

Area Didattica e Servizi agli Studenti

Ufficio Alta Formazione

Repertorio 3072/2026

Prot. n. 101461 del 07/08/2026

SUBJECT: Call for applications for admission to the 42nd cycle of PhD programmes administered by the University of Sassari.

THE RECTOR

HAVING CONSIDERED the Statute of the University of Sassari, published on the Italian Official Journal no. 298 dated 23 December 2011;

HAVING CONSIDERED art. 4 of Law no. 210 dated 3 July 1998, providing that Universities are entitled to implement internal regulations for the management of PhD Programme;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Regulations on PhD Programmes of this University approved by Rector's Decree no. 2064 dated 03/07/2025;

HAVING CONSIDERED Ministerial Decree no. 224 dated 30 April 1999, published on the Italian Official Journal no. 162 dated 13 July 1999;

HAVING CONSIDERED Italian Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2012, and in particular art. 19;

HAVING CONSIDERED Ministerial Decree no. 226 dated 14 December 2021;

HAVING CONSIDERED the *Regulations on fees and charges for postgraduate courses and state examinations* referred to in Rector's Decree No. 3160 of 24 October 2019, ref. no. 121490, as amended;.

HAVING CONSIDERED Ministerial Decree dated 23 February 2022, n. 247 on the *Annual gross increase for PhD scholarships*;

HAVING CONSIDERED Commission Decision C(2026) 1053 of 13 February 2026, adopting the amendment to the Sardinia ESF+ Regional Programme 2021–2027, co-financed by the European Social Fund, entitled “The Sardinia ESF+ Regional Programme 2021–2027 in the service of dignity”, the main change in which consists of the introduction of a new priority dedicated to investments that contribute to the STEP (Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform) objectives, in order to address regional strategic challenges and to promote the development of skills relevant to the development and production of STEP technologies;

HAVING CONSIDERED Regulation (EU) 2024/795 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 February 2024 established the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) and amended Directive 2003/87/EC and Regulations (EU) 2021/1058, (EU) 2021/1056, (EU) 2021/1057, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) 2021/1060, (EU) 2021/523, (EU) 2021/695, (EU) 2021/697 and (EU) 2021/241;

HAVING CONSIDERED the European Commission's Communication (C/2024/3209) of 13 May 2024, containing 'Guidance Note on certain provisions of Regulation (EU) 2024/795 establishing the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)', which provides practical guidance on certain provisions of the STEP Regulation in order to facilitate its implementation;

HAVING CONSIDERED the European Commission's Communication (C/2025/6798) of 23 December 2025, setting out 'Second Guidance Note on the Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP)', clarifying certain elements of Regulation (EU) 2024/795 and Commission Communication C/2024/3209', which provided further practical guidance on certain provisions of Regulation (EU) 2024/795 (the STEP Regulation);

HAVING CONSIDERED the agreement signed on 5 August 2026 between the Autonomous Region of Sardinia and the University of Sassari concerning the management of funds allocated under Regional Law 7/2007;

HAVING CONSIDERED the Collaboration Agreement, pursuant to art. 15 of Law no. 241/1990 et seq., for the joint implementation of the STEP DOCTORAL RESEARCH GRANTS – year 2026 intervention between the Autonomous Region of Sardinia and the University of Sassari signed on 06/08/2026, No. 180 of 06/08/2026;

HAVING CONSIDERED the MUR circular of 13 May 2026, Ref. No. 2386, setting out the operational guidelines on the accreditation procedures for PhD programmes for the 2026/2027 academic year;

RECALLING the proposals for the activation of the XLII cycle of PhD Courses with administrative headquarters at the University of Sassari put forward by the structures responsible for research activities, as reported in the national database;

HAVING CONSIDERED the agreement with the University of Cagliari dated 07/06/2024 for the activation of the PhD Course in Chemical Sciences and Technologies;

GIVEN the positive outcome of the evaluations carried out by ANVUR which propose to the MUR the accreditation of all the PhD Courses for the XLII cycle;

HAVING REGARD TO the Emergency Rectoral Decree for the activation of the 42° cycle of Doctoral Research Courses, directory no. 3069 of 07/08/2026, prot. no. 101450;

CONSIDERING the possibility that there may be increases in the funds available for the financing of doctoral scholarships or that additional and different sources of funding may become available, even after the deadline for the call for applications, reserving the right in such cases to take action that will be made public on the University website;

DOES HEREBY DECREE AS FOLLOWS:

ART. 1 – Announcement

A public selection is announced at the University of Sassari for the award of PhD positions – XLII cycle in the A.A. 2026/2027.

