



**Application procedure for national PhD programme in Artificial
Intelligence
A.Y. 2021/2022 (37th cycle)***

THE RECTRESS

[Applicable Laws and Regulations](#) (only available in Italian)

DECREES AS FOLLOWS

Art. 1

Call for applications to PhD Programme

Sapienza Università di Roma is accepting applications for the admission to National PhD Programme in Artificial Intelligence (Security and cybersecurity area) for the academic year 2021/2022 (37th cycle), with administrative headquarters at Sapienza Università di Roma. Selection procedures and available PhD grants are described in annex A, that is an integral part of this Call.

The National PhD Programme in Artificial Intelligence is carried out, under the coordination of the National Research Council (Consiglio Nazionale Ricerche – CNR) and the University of Pisa, through **five Joint PhD Programmes**. Each of the 5 PhD Programmes includes a leading university, as well as a large consortium of universities and research institutions. The 5 doctorates will focus on the foundational aspects of artificial intelligence. Specifically, five specialization areas are included in the national PhD programme in Artificial Intelligence, referring to as many doctorates with administrative headquarters at the following universities:

- Health and life sciences, *Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma*
- Agriculture (agrifood) and environment, *Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II*
- Security and cybersecurity, *Sapienza Università di Roma*
- Industria 4.0, *Politecnico di Torino*
- Society, *Università di Pisa*.

For Security and cybersecurity Area, the following institutions/universities participate in the PhD:

- Fondazione Bruno Kessler
- Libera Università di Bolzano
- Università degli Studi di Brescia
- Università degli Studi di Cagliari
- Università della Calabria
- Università degli Studi di Genova
- Politecnico di Bari

Sapienza Università di Roma promotes equality of opportunities between genders and the use of masculine in this call is for simplicity and synthesis and it is to be intended as referring to both genders.



Art. 2

Organization of the activities

PhD students are involved in a unique, joint and shared didactic-scientific project; they can carry out their research and training activities in the different venues of the universities / institutions involved in the national PhD programme. These PhD students are ensured the actual sharing of the facilities needed for their teaching and research activities aimed at performing their PhD project.

At the end of the Programme, after passing the final exam, the diploma of "National PhD Programme in Artificial Intelligence" is jointly issued by each administrative headquarters university, with the universities of the other four administrative headquarters, along with their respective logo and that of the National Research Council (CNR). Moreover, the diploma will show the logos of the participating universities / institutions.

The educational activity of the Doctoral Programmes starts on November 1st of its first year and ends on October 31st of its third year.

Art. 3

Application for admission

Candidates can submit their application **no later than July 23rd, 2021, 1:00 pm (Italian Time)**.

To submit the application candidates will have to access the PhD PROGRAMME page from the link <https://www.studenti.uniroma1.it/phoenix/#/login>, fill out the online form, upload the required documentation and pay the application fee through the PagoPA system which can be accessed directly from the application. To be considered valid, the payment must be completed **within h 11:59 pm on July 23rd (Italian Time)**.

The application is correctly submitted only if the system displays the message "pagamento effettuato/fee paid" and the symbol ✓ appears under "pagamento/payment" and "documenti/documents".

Detailed instructions are available at:
<https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/phd-application-form>.

Any claims related to malfunctioning of the informatics system in close proximity to the deadline will not be accepted; candidates are recommended to complete the application sufficiently in advance in order to allow the office in charge to guarantee any necessary support.

Submission receipt and summary of the application must be **kept by the candidate and must not be delivered to the PhD office**. Applications that are not submitted as described herein will be rejected.

Please Note that the University will check the veracity of the self-statements presented by the candidate. If the control ascertains the falsity of the declarations, the candidate will be excluded from taking the admission test or, if in the list of nominees will be declared lapsed, without prejudice to the criminal prosecution as for art. 76 of the law n. 445/2000.



