SSM◣

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II

U.D.A.B.S.

Scuola Superiore Meridionale - Doctoral Programs – 37th cycle – Academic year 2021/2022

Call for Applications

APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
July 1, 06:00 pm (CET)

*This document has no legal value and it is only meant
to provide information in English about the call for applications*

The Scuola Superiore Meridionale (SSM) hereby announces a call for applications for 54 scholarships for the academic year 2021-2022 in the following 9 Doctoral Programs:

Code	Acronym	Title	Info
01	ACMA	Ancient Mediterranean Archaeology and Cultures. Historical Research, Preservation, Cultural Heritage, Management, and Use	Program's duration: 4 years **no. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Carlo Rescigno e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: acma@unina.it webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/archaeology-and-cultures-of-the-ancient-mediterranean/

02	SPACE	Cosmology, space science & space technology	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Salvatore Capozziello e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: space@unina.it webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/cosmology-space-science-space-technology/
03	GEM	Genomic and experimental medicine	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Brunella Franco e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: gem@unina.it Webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/genomic-and-experimental-medicine-eng/
04	GHG	Global History and Governance	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Daniela Luigia Caglioti e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: ghg@unina.it webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/global-history-and-governance/
05	LOSPD	Law and Organizational Studies for People with Disability	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Luigi Maria Sicca e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: lospd@unina.it webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/law-and-organizational-studies-for-people-with-disability/

06	MPHS	Mathematical and physical sciences for advanced materials and technologies	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Nicola Fusco e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: mphs@unina.it Webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/mathematical-and-physical-sciences-for-advanced-materials-and-technologies/
07	MERC	Modeling and engineering risk and complexity	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Mario di Bernardo e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: merc@unina.it Webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/modeling-and-engineering-risk-and-complexity/
08	MOSES	MOlecular Sciences for Earth and Space (MOSES)	Joint degree with the Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6 (of which 2 are funded by the SNS, Pisa)** Coordinator: Prof. Vincenzo Barone e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: moses@unina.it webpage: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/molecular-sciences-for-earth-and-space/
09	TTCL	Texts, Traditions and Book Cultures. Italian and Romance Studies	Program's duration: 4 years **No. of scholarships: 6** Coordinator: Prof. Andrea Mazzucchi e-mail address for info and recommendation letters: ttcl@unina.it webpage:

			http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/texts-traditions-and-book-cultures/

Successful candidates will receive a scholarship and research funding as specified in the "Scholarship" section of this call.

Courses will begin on November 2, 2021.

No fees or contributions are required to enrol in the doctoral program. Successful candidates are only required to pay the annual regional tax throughout the duration of the course.

Admissions to the SSM Doctoral Programs are based on the comparative evaluation of candidates. The SSM Doctoral Programs combine coursework and research activities. Coursework is generally concentrated in the first year. It is designed to broaden the doctoral students' knowledge and to prepare them for research, with the aim of obtaining a high level of specialisation in a specific scientific area, and the capacity to pursue independent research. Doctoral students will carry out their studies in accordance with annually approved plans. They must spend at least two semesters of study and research in other highly qualified national and foreign universities or scientific institutions. While spending time at an institution abroad, students will receive a 50% increase of their standard scholarship. At the end of the Doctoral Program, providing that all due obligations have been fulfilled, and after the successful defence of the dissertation, the student will obtain the title of *Philosophiæ Doctor* (Ph.D.) in their program of choice.

Admission Requirements

To apply for one of the SSM Doctoral Programs (no restriction of age or citizenship applies) candidates should be in possession of one of the following degrees:

- "Laurea specialistica" or "laurea magistrale" (Master's degree), according to the Italian Ministerial Decree nr. 509/1999 and its subsequent modifications and integrations;
- "Laurea quadriennale," according to the Italian previous academic system, and obtained after four years of study;
- An equivalent degree obtained from a foreign university.

Candidates should fulfill the minimum degree requirements by October 31, 2021. Candidates who do not hold a degree by the deadline of this Call for Applications will only be admitted to the course if they obtain the required degree by October 31st, 202. Otherwise, they will be excluded.

The selection committees will ascertained the equivalence of non-Italian degrees on the basis of the documents attached by the candidate to the application form and of any other relevant information.