Calls based on qualifications and examinations are open for the admission to the PhD Programmes listed in Annex 1 and reporting the number of positions available, the number and type of scholarships, the qualifications which will be subject to evaluation by the Selection Committee, the research topics required for the sole purpose of the selection procedure.

The scholarships funded by the Sardinia FSE+ PR resources 2021-2027 aim to enhance human capital by increasing skills relevant to the development and production of critical STEP technologies (digital and deep tech technologies, clean and efficient technologies, and biotechnology).

The Region of Sardinia funds PhD scholarships related to the two lines of action specified below:

145a. “Support for skills development or access to employment in the fields of digital technologies, deep tech innovations, biotechnology and defence technologies”;

145b. “Support for skills development or access to employment in the field of clean and resource-efficient technologies”.

The scholarships are divided as follows:

PhD Programme	PR Sardegna FSE+ 2021- 2027 STEP – 145a	PR Sardegna FSE+ 2021- 2027 STEP – 145b	L.R. 7/2007	University/Self- financing
Archaeology, History and Human Sciences	1	0	1	2
Architecture and Environment	4	3	1	4
Cultures, Literatures, Rights, Tourism and Territory	1	0	1	2
Economics, Management and Quantitative Methods	1	0	0	3
Life Sciences and Biotechnologies	6	0	0	5
Agricultural Sciences	10	3	1	6
Chemical Sciences and Technologies	5	4	0	9

Legal Sciences	2	0	1	1
Medical, Surgical and Experimental Sciences	3	0	1	3
Veterinary Sciences	8	0	0	1
TOTAL	41	10	6	36

If additional scholarships become available within the deadline of this Notice, it may be supplemented with the relevant positions. The scholarships covered by this competition will only be definitively awarded following confirmation of funding by the respective funders.

ART. 2 – Admission requirements

Applicants may apply for admission to PhD Programmes, as per the previous article, specifying the exact name of the curriculum, only for those Programmes that provide for them, who hold a specialised or magistral degree awarded in accordance with the DD.MM. 3 November 1999 no. 509 and 22 October 2004 no. 270, or a degree obtained under the previous university system (prior to D.M. no. 509 of 3 November 1999) or other equivalent qualification obtained abroad.

Candidates for scholarships funded by the PR Sardegna FSE+ 2021-2027 must also meet the specific requirements set out in Article 4 below.

Foreign citizens in possession of a qualification that has not already been declared equivalent to a university degree must - solely for the purpose of admission to the PhD Programme to which they intend to apply - accompany the application form, according to the procedure described in art. 7 below, with the documents necessary to allow the Selection Committee to declare equivalence. Said documents must be translated into Italian or presented in English, French or Spanish and legalised by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representations abroad in accordance with the regulations in force for the admission of foreign students to degree courses at Italian universities.

Foreign applicants who do not have any document translated as above, may submit a self-certification stating their compliance with the relevant requirements. Applicants shall then be admitted sub condizione and, should they be selected, they will be required to submit the above documentation **by 31/10/2026**, under penalty of exclusion.

For the Italian applicants having a foreign academic qualification yet to be validated as equivalent to an Italian laurea degree, the same provisions apply.

Simultaneous enrolment of students in two courses of study is permitted in accordance with Law No. 33 of 12 April 2022 and its implementing decrees.

Attendance to joint medical specialization Programme and the PhD Programme is governed by art. 7 and 9.1 of Ministerial Decree no. 226 dated 14 December 2022.

Candidates applying for reserved places may be admitted to PhD Programme if they are successful in the

competitive examinations referred to in articles 7 and 8 of this notice.

Those interested must draw up their applications according to the procedure described in the following articles 5 and 6 of this call.

Those who have obtained the qualification referred to in Article 2 by the deadline for applications may participate in the competition.

All candidates, including those applying for the reserved places referred to in Article 3 below, who do not hold the required qualification by the deadline for applications but will obtain it **by 31 October 2026**, may also be admitted on a conditional basis. **The start date of the 42nd cycle of PhD Programmes at the University of Sassari for this selection is 1 November 2026.**

All candidates, including those competing for a reserved place, who are admitted *sub-condizione* and are successful in the competition procedures, must submit a self-certification of their qualification to the Higher Education Office of this University **by 31/10/2026 at the latest.**

Candidates who fail to communicate the attainment of their degree within the specified time frame or who submit incomplete or incorrect communications will be excluded.

