



**Università  
degli Studi  
di Ferrara**

**IUSS**

Istituto Universitario  
di Studi Superiori  
IUSS-Ferrara 1391

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**Open Competition  
based on academic qualifications and examinations for admission to  
Research Doctorate courses**

**XXXVI Cycle – Academic Year 2020/21**

**Deadline for applications: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 23:59 (Italian time)**

**Art. 1**

**Purposes of the announcement and general rules**

The University of Ferrara announces an open competition based on academic qualifications and examinations for the admission to the following Research Doctorate courses – XXXVI Cycle, academic year 2020/21:

1. **European Union Law and National Legal Systems**
2. **Economics and Management of Innovation and Sustainability (EMIS)** (in cooperation with the University of Parma)
3. **Physics** (in cooperation with National Institute for Nuclear Physics – INFN and with Polish Academy of Sciences - IFJ PAN – Krakow - PL)
4. **Molecular Medicine**
5. **Translational Neuroscience and Neurotechnologies** (in cooperation with Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia – IIT)
6. **Biomedical Sciences and Biotechnology**
7. **Chemistry** (in cooperation with Polish Academy – Department of Chemistry – University of Wrocław – PL)
8. **Engineering Science**
9. **Humanities** (in cooperation with Pontificia Universidade Católica do Paraná PUCPR – Brasile)
10. **Environmental Sustainability and Wellbeing** (in cooperation with Western Sydney University - AUS)
11. **Advanced Therapies and Experimental Pharmacology**

The effective admission to the courses listed above is subject to verification by ANVUR about the completion of the requirements established by Ministerial Decree 45/2013 for the activation of the courses already accredited, and the release of accreditation by the Ministry of Education, University and Research for the courses of new institution.

In case of lack of accreditation and/or failure in activating one or more doctoral programs, any selection proceedings already complied will be void.

The Research Doctorate courses are three years in length and will start on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

For each of the aforementioned courses, research topics, available places, admission requirements and specific information concerning the selection and evaluation criteria pertaining to the creation of the ranking tables, are listed in the attached description sheets, and are an integral part of this announcement.

Available places will be assigned according to the ranking lists mentioned in art. 9 of this announcement.

Applicants holding a degree awarded by a foreign institution, including those holding fellowships or other kind of financial support, will participate to the selection at the same conditions as all other applicants; reserved positions indicated in art. 7 below, will be listed in each course description sheet.

The selections schedule will be decided by the Board of Professors of each doctoral course within the deadline of the announcement and shall be notified promptly and published at the following web page: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/commissioni>.

Scholarships, training contracts, and any other forms of financial support from research funds or other University resources, including research grants, as well as the number of available places will be increased based on the funding availability deriving from public and private entities. These additional places will be published before the expiration date of this announcement.

Failure to conclude agreements with external organizations for the financing of scholarships and / or other equivalent forms of research support, even if mentioned in the announcement, reduces the total number of ordinary places.

**This announcement has to be considered an official notification.**

Any changes and integrations will be published **exclusively** on the website: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection>.

Applicants failing to comply with the requirements stated in this announcement will be excluded from the selection.

All communications with applicants concerning this announcement will occur via e-mail. For this purpose, the University of Ferrara will use the e-mail address given by the applicant during the registration process, as illustrated in the following art. 4.

The University Administration takes no responsibility in the event of loss of communications due to errors in the address or e-mail provided by the applicant, by failure or late notification of address changings, or for any postal or telecommunication errors not attributable to the Administration.

This announcement is available in Italian and English in accordance with Italian laws and regulations on Ph.D. qualifications, and the University of Ferrara's regulations in matter of Ph.D. Courses.

**Art. 2.  
Admission Requirements**

Applicants, without any limitation of age nor citizenship, must hold one of the following qualifications before this announcement deadline:

- a) An Italian degree known as "Laurea specialistica/magistrale" or a degree awarded prior to approval of Ministerial Decree D.M. n. 509 of 3 November 1999, updated with D.M. n. 270 of 22 October 2004, n. 270;
- b) Master (second level) degree;
- c) An equivalent foreign academic qualification awarded abroad considered equivalent to the Italian degree in terms of duration, level and area of study, which allows the holder to undertake Ph.D. studies.