This requirement is not needed if the degree has been already declared equivalent to an Italian academic degree by virtue of an agreement between Italy and the foreign country in which the degree was awarded.

Candidates who are not in possession of the appropriate requirements may be excluded by the person in charge of the procedure at any time during the selection. Excluded candidates will be notified of the decision and of the reason of their exclusion.

Applications

Applications can be submitted exclusively online via the platform available at the address
http://www.ssm.unina.it/application/

The **deadline** for completing the online application and for the submission of recommendation letters is **July 1, 2021 at 6:00 pm (CET).**

To participate in the competition, Italian candidates and residents in Italy are required, under penalty of exclusion, to pay a fee of € 50.00 (for instructions please refer to the Call for Applications in Italian). In case of multiple applications, the fee must be paid for each of the programs the candidate is applying for. The application fee is not refundable in any circumstance.

Candidates who do not reside in Italy and who are not Italian citizens are exempted from the payment of the application fee.

The following documents **must** be attached to the application, under penalty of exclusion:

a) **Copy of a valid identity document** (passport or ID card);

b) **Application fee's proof of payment** (only applicable to Italian candidates or non-Italian candidates who reside in Italy).

c) **Curriculum vitae** prepared according to the template available at http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/;

d) **Master's thesis** (candidates who obtained their degree abroad without submitting a thesis are required to attach a description of a comparable research experience). Candidates who, at the date of the application deadline, have not yet submitted their thesis, are required to submit an abstract in Italian or English (max. 1,500 words/9,000 characters long, including bibliography and sources);

e) **An abstract** in Italian or in English of the master's thesis or of a comparable research experience (max. 1,000 words/6,000 characters long);

f) **Transcript(s) of records** issued by the applicant's university, listing the exams/courses taken, the grades/marks awarded, and (if applicable) the final grade. The applicant should also attach the degree transcript(s) of any previous degree(s) (in a single .pdf file). Should the transcript(s) be written in a language other than Italian, English, French, Spanish or German, the applicant must also submit a translation in one of the aforesaid languages. Alternatively, the candidate may submit a **declaration in lieu of certification**, made in accordance with article 46 of D.P.R. n. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments, regarding the grade/mark of the master's

degree. Those who have not yet obtained the degree must provide a signed statement containing the list of the courses taken and of the grades received for each one of them, for the achievement of their master's degree (the accompanying declaration in lieu of certification can be prepared using the template available on the website of the SSM at: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/);

g) A **personal statement** in which the applicants explains in a clear and convincing way their research interests and why they decided to apply for the chosen doctoral program (max. 1,000 words/6,000 characters);

h) A **scientific report/research proposal**

   a. for the doctoral programs marked with codes **02, 03, 06, 07 and 08**, the scientific report must be in English (max 2,500 words/15,000 characters, including a short bibliography). This report must contain a description of the topic of the master's thesis or of a scientific topic that the candidate has previously tackled, divided into sections that clearly describe the state of the art, the objectives, the results obtained, the methodology used and possible future developments;

   b. for the doctoral programs marked with numbers **01, 04, 05 and 09**, candidates must prepare a **research proposal** (max 2,500 words/15,000 characters), either in Italian or English, written according to the template available at: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/. The proposal must prove the candidates' knowledge of the state of the art in the field, their scientific and methodological soundness, their scientific interests and their adherence to the research lines promoted by the SSM. The proposal's topic is not binding in regard to the subsequent choice of the candidates' dissertation topic.

i) **Copies of up to 3 of scientific publications, if present** (in a single .pdf file);

j) **A signed Statement of truth** prepared using the template available on the website of the SSM at: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/**.**

Applicants may also ask **two** scholars to write **recommendation letters** in support of their applications. Scholars must send these letters directly to the coordinators of the Doctoral Programs at the e-mail addresses provided above**. The e-mail subject should include the title of the Doctoral Program and the name of the applicant.**

Selection Process

The selection process is based on the comparative evaluation of the candidates aimed at assessing their level of competence, talent, motivation, and inclination for scientific research relevant to their chosen field of study.

Selections will be based on the evaluations of the following elements:

- Academic record and qualifications;

- The scientific report/research proposal and the personal statement;

- The oral interview (for candidates admitted to this stage of the procedure).