Art. 4

Disability assistance

Applicants with disability recognition under art. 3, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Law of February 2nd, 1992, No. 104 or with certificate of invalidity that need special aids or additional time for the admission test, must apply to the Department for Relations with Students with Disabilities and with DSA writing sportellodisabili@uniroma1.it. They also must complete the procedure as explained at <https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/phd-application-form>. According to Bill 170/2010 and Ministerial Decree n.5669/2011, students with officially certified Learning Disabilities (DSA) must contact counselingdsa@uniroma1.it. They also must complete the procedure as explained at <https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/phd-application-form>. Candidates will be allowed, depending on the specific needs indicated on the certificate, extra time, a calculator, other assistance and/or technical aids. The Learning Disabilities certificate must explain the kind of disability (Reading and/or Writing and/or Calculation). Application for disability assistance must be submitted to the Office for Students with Disabilities by the application deadline together with the medical certification issued by an authorized official structure. The diagnosis should be updated after 3 years if performed by the under-age student.

Art. 5

Admission requirements

Applications are accepted from candidates who completed or will complete an Italian laurea specialistica, laurea magistrale or any equivalent academic degree obtained abroad (generally equivalent to a Master Degree) by **October 31st , 2021**. Applications from candidates holding a foreign study title depend on the assessment of the title itself by the examining Selection Committee. This assessment must be carried out in compliance with the relevant legislation in Italy and in the country where the title was issued and international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies. The Committee must assess the equivalency by level, nature, content and academic rights (access to further courses) of the Italian academic qualification required to access the PhD. Candidates with a foreign qualification must submit the documents deemed useful for the verification of the degree (e.g. translation, legalization, declaration of value, Diploma Supplement, certificate of exams, certificates of ENIC-NARIC centers, etc.). The absence of such documents may in fact prejudice the assessment of the foreign qualification as an entry requirement in the event that the Selection Committee is not able to decide on the necessary and aforementioned equivalence.

Art. 6

Admission exams

Admission to the PhD Programme is based on the assessment of:

- the curriculum vitae and a research project. An overall motivated score should be assigned according to the criteria established by the Selection Committees during the preliminary meeting. For some PhD Programmes, the annexed form provides a minimum score for the curriculum to access to the next text.
- an interview.



The exam schedule and venue will be published on **July 15th, 2021** at https://phd.uniroma1.it/web/NATIONAL-PHD-IN-ARTIFICIAL-INTELLIGENCE_nD3764_EN.aspx.

To take the interview in videoconference and avoid disqualification, the candidate must be identified through a valid identification document.

The Selection Committee is appointed by the Rectress and, at least three of the Committee's members, will be selected among ordinary professors or associates or researchers of Italian and foreign universities, or research institutions involved in the topics and scientific areas of the PhD course.

If the Selection Committee is composed of more than three members, at least two of the Committee's members must be selected outside the teaching personnel. The Committee can be supplemented by the addition of no more than two experts chosen from public and private research bodies and structures, including foreign ones, provided that it is of particular documented competence in the disciplinary fields of the training course.

The meetings of the Selection Committees can take place in-presence, entirely or in part, pursuant to the anti-contagion safety protocol. If one or more committee members attend the meeting remotely, it will be necessary that:

- a) in the convocation it is specified that the meeting takes place in-presence, with the possibility of remote attendance of one or more committee members, indicating the possible operating procedures;
- b) names of the present members and those connected remotely, along with their connection procedures, shall be indicated in the meetings' minutes.

The meetings can also take place only remotely.