ART. 3 – Positions reserved

Each PhD Programme has the right to reserve places for candidates who meet certain requirements. Candidates who opt for these types of places must explicitly request them in their application form and must also be successful in accordance with the provisions of Articles 7 and 8 below.

Candidates applying for posts reserved for members of the Navy's Maritime Military Police Corps must submit Annex 3, certifying the required details; failure to do so will result in exclusion from the selection process.

Candidates who are successful in positions reserved for foreign scholarship holders must submit documentation certifying their status to the Higher Education Office of this University by 31/10/2026 at the latest.

ART. 4 – Sardinia ESF+ Programme 2021–2027

Candidates for places with scholarships funded by the Sardinia ESF+ Programme 2021–2027 must be under 35 years of age at the time of submitting their application. Candidates who do not meet the above requirements at the time of submitting their application will be automatically excluded from the selection process.

The PhD programme of doctoral students receiving a scholarship funded by the Sardinia ESF+ 2021–2027 Regional Programme must be undertaken in Sardinia, except for periods of study and research abroad, which must be planned in line with the training and research activities provided for by the PhD programme,

and must be completed (with the award of the degree) by 31 December 2030 at the latest.

Recipients of the scholarships referred to in this article must undertake a period of study and research abroad of at least six months (which need not be consecutive) over the course of the three-year period.

PhD students who fail to complete the minimum six-month period abroad or who do not obtain their degree by 31 December 2030 (including those who withdraw from the PhD programme) will be required to repay the scholarship.

ART. 5 – Application procedure

The application to take part in the competition must be drawn up in accordance with the procedures and deadlines indicated in Article 6 below.

In the application, the candidate must indicate under his/her own responsibility, under penalty of exclusion from the competition:

- A. last name and first name, date and place of birth and permanent address;
- B. citizenship;
- C. degree awarded, date of issue of the degree and awarding University, or the equivalent certification issued by a foreign University;
- D. the selection of the *sub-condizione* option in the call, with an indication of the University to be issuing the qualification and the name of the qualification. To certify this condition, the applicant will be required not to fill the form fields regarding the date of qualification and the relevant result;
- E. the contact address for the purposes of the call. EU citizens and foreigners must indicate an Italian physical address or the details of the the Embassy of their country in Italy, selected as reference address. Any change in the aforementioned address must be promptly notified to the Higher Education Office, by e-mail by writing to helpesse3@uniss.it or mzallu@uniss.it.

The application **must** also include a copy of the applicant's ID (front and back) featuring a visible picture allowing the identification of the applicant.

Under penalty of exclusion from the competition, together with the application form, a research project **must** be submitted on the topics indicated for the positions for which the candidate is applying, as set out in Annex 1. To this end, candidates may use the template provided in ANNEX 2 of this competition notice published on the website www.uniss.it. For PhD Programmes that have opted for the “Qualifications + interview” assessment method, the research project will not be subject to scoring. However, even in this case, the submission of the research project together with the application form is mandatory, under penalty of exclusion from the competition. Under no circumstances will the submission of the research project in any manner other than that described in Article 6 below be accepted.

The following qualifications submitted by candidates together with their application to participate in the competition within the deadline and in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 6 will be evaluated:

1. copies of scientific publications, up to a maximum of 5 (no more than 5, strict limit);
2. a numbered list of the scientific publications referred to in point 1 (only the first 5 on the list will be considered; if the list is not submitted, no points will be awarded for the publications);
3. self-certification, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree 445/2000, concerning other university qualifications such as second-level Master, specialisation schools, research grants, and foreign postgraduate qualifications equivalent to those listed.

Applicants may also attach their CV's to the application form. This will not, in any case, be awarded any point by the Selection Committee and failure to do so will not hinder the applicants' participation in this competition. The presentation of a Bachelor's degree, if any, is not required and will not be evaluated in any case.

Both the ID (front and back) and the research project, and any additional qualification and Curriculum Vitae must be attached, preferably in PDF format, in accordance with the procedures reported in the "Guidelines for applicants to public calls" published on the same page of the University of Sassari website where this call is published. Should the uploaded files not be readable, even after the use of a digital format other than PDF, the University will not be liable for such problems.

Pursuant to art. 15 of Law No. 183 of 12/11/2011, as of 01/01/2012 it is not possible to request or accept certificates issued by public administrations attesting the status, personal skill of, or facts regarding natural persons. Therefore, any statement referred to in letters A, B, C, and D of this article, shall be submitted in the application for the admission test as self-certification, pursuant to artt. 46 e 47 of PRD 445/2000.