Candidates who will achieve the necessary requirements for accessing the doctorate within **October 31<sup>st</sup> 2020** are also accepted. Should this be the case, applicants must inform IUSS Office via e-mail at [dottorato@unife.it](mailto:dottorato@unife.it) by **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** sending a declaration with the specifics of the degree and the degree achieved.

Additional requirements or specific qualifications will be listed in the attached description sheets, forming an integral part of this announcement.

All candidates are admitted to the selection procedure, under condition that their applications are verified according to the correspondence with the requirements set out in this announcement, in line with art. 43 of DPR n. 445 of 28 December 2000. The University may, at any time during the proceedings, even after the start of doctoral courses, carry out checks about the truthfulness of the declarations and request the submission of original documents.

The University may, at any time and by order of the Rector, exclude candidates who do not meet the admission requirements from the selection process.

**Those already enrolled on the same doctoral Course cannot apply for admission.**

**Art. 3  
Degrees awarded by foreign Universities**

The eligibility of a degree awarded by a foreign university, for the sole purpose of the admission to the doctorate, will be decided by the Selection Committee in accordance with Italian Law and that of the country in which the degree has been awarded, and in accordance with international treaties and agreements regarding the proof of recognition of qualifications.

The submission of online applications automatically implies the recognition of the eligibility of the degree awarded abroad. Applicants should therefore attach to their application the following documents:

- a) Certificate or transcript containing a full academic record of the candidate's career, including marks from all years. EU citizens may submit a self-declaration certifying the possession of an academic qualification, according to DPR n. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions;
- b) In the case where the aforementioned document is not in Italian or English, the applicant must provide a certified translation of it;
- c) Any other document that could be useful to the Selection Committee for the evaluation of the candidate's degree as an equivalent (Diploma Supplement, for candidates holding a degree awarded in an EU country such as; "Dichiarazione di Valore in loco" (declaration of value), issued by the Italian Authorities in the Country in which the degree was awarded, for applicants holding a degree awarded in a NON EU country; etc.).

#### **Art. 4** **Selection Application Form**

Selection application forms, together with all documents listed below, must be submitted online **no later than July 24<sup>th</sup> 2020 – h. 23.59 (Italian time)** via online **procedure** available on the web page: <https://pica.cineca.it/unife/>.

Instructions for completing the online application form are available on the following web pages: <https://pica.cineca.it/unife/dottorati36>  
[www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection](http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection) - Instructions "*Help\_35\_en.pdf*"

The applicant must:

- connect to: <https://pica.cineca.it/unife/>;
- register on the web site providing the requested personal details (or just login if already registered on LOGINMIUR);
- a scanned copy of a valid Identity Card or Passport with picture is mandatory.

Once the registration is completed, the Candidate may connect to the web page and to the application procedure of interest:

<https://pica.cineca.it/unife/dottorati36>

- select "New submission";
- fill in the forms providing the information required and upload the requested documents as listed in the description sheet for each course.

Documents must be uploaded **exclusively as .pdf-Adobe file format: maximum size 30 MB for each file.**

All file names must contain the number, the applicant's surname and name, the kind of documents: e.g. 1\_surname\_name\_curriculum.pdf. In case of more than one file belonging to the same category, a number at the end should be added (1\_surname\_name\_curriculum\_2.pdf)

The application form shall contain the applicant's personal data, permanent address including telephone number and email address for selection process purposes only, and his/her citizenship.

In the online application form, applicants must also declare, according to art. 46 of D.P.R. 445 dated 28/12/2000, academic qualification award details:

- Degree awarding institution;
- Type of academic degree;
- Academic Year;
- Final mark (only for candidates holding the degree).