All candidates must prove to have a good knowledge of at least one foreign language. For the Doctoral Programs marked with numbers **02, 03, 04, 06, 07 and 08**, a good knowledge of English is mandatory. In these cases, the interview may be conducted entirely in English.

Selection committees evaluate each candidate attributing a maximum score of 100 points divided as follows: 60 points maximum for the evaluation of their academic record, qualifications and scientific report/research proposal and 40 points maximum for the oral interview. Candidates will be shortlisted for the interview if they obtain a score of at least 40 points for the evaluation of their academic record and scientific report/research proposal. To be admitted in the final ranking, applicants must score at least 30 points at the interview.

For those Doctoral Programs for which it is deemed necessary for the research activities, selection committees will verify the level of competence in Italian of non-Italian candidates and their ability to participate satisfactorily in the programs' educational and research activities.

The outcome of the evaluation, the list of candidates admitted to the oral interviews, and their schedule will be published by **July 19, 2021** on the SSM website at the following URL: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/.

Interviews will take place between **July 20 and July 31**.

Publication of the outcome of the evaluation, the shortlist for the interviews and their schedule of the interviews must be considered as an official notification to the applicants, who will not receive any further notice via post or email.

Shortlisted candidates may be interviewed by video conference (e.g., Skype, Zoom, Teams, etc.).

At the interview, candidates must present a valid identity document.

The final score will result from the sum of the points the candidate has obtained in the assessment of the academic record and qualifications, the research proposal and the interview.

The absence of the candidate on the day, place and time of the interview will be considered as renunciation, whatever the cause, and the candidate will be automatically excluded from the procedure.

The selection Committees must conclude the selection process by **30 September 2021**.

Selection Committees

The composition of the Selection Committees will be published on the website of the SSM at http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/dottorati-bandi-e-avvisi/ .
In the first meeting, which may also be held electronically, the Committees establish the criteria and procedures for evaluating the qualifications and the interview in order to assign the points.

Additional Information
Ranking Lists

Candidates will be ranked based on the sum of the points earned in the evaluation of qualifications and the interview. If two or more candidates score equally, precedence is given to the youngest candidate.

Selected candidates will be admitted to the chosen Doctoral Program on the basis of their standings in the ranking list until all available positions are filled.

If a candidate - eligible for the enrolment in a Doctoral Program – does not accept her/his position within 10 days from the date of the publication of the final results of the selection or, in case a candidate leaves the program within 60 days from the beginning of the doctoral courses, the position will be assigned to the candidate who follows in the ranking list.

Enrolment procedure

The Rector of the Università di Napoli Federico II approves the ranking lists and decrees the results of the selections within 45 days from the date of the interview. These lists will be published on the SSM website at the following URL: http://www.ssm.unina.it/en/phd-scholarships-calls-and-procedures/.

The publication of this list represents an official notification of the results to the admitted candidates.

Within and no later than **10 days** from the date of publication of the Rector's Decree of approval, the selected candidates must send to the *Ufficio Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Studio*

- The enrolment form, duly filled in, dated and signed. The form is available on the University Website http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/dottorati-bandi-e-avvisi/
- A certification in lieu of declaration where the admitted candidate declares she/he is not (and that even in the past she/he has not been) a recipient of other PhD scholarships. The enrolling PhD students must also declare they are not attending any other academic course: should this not correspond to their situation, candidates must sign a declaration confirming the suspension of this attendance;
- A scan of an identity document, duly undersigned;

- The receipt of the payment of the regional tax: amounts and modalities will be published on the same University website. The deadline for the payment of this fee is set at the 15th day following the last useful day for enrolment.

If their academic degree is not officially and automatically equivalent to an Italian one, selected candidates who are non-Italian citizens and graduated abroad must also send to the PhD office a certificate of their master's degree, which must be previously translated and legalized (with an attached "dichiarazione di valore" / *statement of value*) by the Italian Embassy/Consulate competent in the country where the University which conferred the degree is located.

Further information is available at the MUR (Italian Ministry for University and Research) website: https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/

All the above-mentioned self-declarations could be summarized, in a single form, which can be downloaded from the University of Naples website: http://www.unina.it/didattica/post-laurea/dottorati-di-ricerca/bandi-di-ammissione.

Students who do not fulfil such requirements will not be enrolled in the doctoral program.