This Administration reserves the right to accept sub conditione applicants to the selection procedure and the right, at any time, to exclude applicants who are not in possession of the qualifications and requirements set forth in this notice.

No communication will be sent to applicants and all the information will only be published on the www.uniss.it website.

Any amendment/addition to this call shall be published on the official website www.uniss.it by the deadline set by this call.

The application for admission may be submitted for each PhD Programme indicated in Annex 1. If the candidate intends to apply for more than one PhD Programme, he/she shall submit separate applications for admission and pay the relative fee for each one.

It is permitted to submit several applications for different positions within the same PhD Programme.

Candidates may only apply for admission to the PhD Programme in Legal Sciences if they hold a degree in Law or Political Sciences awarded in accordance with the regulations in force prior to the issue of Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 3 November 1999 or candidates holding a Postgraduate or Master's Degree awarded in accordance with DD.MM. 3 November 1999 no. 509 and 22 October 2004 no. 270 in one of the following Degree Classes:

- 22/S;

- 70/S;
- 71/S;
- LMG/01;
- LM-56
- LM-62;
- LM-63;
- LM-77
- LM/SC-GIUR.

Candidates who hold other equivalent qualifications obtained abroad may also apply for admission to the PhD Programme in Legal Sciences.

Candidates for the PhD Course in Legal Sciences who hold a qualification other than those listed above will be excluded from the competition.

The submission of an application for admission, in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 6 below, implies the candidates' acceptance of the rules contained in this call for applications.

ART. 6 – How to apply

Applications must be submitted, on penalty of exclusion, by **1 pm of 8 September 2026 (CET)** only by connecting to <https://uniss.esse3.cineca.it> and by logging in or registering, if you are signing up for the online services of the University of Sassari for the first time.

Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures set out in the document “Instructions for submitting applications” published on the same page of the University of Sassari website where this call for applications is published.

If necessary, the application form can be modified directly by the candidate, within the deadline for this notice, exclusively by connecting to the website <https://uniss.esse3.cineca.it>, logging in, selecting the competition for which the application form is to be modified and clicking on “modify”.

In this regard, please refer to the separate Tutorial available at <https://www.uniss.it/ateneo/documenti-di-ateneo/tutorial-immatricolazione> .

The applications filed, for any reason, after the terms and/or in ways other than those set forth in this call, will not be accepted.

Applicants must submit their application by selecting, within the PhD Programme, the administrative category corresponding to the scholarship for which they intend to participate, in accordance with the provisions of Annex 1 to the notice. The choice of administrative category will be binding as the rankings will be divided by administrative category. In the same PhD Programme it is possible to apply for only one administrative category.

The application may be modified by the candidate, also with regard to the choice of PhD programme or

administrative category, within the deadline established in the present call. Any application received by the Office after this deadline will not be taken into consideration.

It is compulsory to attach through the online procedure the front/back copy of ID/Passport (in a single PDF file format).

Sub-condizione candidates must also certify their status using Attachment 3 to the announcement. Submission of Attachment 3 is mandatory as it is the Administration's only means of determining the candidate's willingness to participate conditionally. Candidates who intend to participate conditionally and who fail to submit Attachment 3 will therefore be deemed ineligible and, consequently, excluded from the competition.

All candidates with disabilities or with specific learning disorders (DSA) are guaranteed the possibility of using compensatory tools for reading, writing and calculation difficulties, as well as the possibility of using an extension of the time set for the same tests, in accordance with the provisions of [Article 5, paragraphs 2\(b\) and 4, of Law no. 170 of 8 October 2010](#). Applicants with special needs or learning disabilities, pursuant to Law n. 104 of February 5, 1992 a.a.s. and Law 170 of October 8, 2010, based on their specific needs, may request assistance as well as extra time for the completion of their exams if they require so, in addition to other measures safeguarding equal opportunities during the test phase.

With specific regard to the granting of additional time for the written tests, candidates with a certificate of disability or certification pursuant to Law no. 104 of 1992, issued by the competent medical commission for the area, proving the type of disability and/or the degree of recognised handicap, will be entitled to an additional time not exceeding 50% over and above the time set aside for the performance of the test. Candidates diagnosed with specific learning disorders (DSA) pursuant to Italian law no. 170/2010, with appropriate certification issued by NHS facilities or by organisations and specialists accredited by the same, will be entitled to additional time not exceeding 30%.