Candidates who intend to compete in the following specific positions:

- positions reserved for employees in private companies, who are engaged in highly qualified activities (**Industrial Doctorate**)
- positions with a **High Apprenticeship Ph.D. programmes**;
- positions reserved for employees in Public Institutions, who are engaged in highly qualified activities and **maintain their salary**;
- fellowships with **specific Research Topics**, duly explained in each course specific page attached, that is part of the present notice.

While filling-in the application form, candidates will first select the corresponding item and then the type of position and/or fellowship for specific research topics they are interested in.

**Candidates who apply for a fellowship with specific research topic, are NOT excluded from the final ranking and can apply for positions with ordinary fellowships.**

Before the conclusion of the procedure, candidates must print the application, sign and scan it and upload the .pdf signed file in the procedure.

Failure to sign the application implies its nullity.

At the end of the online procedure for the application for research doctorate courses, the University will automatically receive all documents and the completed application form. Nothing has to be delivered to the university administrative office.

All documents required for the selection must be uploaded following the online procedure.

**Please keep in mind that only online applications will be accepted.**

At the end of the online procedure, applicants will receive a confirmation email containing an identification code to be used for any communication with CINECA and IUSS office.

It is up to applicant's responsibility to verify the correct completion of the online procedure. Complaints related to potential system overload problems close to the deadline will not be taken into consideration.

Applications not completed in all parts, without the mandatory documents or that do not meet the deadline, will be excluded.

No integration to the application and no paper copies of documents will be accepted after the deadline set on **July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, h. 23.59 (Italian time)**.

Candidates applying for more than one Ph.D. course must submit more applications, attaching all the necessary documentation to each application.

It is highly recommended that applications are submitted as soon as possible.

**Art. 5**

***Support for candidates with disabilities or with specific learning difficulties (SpLD)***

According to law n. 104/1992 and subsequent modifications, candidates with disabilities can outline their particular needs, which will be taken into account when organising the test, by completing the "Assistance/Extra Time" section in the online test registration procedure.

Pursuant to law N° 170/2010 and D.M. N° 5669 of July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Candidates with Specific Learning Difficulties (*SpLD*) may inform their needs by filling in the "Assistance/Extra Time" form pointing out the type of assistance needed for the tests, together with a diagnostic report issued by National Health Service or specialists/regional accredited structures. The request must be uploaded in .pdf format in the online procedure.

Once the application is completed, please send an e-mail to [servizio.disabilita@unife.it](mailto:servizio.disabilita@unife.it) and/or to [servizio.dsa@unife.it](mailto:servizio.dsa@unife.it) together with the number assigned during the procedure before the Call deadline.

**Candidates with specific learning difficulties (SpLD) residing abroad**

Candidates with Specific Learning Difficulties (*SpLD*) residing abroad who wish to take advantage of the support provided, must show the certification of *SpLD* – according to the procedure above mentioned – issued by the residing Country together with a legal translation in Italian or in English.

**Requests evaluation and supporting measures granting for Candidates with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)**

All requests will be dealt with by the Disability and SpLD Service of the University of Ferrara (for more information: tel. 0532/293366 - Monday to Friday from 9.30 to 12.30).

All requests will be taken and evaluated under condition of the Vice-Chancellor of the Disabilities Office and the President of the Board, as well as from the Disabilities Service of the University after consulting experts in matter and the Offices involved in such proceedings.

It will be up to the Disabilities Service Office to communicate to requesting Candidates the kind of supporting measures granted before the tests.

The University of Ferrara reserves the right to not grant such supporting measures in case of lack of information, expired documents or documents given after the deadline for application.

Please note that your personal data will remain confidential pursuant to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) EU 2016/679.

**Art. 6**

***Admission procedure***

Entry procedures are set out in each attached description sheet, which form an integral part of this announcement and are published on the following web page:

<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection> .

The evaluation of qualifications and the interview will be held in September.

Before the notice deadline, a timetable regarding the selection will be published at the following web page:  
<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/commissioni>.