Scholarship

Scholarships have a yearly duration: they will be renewed on the condition that the Ph.D. student has completed the program scheduled for the previous year, and that they have been admitted to the following one.

The annual scholarship amounts to € 19,000 (including the social welfare charges due by the student). The scholarship covers the entire duration of the doctoral program.

The instalments will be paid monthly, by postponed payments.

The amount of the scholarship is increased by a maximum of 50%, for approved research stays abroad, for no more than 24 months. This increase will not be provided for periods the Ph.D. student will spend in her/his own Country, or in the Country in which she/he resides.

The grants cannot be cumulated to other scholarships, except for those granted by other national or foreign institutions with the aim of funding additional training or research activities abroad of the candidate.

Scholarships will be paid to the candidate only if the requirements in terms of study and research activities are fulfilled.

In addition to the scholarship an extra yearly budget equal to 20% of their annual PhD scholarship will be assigned to the Ph.D. students, to support their research activities in Italy and abroad.

Ph.D. students must enroll in the "Gestione separata" of the INPS (*Italian National Social Security Institute*). To comply with the INPS registration, please refer to the website http://www.inps.it

Fees and contributions

Students enrolled in the Doctoral Programs of the SSM are required to pay, for each year of course, a fee to the Regione Campania for the "diritto allo studio".

Rights and obligations of Ph.D. Students

Attending a Ph.D. course implies an exclusive, full-time engagement. Doctoral students are obliged to take all the courses, attend all the scheduled activities, present all the oral and written reports required by the Board of the Doctoral program they are enrolled in.
In order to be admitted to the following year, students must fulfil each year all the requirements set by the Doctoral Program Board.
Simultaneous enrolment and attendance of the SSM Doctoral Program with any other university course or program is forbidden.

Students enrolled in a Doctoral Program may request a leave of absence from attending the courses for maternity, serious illness, civil service (for this last occurrence, for no more than 1 year).

Ph.D. students will have to make up for absences lasting more than 30 days; additionally, such an absence entails the cessation of the grant payment for the period involved.

The duration of the Ph.D. course cannot be reduced due to these suspensions: thus, the completion of the course will be deferred for a corresponding amount of time.

Ph.D. students carry out their activities abroad for a period of at least two semesters, which may be extended to up to twenty-four months. In such a case, the authorizations of the Doctoral Program's coordinator and of the dissertation supervisor are needed.

Dissertation and Degree of Research Doctor

The degree of "Research Doctor" (in its shorted Italian form "Dott. Ric.", corresponding to "Ph.D.") is obtained by passing the final examination, i.e. defending a PhD dissertation at the end of the Doctoral Program. The Rector confers it in conformity with the University regulations.

Within 30 days after the defense of the Ph.D. dissertation, the University will record them – as electronic files – in the MUR's (Italian Ministry for University and Research) database.
The University of Naples Federico II uploads the full text of the Ph.D. dissertations on its freely accessible Open Archive. The University will also transmit a copy of the Ph.D. dissertations to the National Libraries of Rome and Florence. On the basis of a motivated request by the Ph.D. student, the PhD Board can establish an embargo and bar parts of the Ph.D. dissertation from open access, so that third parties will not be able to access specific data, e.g. those covered by patents or specific intellectual property agreements.

Access, Treatment of Personal Data and Person in Charge of the Procedure

All candidates can demand access to the procedures related to the Call, within the frame of the rules and criteria stated in the University of Naples Federico II Regulation about the right to be informed on its administrative acts.

The University will anyway protect the privacy of the candidates' personal data.

The Chief of the Office for Doctoral Programs, Fellowships and Scholarships at the University of Naples Federico II is the responsible for the administrative part of the selection procedure and for all those act that are not competence of the Selection Committees.

Advertising of the Call

This call is published in an electronic format on the website of the University of Naples Federico II and the webpages of the SSM – School for Advanced Studies, on the European website "Euraxess", on the MUR (Italian Ministry for University and research) website.

All the documents related to this call will be published on the Official register of the University of Naples (www.unina.it).

The electronic publication must be considered as an official notice to all the interested candidates: no personal communication will be sent to them.

Reference

As for what not specified in the present summary, one must refer to the official announcement in Italian, published on the SSM website: http://www.ssm.unina.it/it/dottorati-bandi-e-avvisi/