These conditions must be proven by appropriate medical certification issued by the competent health authorities, the validity of which the University reserves the right to verify in accordance with current legislation. Those who have selected the item "Richiedo assistenza e/o servizi di tutorato specializzato" (I request assistance and/or specialised tutoring services) in the on-line enrolment procedure must make an explicit request for the necessary aid by sending an e-mail to rnzallu@uniss.it. Failure to indicate your disability status when registering online, or to send an email requesting assistance, does not ensure that the necessary aids will be provided in time for the tests.

Registration for the admission competition will only be considered complete after the correct payment of the €10.00 fee, to be made by **8 September 2026**, through the electronic payment systems provided by PagoPA. (<https://www.agid.gov.it/it/piattaforme/pagopa>).

No other form of payment is accepted; therefore, applicants who use electronic payment systems other than those provided by PagoPA will be automatically excluded from the selection procedure.

Under no circumstances will the competition entry fee be refunded.

Support for online services

Help for online services for students is available via e-mail to helpesse3@uniss.it

ART. 7 – Exam

The exam for admission to the PhD Programme takes place in one of the following ways, as chosen by each PhD Programme:

- qualifications + research project + interview;
- qualifications + writing + interview;
- qualifications + interview.

The purpose of the exam is to test the applicant's knowledge, his or her aptitude for scientific research and his or her knowledge of the foreign language selected by the applicant or expressly required by the PhD Programme.

The interview may be held in Italian or English or other EU language, upon request of the applicant and upon approval of the Selection Committee, during the examination session.

As for the interview and any written test, the date, time, place and references will be given for each PhD Programme on www.uniss.it.

Applicants shall access the interview upon submission of a valid ID, passport, driving license, or other personal identification card issued by public authorities, submitted together with the application form. Failure to provide such documents will result in the exclusion from the examination procedure.

Candidates should report to the venue indicated or connect to the telematic contacts indicated by the time that will be published on www.uniss.it, in such a way that the Selection Committee has enough time to complete the necessary identification procedures. Applicants who fail to connect to the scheduled conference call will be excluded.

The selection tests are public.

Candidates are aware of the possible technical inconveniences that the telematic mode may entail. The University is therefore not liable for any inconvenience or difficulty due to technical reasons.

The overall merit ranking resulting from the marks obtained by each candidate in the interview, in the research project (if envisaged by the PhD Course), in the written paper (if envisaged by the PhD Course) and in the assessment of qualifications will be published on www.uniss.it following the approval of the competition acts.

ART. 8 – Selection Committees and their duties

The Selection Committee of each Programme will be composed based on the rules of the University regarding PhD Programmes.

The Selection Committee may award up to 100 points for the evaluation of each applicant, divided as

follows:

- For the PhD Programmes which have opted for the "qualifications + research project + interview" option
 - up to a maximum of 30 points for the evaluation of the qualifications;
 - up to a maximum of 20 points for the evaluation of the research project;
 - up to a maximum of 50 points for the interview;
- For PhD courses that have opted for the option consisting of qualifications, writing and interview
 - up to a maximum of 30 points for the evaluation of the qualifications;
 - up to a maximum of 35 points for the evaluation of the written paper;
 - up to a maximum of 35 points for the interview.
- For the PhD Programmes which have opted for the "qualifications + interview" option:
 - up to a maximum of 30 points for the evaluation of qualifications;
 - up to a maximum of 70 points for the interview.

The 30 points for the evaluation of qualifications are defined as follows:

- **Final grade (out of /110, up to a maximum of 11 points, as an alternative to the final grade in /10):**
 - up to 100 0 points;
 - between 101 and 104 2 points;
 - between 105 and 107 4 points;
 - between 108 and 109 6 points;
 - 110/110 8 points;
 - 110/110 cum laude 11 points;
- **Final mark (out of /10, as an alternative to the final mark out of /110), up to a maximum of 11 points):**
 - up to 8.42 0 points;
 - between 8.43 and 8.85 2 points;

