board has proposed the admission to the next year.

The grant will be paid in deferred and postponed monthly payments.

The amount of the grant will be increased by 50% in proportion and in relation to periods of training abroad foreseen by the training plan; this increase will not be supplied for a number of months higher than eighteen months.

Supernumerary doctoral students, without grant, who go abroad without grant will benefit from a contribution (Art. 15 paragraph 3 of Doctorate Regulations).

In case of grants financed by other Bodies, training periods to be spent abroad will be regulated by the same procedure and its corresponding agreement.

Regarding the grants financed for the course attendance, regulations tax under Art.4 Law N.476 13/8/1984 and art. 6 Section 6 of Law 398/89 are applied. For the entire duration of the course, students, on penalty of the course attendance, are not allowed to cumulate their grant with others for any purpose, except for those ones awarded by national or foreign institutions that integrate periods of study abroad, training and period or research of students (as referred in Art. 6 of Law N. 398 30/11/1989).

## **Art. 15**

### ***Attendance and obligations***

Admission to the PhD course requires a full-time commitment.

Doctoral students are in any case obliged to carry out the ongoing study and research activities in accordance with the terms provided by the Doctorate Regulations of the University of Palermo, in accordance with research

training programme provided in the proposal of activation, except for the matters regulated under Art.7, Art.11 of the Ministerial Decree No. n. 45 8/02/2013.

At the end of each, students must submit to the Academic Board a report regarding the progress of their research. The Academic Board can establish intermediate tests to evaluate PhD student formation. The Academic Board, with its resolutions will propose the admission or, in the case of a negative evaluation, the exclusion from the continuation of the course. It is not possible the exclusion from the course in cases of maternity or severe and documented illness. In case of suspension without justification that is longer than thirty days, the grant can not be paid and the period of suspension is not subject to refund. In case of exclusion or refuse to the course, during the year, it will be necessary to proceed to the refund of grant already paid.

In accordance with Art. 13, paragraph 5) of the Rules of PhD research at the University of Palermo, "*...to the PhD students can be assigned, upon permission from the Academic Board and without any additional increase of the grant amount, tutorial activities for students attending undergraduate and graduate courses and integrative teaching activities that should not exceed the maximum of 40 hours for each academic year*".

PhD students in medical field can participate in clinical practice activities.

In the case of PhD programs established through an international university cooperation, the course modalities, the final graduation and evaluation Board are defined in accordance with the same agreements.

## **Art.16**

### ***Inelegibility***

PhD Course is incompatible with the concurrent admission in Italy or abroad with other course of study, PhD courses, undergraduate e postgraduate degree, bachelor, 1-2nd level master's degrees, courses equivalent to masters, TFA courses and postgraduate schools (excluded the medical ones as referred in the art. n.8), excluding co-supervision theses agreements and international PhD Courses with double enrollment.

## **Art. 17**

### ***Awarding of the Doctorate***

The title of Doctorate, abbreviated to "Ph.D.", will be awarded on the positive evaluation of a final research thesis which represents a significant contribution to the knowledge and methodologies in the corresponding field of research.

The doctoral thesis, with a summary either in Italian or English language, must be written either in Italian or English language or any other language under the authorization of the Academic Board. At the end of the discussion, the board of examiners gives a collectively motivated written opinion on the admission to the following years and to the final exam.

The title of Doctorate is awarded upon passing the final exam. The final exam will be executed in front of a special board composed in accordance with the Art. 16 of the Doctorate Regulations of the University of Palermo, after being admitted to the final exams from the Academic Board at the end of the third year and after

the payment of the examinations admission fee of € 150.00 (if no later alterations of academic bodies occur) and the duties stamp in accordance with the law.

The University is in charge of depositing the thesis at the national libraries of Rome and Florence, through the IRIS application and at the same time guarantees its public consultation on the web.

The title of Doctor of Research is conferred by the Rector who certifies, the awarding of the Doctorate, with papyrus.

To collect the parchment, a payment of € 30.00 will be required (subject to subsequent changes by the academic bodies) and stamp duties provided for by law.

## **Art. 18**

### ***Data Protection Act***

The Administration of the University of Palermo, in accordance with Legislative Decree n.196/2003 and subsequent amendments, will respect the confidentiality of information supplied by the candidate.

The applicants' personal data will be used only for selection procedure, institutional purposes and possible career management of the PhD Student, until the obtainment of the title of Doctoral Researcher, in accordance with the provisions in force.

## **Art. 19**

### ***Officer in charge of the Procedure***

According to the Art.5 of Law n. 241 07/08/1990, the officer in charge of the procedure is Mr Carmelo Priolo - e-mail: [dottorati@unipa.it](mailto:dottorati@unipa.it)

For any further information candidates can contact the AQualità Programmazione e Supporto Strategico - Settore Strategia per la Ricerca – Dottorati di Ricerca, Piazza Marina n. 61 - 90133 Palermo tel. 091 238 93135 / 93121 / 93139 / 93127 / 93732.

## **Art. 20**

### ***Final Rules***

For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present competition announcement, please refer to the regulations contained in Law 210/98, Ministerial Decree n. 224 30/04/1999, Law 240 /2010, Ministerial Decree n. 45 8.02.2013 and published in GURI n. 104 06.05.2013, PhD programme Regulations of the University of Palermo, Rectoral Decree n. 567 of 06.03.2018, as well other rules in force.

This announcement and its attachments are available on the website of the University of Palermo at:

[www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/](http://www.unipa.it/didattica/dottorati/)

The following documents are attached to the PhD application form:

- 23 Annexes one for each PhD course corresponding to the examination code under Art.1 (Annexes 1 – 23)
- Template for Europass Curriculum Vitae (Attachment A)

- Template for Research Project (Allegato B)
- Template for Qualifications and Publications (Annex C)
- Template for Master degree required to access to selection (Annex D)
- Template for INPS Scholarships (Annex E)

IL RETTORE

Prof. Fabrizio MICARI

**Disclaimer**

This document is a NOT the official English version of the Call for application, DR n.1885 of 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020, written in italian, with some references removed. Deleted parts don't prejudice the content of call.

**This document is NOT valid for legal purpose and it is for foreign students to help them to apply for PhD Admission. Foreign candidates are invited to read the original Call for Applicant, DR n.1885, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020.**