The timetable regarding the selection has to be considered as an official notification.  
**Candidates will not receive any personal notice about the selection procedures.**

Applicants do not have to attend the meetings regarding the evaluation of qualifications.

The evaluation committee has a total of 80 points at its disposal.  
Evaluation criteria, including the minimum requirements for admittance to the interview, are outlined in each description sheet.

The evaluation of qualifications results and the admission to the interview will be published on the web page: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection>

For candidates positively evaluated and admitted to the oral test, this will be conducted online via audio and video conference (e.g.: GoToMeeting, Skype, or similar platforms).

To this end, candidates must provide in the application form a personal contact, and guarantee the use of a webcam, in order to allow the selection board to identify them.

For identification purposes, and under penalty of exclusion from the selection procedure, each candidate is required, before the interview begins, to produce the same identity document that the candidate sent as attachment to the application.

Oral tests can be carried out in a language other than Italian, only and exclusively if established in the information-form related to the chosen doctoral course.

Oral tests are public.

Each judging committee will provide the oral tests calendar, which will be published at the following link:  
<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/ordinario>

Failing to communicate the personal address, the failure to connect, the candidate's unavailability on the established date and hour, or the failure to produce a valid identification document pursuant to the previous paragraph, are causes of exclusion from the selective procedure.

The University of Ferrara declines any responsibility for eventual technical reasons that may prevent the regular conduct of the oral test.

In order to be admitted to the research doctorate course, the applicant must obtain a final score of at least 60 points. The final score is the sum of the points given during the assessment of qualifications and the interview.

In the case of scholarships concerning a specific research topic, the examiners will evaluate the suitability of the candidate to enter the doctoral course, together with the suitability of the candidate for the specific research theme.

#### **Art. 7**

#### ***Positions reserved for graduates from foreign universities, foreign scholarship holders or students included in International Mobility projects, Development Cooperation projects***

Candidates with foreign qualifications, including those involved in international mobility programmes and foreign scholarship holders can apply for positions reserved specifically for them if allowed in the Ph.D. courses description sheets.

These potential reserved positions will be expressed in the specific Ph.D. Course description sheets, which are an integral part of this announcement and are published on the web page <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection>.

Positions reserved for candidates with foreign qualifications could be both with or without a scholarship or other equivalent forms of financial support.

Candidates wishing to apply for these reserved places must adhere to the following conditions when enrolling via the on-line procedure available on the webpage:  
<https://pica.cineca.it/unife/dottorati35/> :

- **Candidates with foreign qualifications:** in addition to the requirements of the Ph.D. description sheets, applicants must refer to the information given in art.3 of this notice;
- **International scholarship holders:** in addition to the requirements of the Ph.D. description sheets, candidates must attach a document certifying the scholarship awarded by the foreign country, or a copy of the application sent to the authority responsible for the awarding of the scholarships;

- **Candidates involved in international mobility projects:** in addition to what is specified in the Ph.D. description sheets, candidates must attach a document certifying details of the grant or scholarship provided within the international mobility project;
- **Development Cooperation projects – grant holders:** in addition to what is specified in the Ph.D. description sheets, candidates must attach an acceptance letter issued by the institution cooperating in the project.

Candidates wishing to apply for positions reserved for international scholarship holders or scholarship holders involved in international mobility projects must provide evidence of such award within the deadline set on March, 30<sup>th</sup> 2021. This documentation must be sent to IUSS Office ([dottorato@unife.it](mailto:dottorato@unife.it)) by that date, or the candidate will be excluded from the Ph.D. Course.

For reserved positions, the Selection Committee will draft a specific ranking list, divided according to the types of positions. If there are no suitable applicants, positions reserved for candidates with foreign qualifications might be reassigned to other candidates.

If there are no suitable applicants, positions reserved for international scholarship holders and candidates involved in International Mobility projects that remain vacant, **cannot be given to other candidates.**

### **Art. 8 Selection committee**

The Selection Committee is appointed by the Rector and is composed according to Art. 14 of the Regulation of Research Doctorates of the University of Ferrara issued in accordance with D.M. 45/2013.