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- between 8.86 and 9.10 — 4 points;
 - between 9.11 and 9.25 — 6 points;
 - between 9.26 and 9.35 — 8 points;
 - between 9.36 and 10 — 11 points;
 - **Average mark of passed exams (up to a maximum of 11 points, only for sub condizione applicants who have not finished yet their degree, as an alternative to the degree mark):**
 - up to 25.25 0 points;
 - between 25.26 and 26.50 2 points;
 - between 26.51 and 27.25 4 points;
 - between 27.26 and 27.75 6 points;
 - between 27.76 and 28.24 8 points;
 - between 28.25 and 30.00 11 points.
 - Publications (up to a maximum of 10 points): a **maximum of 5** publications (in the case of candidates submitting more than 5 papers, only the first five on the list will be considered) with research topics related to the PhD Programme chosen can be enclosed by the applicant. Only scientific publications with the ISBN/ISMN/ISSN or papers published in journals indexed on "Web of Science" or "Scopus" databases, or otherwise accepted (attach documentation) for final publication will be evaluated.
 - Other qualifications (up to a maximum of 5 points): the applicant may indicate **only one academic qualification** among the post graduate degrees, specialization diplomas, research scholarships, postgraduate qualifications equivalent to those listed. The qualification presented by the applicant must be consistent with the research areas of the PhD Programme he/she intends to apply to. Only the qualifications awarded (or at least completed) from 2020 on, will be considered
 - Certification issued by an authorised body attesting to knowledge of a foreign language at level B2 or higher (4 points).

The score assigned to each of the applicants admitted *sub condizione* will not be revised if the applicant successfully passes the selection procedure.

The research project to be evaluated by the PhD Programmes which have chosen that option, must obtain a result of at least 12/20 to be admitted to the interview. In the event of a mark of less than 12/20, the candidate is not admitted to the interview.

The writing, for PhD courses that have opted for its evaluation, must obtain a mark of at least 21/35 for the candidate to be admitted to the interview. In the event of a mark of less than 21/35, the candidate is not admitted to the interview.

The list of selected applicants will be signed the President of the Selection Committee and published on www.uniss.it along with the date, time, place and online reference to connect for the interview.

"Qualifications + research project + interview" option: the interview is passed if the applicant is awarded at least 30/50, according to the following scale

- Knowledge of a foreign language, to be assessed testing the written and spoken language skills: max 15 points;
- Discussion of the research project, to be assessed as:
 - a) knowledge and ability to apply the scientific method on the research topics: max 15 points;
 - b) knowledge and understanding of the research topics and motivations: max 20 points.
- For PhD Courses requesting this in their specific sheet (Annex 1), any letters of reference will be taken into account, to be sent in the manner and in the maximum number described in the said sheet.

"Qualifications + written + interview" option: the oral test is considered passed if the candidate obtains a mark of at least 21/35, according to the following distribution of points

- Knowledge of a foreign language, to be assessed testing the written and spoken language skills: max 10 points;
- Discussion of the research project, to be assessed as:
 - a) knowledge and ability to apply the scientific method on the research topics: max 10 points;
 - b) knowledge and understanding of the research topics and motivations: max 12 points.

"Qualifications + interview" option: the interview is passed if the applicant is awarded at least 42/70, according to the following scale

- Knowledge of the foreign language(s) indicated in the PhD Course outline, assessed as written and spoken ability: max 15 points;
- Motivation, to be assessed as the ability to present his or her motivation to undertake a PhD Programme: max 15 points;

– Aptitude for research, to be assessed as the knowledge and ability to apply the scientific method on concrete examples and relevant to the research topic: max 20 points

– Specific knowledge and skills, to be assessed as the knowledge and understanding of the research topic: max 20 points.

Once the competition tests have been completed, the Commission shall draw up the general merit rankings on the basis of the sum of the marks obtained by each candidate in the assessment of the qualifications, the research project (if any), the written test (if any) and the interview. The rankings shall be divided administrative categories, and the candidate placed in them on the basis of the choice made during the application procedure, and separated for each curriculum, if any, according to the Course Determinations as set out in this call.

The official ranking will be published on the website www.uniss.it following approval of the competition documents.

ART. 9 – Registration and enrollment

Selected applicants are admitted to the PhD Programmes on the basis of the merit list until the full assignment of available positions. They will be required to register, under penalty of exclusion, by the time specified when the merit list is published.

In the event of non-acceptance or late acceptance by the entitled candidates, another candidate shall take over, according to the order of the ranking list. The starting date of the PhD programme for this selection is 1 November 2026.

In the event of a tie between candidates in terms of merit, the younger age will be taken into consideration, pursuant to Article 2 of Law no. 191 of 16 June 1998.

Applications for enrolment by successful candidates must be submitted within the deadline, under penalty of forfeiture of the right to enrol in the PhD Programme, and in accordance with the procedures that will be published on the University website www.uniss.it at the same time as the competition rankings.

In this regard, please refer to the tutorial available at the link <https://www.uniss.it/ateneo/documenti-di-ateneo/tutorial-immatricolazione> .

In order to enter Italy, citizens of non-EU countries residing abroad must register on the portal Universitaly and apply for an entry visa at the Italian Embassy or Consulate responsible for the area.

The renunciation of the scholarship entails the renunciation of enrolment in the PhD Programme in the case in which the activation of the consequent position without a scholarship, not provided for in the present call for applications, determines a failure to comply with the ratio (verified in the PhD Course of reference) of one position without a scholarship for every three positions with a scholarship, pursuant to art. 9 paragraph 1 of the Ministerial Decree of 14 December 2021, no. 226.

In the event of the activation of positions without a scholarship following the renunciation of the scholarship, as per the previous paragraph, once the 1 to 3 ratio has been verified, these will be activated giving priority to the candidate with the highest score of the same PhD Programme.

In order to improve the recognition and visibility of their scientific output, doctoral students are required to activate an [Orcid](#) ID when enrolling in the Doctoral Programme.

ART. 10 – Attendance

All applicants are required to attend and participate in the PhD Programme activities as full-time students, as specified in the Programme requirements approved by the PhD Board.

At the end of each academic year, students will be required to file a detailed report of the research work carried out and their results. The PhD Board will retain the reports, evaluate the regular attendance and productivity of each applicant and recommend the Rector to approve or reject the continuation of the ongoing Programme.

Recipients of scholarships funded by the PR Sardegna FSE+ 2021-2027 must complete a period of research abroad lasting between over the three-year period, ranging from a minimum of six months to the maximum limit set out in Article 9, paragraph 3, of the Decree of the Ministry of University and Research No. 226 of 14 December 2021, under penalty of having to return the scholarship.

The PhD degree will be awarded at the end of the course following the successful evaluation of a research thesis by a specially appointed Committee.

ART. 11 – Scholarship rejection or withdrawal

Those who have not regularised their enrolment by the aforementioned deadlines shall be deemed to have withdrawn and those who have made false declarations, in addition to the criminal liability they will incur, shall be declared dismissed.

If there are no suitable candidates within one or more curricula, or in the event of renouncement or forfeiture of the rightful candidates, the Course Committee may propose to the Rector the redistribution of the places available among the activated curricula.

ART. 12 – Scholarships

The scholarships, the number of which is indicated for each PhD Programme in Annex 1, are awarded after a comparative assessment of merit and according to the order defined in the respective merit rankings, either single or divided by curricula, where the programme has provided for them, as formulated by the selection committees.

The annual amount of the scholarship, which is determined in accordance with art. 1 of D.M. 23/02/2022, no. 247, amounts to € 16.243,00 gross of employee benefit expenses borne by the recipient.

The scholarships reserved to applicants having graduated in a foreign university, which are not assigned

to any applicant, may be reassigned pursuant to the Regulations governing the University PhD Programmes.

Scholarships have a duration of one year and are renewed on condition that the PhD student has completed the programme of activities foreseen for the previous year, verified according to the procedures established by the PhD Programme and in compliance with any additional requirements foreseen by the funders, without prejudice to the obligation to disburse the scholarship following the successful completion of the verification.

The benefit of a scholarship for the attendance of a PhD Course is compatible with the possession of a gross annual personal income not exceeding €16,243.00 in the calendar year in which the scholarship is received.

The PhD scholarship will start on 1 November 2026, unless there are any reassignments or delays, and can't be combined with any other scholarships, except for those given by national or foreign institutions to help PhD students do research abroad, or with research grants.

The scholarship amount is increased by 50% for periods spent abroad, subject to the availability of the relevant financial coverage. The scholarship increase is incompatible with Erasmus, Ulisse or any other contributions provided under international mobility programmes.

The request for the above-mentioned increase, addressed to the Rector, is subject to the authorisation for a period abroad issued by the Course Coordinator, within the limit of six months, by the Course Council for longer periods.

The scholarship payment is made on a deferred monthly basis.

In the event of renouncement of the scholarship by the doctoral student or revocation following a negative evaluation or failure to comply with reporting obligations or in any other case for which the revocation of the scholarship is attributable to the actions of the doctoral student (except as already provided for in Articles 4, 5 and 11 of this Notice), the University reserves the right to require the doctoral student to return the scholarship.

Those who have already benefited, even partially, from a scholarship for a PhD Programme may not benefit from it a second time.

For foreign nationals, the payment of the scholarship is conditional on the presentation to the competent offices of the University of the Italian Tax Code issued by the Italian Consulate with territorial jurisdiction or by the Revenue Office (Agenzia delle Entrate), in the case of a candidate already present on Italian soil. Therefore, payment of the study grant cannot proceed, under any circumstances, until the Italian Tax Code has been duly presented.