The structure of all selection committees will be published before the announcement deadline on the web page: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi/commissioni>.

The Selection Committees will not send any personal communication to the candidates regarding the evaluation results: it is upon Candidates' responsibility to verify the results as described in art. 6 and 9 of this announcement.

### **Art. 9 Ranking list**

After the approval of the competition proceedings, the ranking lists will be available online at the following web page: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection> .

Publication of the ranking list will be the only official means of communication of the results, therefore **NO PERSONAL COMMUNICATION WILL BE SENT TO ADMITTED CANDIDATES.**

If a Candidate is eligible in more than one ranking list, he/she must choose only one course of study. The choice of Ph.D. Course made during the enrolment is considered definitive and it is not possible to make any changes.

### **Art. 10 Course Admission**

Candidates are admitted to the Doctoral Course after the approval of the selection proceedings, according to the order of the respective ranking list, until the number of positions included in the competition announcement is completed.

Candidates are admitted according to the points scored in the final ranking list, until the end of the number of positions stipulated in the announcement.

The deadline for enrolments is **Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – h. 11.30 a.m. (Italian time).**

If the enrolment procedure is not completed **within the deadline**, the admission to the Doctoral Course is forfeited.

In the event of equal marks, other criteria will be taken into consideration and applied:

- for positions covered by scholarships - evaluation of economic income prevails (refer to the Italian procedure called ISEE);
- For positions not covered by scholarships - the youngest candidate will prevail.

For the reserved positions, the examination Committee will make a separate ranking list, depending on the types of reserved positions.

If a candidate is successfully included in different ranking lists, he/she must choose only one Doctoral Course.

In the case where a suitable candidate renounces within a month of the beginning of the first year, this

position becomes vacant and will be assigned to those applicants who have a place in the ranking list considering, if necessary, the specific field of research associated with the scholarship.

### **Art. 11 Course Enrolment**

Winning candidates must enrol via online procedure, following the ENROLMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR WINNING CANDIDATES that will be available on the web page:  
<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/concorsi>.

The deadline for enrolments is **October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – h. 11.30 a.m. (Italian time)**.  
**ONLY ONLINE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**The enrolment request is concluded only if all the documents listed in the instructions will be delivered to IUSS office.**

Those who have not regularized their position within the deadline will be excluded for all purposes and vacancies will be assigned to other candidates, according to the ranking list.

### **Art.12 Replacements**

Eligible Candidates that cannot enrol to the Course may state their interest in covering any places that may not be taken by eligible candidates by filling in the **REPLACEMENT FORM** and sending it via email to [dottorato@unife.it](mailto:dottorato@unife.it), **within October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, h. 11.30 (Italian time)**.

The replacement form is downloadable at the web page:  
<http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/modulistica/Subentro>.

**THOSE WHO DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO THE RESERVED LIST.**

Starting from **October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020** newly admitted candidates, due to vacant positions, will be contacted directly by IUSS Office.

### **Art. 13 Scholarships**

The annual gross amount of the scholarship is € 15,343.28 and is subject to National Social Security contributions. Fiscal matters regarding scholarships regulated by art. 4 Law 13<sup>th</sup> August 1984, n. 476. This amount may be different in case of specific international agreements.

The amount of the scholarship can be increased by 50% for any period spent abroad, for a maximum period of 18 months, except in the case of specific agreements for international mobility projects. The scholarship is paid in monthly-delayed instalments.

Scholarships are granted annually and may be renewed every year for the entire duration of the Course as long as the Ph.D. student passes the annual test, which is assessed by the Academic Board, according to art. 17 of the regulations about Ph.D. of the University of Ferrara, and according to the internal regulations of each course.

In case of withdrawing from the course or loss of student status within the first month of the research doctorate course, the student loses the right to receive the payment of the scholarship.

Scholarships cannot be granted in conjunction with fellowships or other grants, except for scholarships awarded by Italian or foreign institutions to support the students' research activities abroad. Students, who have already been granted a scholarship, even partially, cannot be granted a second one.

### **Art. 14 Enrolment Fees**

Candidates holding a Scholarship:

Candidates enrolled in Research Doctorate Courses holding a Scholarship or any other kind of financial support – such as those enrolled in the Ph.D. Course with Industrial Doctorate, Salary Keep or High Apprenticeship programmes - must pay the tuition fees outlined in the table below:

Regional contribution	140,00 €
Stamp duty	16,00 €
Insurance	12,00 €
University contribution	532,00 €
<b>Total annual amount</b>	<b>700,00 €</b>

The payment of the fees for first year students is payable in the instalments outlined below:

<b>Instalment</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>
I Instalment: At the time of enrolment	28,00 €	Stamp Duty - 16,00 € Insurance - 12,00 €
II Instalment: before 31/01/2021	472,00 €	Regional contribution-140,00 € Contribution - 332,00 €
III Instalment (*): before 15/05/2021	200,00 €	Contribution - 200,00 €

Reductions can be applied to Candidates holding a Scholarship with particular income conditions. Further information regarding tuition fees are available by contacting the **Ufficio Diritto allo Studio Studentesse e Studenti** via the SOS Online System.

Web page: <http://www.unife.it/it/iscriviti/pagare/post-laurea/dottorato>

#### Candidates without a Scholarship

According to the Law 232/2016, Candidates enrolled to a Research Doctorate course who do not benefit from a Scholarship are exempted from fees and contributions to the University.

The amounts below could be subject to changes in future years.

Regional contribution	140,00 €
Stamp duty	16,00 €
Insurance	12,00 €
<b>Total annual amount</b>	<b>168,00 €</b>

Tuition fees payments for the first year must be paid following the deadlines below mentioned:

I Instalment: At the time of enrolment	28,00 €	Stamp Duty - 16,00 € Insurance - 12,00 €
II Instalment: before 31/01/2021	140,00 €	Regional contribution-140,00 €

In the case of termination of studies, forfeiture or exclusion, students who have already paid the enrolment fee **have no right, under any circumstance, to a refund of this fee.**

#### **Art. 15 Personal Data Protection**

Personal and sensitive data provided by candidates will be used for administrative purposes and for possible proceedings for the management of the academic career of the winners only.

The treatment of the personal data according to art. 13 of EU art. 2016/679 – General Data Protection Regulation.

The communication regarding the request for personal data is mandatory in order to evaluate the prerequisites for participation, or exclusion of the candidate from the selection process.

The personal data provided can be communicated to the Administration of the Università degli Studi di Ferrara and to related external structures within the framework of the Università degli Studi di Ferrara authorised to manage personal data under the direct control of the Owner of the Service of the Data Protection officer, exclusively for the above-mentioned purposes.

The Data Controller is Università degli Studi di Ferrara, in Via Ariosto, 35, Ferrara – Email: [rettore@unife.it](mailto:rettore@unife.it), PEC: [ateneo@pec.unife.it](mailto:ateneo@pec.unife.it);

The appointed Data Protection Officer is Lepida S.c.p.A., located in Bologna, Via della Liberazione 15, E-mail: [dpo\\_team@lepida.it](mailto:dpo_team@lepida.it), PEC: [segreteria@pec.lepida.it](mailto:segreteria@pec.lepida.it)

In order to pursue the aims mentioned in this announcement, Personal data can be transferred to the appointed Responsible of Data Treatment: Cineca Consorzio Interuniversitario, located in via Magnanelli 6/3 - 40033 Casalecchio di Reno (BO).

#### **Art. 16 Cross-Reference Norms**

For anything not covered in this announcement, the present norms and regulations regarding Research Doctorates apply.

The person responsible for the procedure regarding the competition in this announcement is the Coordinator of the "Ufficio IUSS".

This competition announcement is available on the University of Ferrara website: <http://www.unife.it/studenti/dottorato/it/concorsi/selection>.



**IL RETTORE**  
**G. Zauli**