ART. 13 – Tuition fees

Fees for admission to and attendance of PhD programmes set by the Academic Bodies of this University amount to **€ 490.00** for **the first year** (including the University's contribution, stamp duty, accident and

third-party civil liability insurance cover and the regional contribution for the right to university study) and **€ 474.00** for **each of the following two years** (including the University's contribution, accident and third-party civil liability insurance cover and the regional contribution for the right to university study).

Payment of the tuition fee for the first year must be made through the electronic payment systems provided by pagoPA (<https://www.pagopa.gov.it>) by the deadline for enrolment, which will be indicated at the same time as the publication of the rankings. In the event of payment made after the indicated deadline, the relative late payment fee will be applied.

In this regard, a tutorial is available at the link <https://www.uniss.it/files/tutorialpagopapdf>.

The fees for the following years must be paid via electronic channels as provided for by pagoPA by 31 December of each year or, in any case, within two months of the starting date of the year of registration. If the payment is made after 31 December, or the two months following the date of registration, penalties for late payment will be applied.

PhD students enrolled without a scholarship and disabled persons with a disability rating of 66% or more, who declare their status at the time of enrolment, are exempt from paying the University contribution, but not the insurance cover, stamp duty and regional contribution for the right to university study. Employees of affiliated organisations are required to pay tuition fees.

Scholars from foreign countries are exempt from paying the University contribution and insurance coverage but not stamp duty or the regional contribution for the right to university study.

ART. 14 – Person responsible for the proceeding

Pursuant to art. 4 of Italian Law No 241 of 7 August 1990 and following amendments ("Nuove norme in materia di procedimento amministrativo e di diritto di accesso ai documenti amministrativi"), Dr. Francesco Meloni, Coordinator of the Didactics and Student Services Area, he is appointed as administrative process manager.

ART. 15 - Privacy

The personal data provided by applicants in the application form for the selection process will be processed, stored and archived by the University of Sassari, in accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, for the operating, administrative, accounting procedures and/or of other nature related to the management of this procedure and the requirements connected with legal obligations and the start of the academic career.

Providing this information is mandatory in order to assess participation requirements, under penalty of exclusion from the selection process.

The data controller is the University of Sassari, which guarantees to the parties concerned, pursuant to arts. 15-18 of Regulation (EC) 2016/679, the right to access, rectify and delete personal data in the manner prescribed by the Regulation (EU). Applicants are granted the rights to access their personal information, to request amendments and integrations as well as restrict its processing, by filing a request to the Università degli Studi di Sassari. For further details, see <https://www.uniss.it/protezione-privacy>.

The Region of Sardinia is the data controller pursuant to Article 24 of the GDPR in relation to the monitoring,

verification and control activities provided for by the agreement, by the Procedures Manual of the Management Authority for use by those responsible for activation version 1.0 PR ESF+ SARDINIA 2021-2027), by the Management and Control System (SI.GE.CO.) of the PR ESF+ 2021-2027 Version 3.0, as well as by the Methodological Document for risk assessment for management audits, Version 2.0.

Candidates have the right to access the documents relating to the competition procedure in accordance with the procedures indicated on the website <https://www.uniss.it/ateneo/amministrazione-trasparente/altri-contenuti-accesso-civico>.

Pursuant to Article 25, paragraph 5, of Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990, as well as Article 39 of the University Regulations, interested parties may appeal against the actions adopted by this Institution in relation to this announcement before the competent Regional Administrative Court, within the legal deadlines.

The University of Sassari respects the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It also ensures that all forms of communication are accessible to persons with disabilities and uses questionnaires and surveys to verify this.

The qualified contact point for the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, as well as the contact person for the implementation and application of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD), is Dr Michele Sau - General Management - Department of Labour and Vocational Training - email <mailto:puntodicontattofseplus@regione.sardegna.it>; to submit any complaints or reports of non-compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, please use the forms and procedure available on the website of the Autonomous Region of Sardinia at the link below: <https://www.sardegnaprogrammazione.it/programmi/fse/articolo/punto-di-contatto>.

ART. 16 – Reference regulations

For any matters not provided for in this call for applications, reference is made to art. 19 of Law n. 240 of 30/12/2010, to Ministerial Decree n. 226 of 14/12/2021 - Regulation on the accreditation of doctoral schools and courses and criteria for the establishment of doctoral courses by accredited bodies, to the University Regulations on Doctoral Courses issued by Rector's Decree n. 2064 of 03/07/2025.

The Rector

(f.to Prof. Gavino Mariotti)