The videoconference interviews of candidates will be held as follows:

- a) via video meeting platforms made available to the University, ensuring the simultaneous connection among the committee members and each candidate, in accordance with the regulation on personal data protection and confidentiality. This shall be written in the session's minute.
- b) audio and video recording of remotely held interviews is forbidden.
- c) the interview shall be held publicly, forwarding to all candidates the event's link and ensuring to any third party the possibility to attend using the link available at https://phd.uniroma1.it/web/NATIONAL-PHD-IN-ARTIFICIAL-INTELLIGENCE_nD3764_EN.aspx.
- d) at the beginning of the session, the President and / or the Selection Committee Secretary must identify the candidate through a valid identification document. The identification shall be reported in the session's minute.
- e) after every interview, the President must interrupt the connection with all but the Committee members in order to allow the Committee evaluation

Art. 7

Ranking of candidates and enrolment

Once admission procedures have ended and have been approved, the candidates' ranking will be published on the Sapienza website at https://phd.uniroma1.it/web/NATIONAL-PHD-IN-ARTIFICIAL-INTELLIGENCE_nD3764_EN.aspx. At the same time as the ranking is published, a communication will be sent to interested



parties at the e-mail address indicated during the application process. The communication will include enrolment procedures and deadlines. Successful candidates who do not respect these procedures and deadlines will lose the right to their place, which will be offered to the next-ranked candidate.

All PhD students are requested to pay a € 16,00 stamp duty.

All PhD students are required to produce appropriate documentation attesting the ownership of other scholarships granted on at least a triennial basis.

Before the enrolment, PhD students with a foreign education title will be asked to present:

1. The legalized translation of the academic degree into English or Italian (if not submitted during the application);
2. A Declaration of Validity (“dichiarazione di valore”) issued by the competent Italian consulate or embassy in the country where the academic degree was obtained or the “Diploma Supplement” or by another authorized institution (e.g. Cimea).

GRADUATING STUDENTS

When the final ranking is published, candidates admitted that are temporarily not able to register as expecting to receive their degree by October 31st, 2021, must send an email to ufficio.dottorato@uniroma1.it with their commitment to enrol as soon as the degree will be obtained. The email must include a copy of the ID/Passport of the candidate and must be sent by the deadline indicated on the final ranking. Lack of the email or of the attached copy of ID/Passport will be considered as a waiver.

Art. 8

Study grant allocation

PhD grants are detailed in the annexed document, being an integral part of this application call. In the event of specific-topic related grants, PhD grant holders are required to carry out the doctoral activity on the specific research topic at a specific venue, as set out in the annexed document (Annex A).

To this aim, when applying, candidates are allowed to express their own preferences regarding the venue and any specific research topic; **these preferences will not be binding for the purpose of the PhD grants allocation.**

In compliance with the ranking order, taking note of the preferences expressed and after assessing the suitability of the candidate’s training and profile, the Selection Committee decides on the assignment of the grants to the entitled candidates and these grants will then be conferred, by rectoral decree, at the end of the ranking scrolling procedures.



In the event of waiver or non-enrolment of the successful candidate with grant, the available PhD grant will be reallocated following the candidates' ranking as set in the above Art. 7.

The Committee's failure to award specific-topic grants will result in a reduction of the number of positions envisaged by the application call.

If a grant is financed by an external entity, the commitments provided for in the agreement for the PhD student are to be fulfilled.

Those who have already benefited, even partially, from a PhD grant or equivalent programme at Sapienza Università di Roma or at any other Italian university cannot receive another PhD grant.

For the academic year 2021/2022, the total gross annual recipient amount of the PhD grant is € 15,343.28. The grant is allocated only in the event of non-existence of incompatibility, as provided for by applicable laws. Since the grant allocation starts from November 1st, 2021, the non-existence of incompatibility must remain in force from that date (November 1st, 2021), also in the event of subsequent allocation after ranking scroll.

It is only possible to enrol in the PhD with a scholarship, except in the event that the winner renounces the same as the holder of a research grant (on November 1st, 2021) or public employee with maintenance of salary.

Art. 9

Responsible person for the admission process and handling of personal data

In accordance with Art. 5 of Law n.241 of August 7th, 1990, the person responsible for the procedure referred to in this call is: Romina Caronna, Head of The Research Doctorate Sector - Postgraduate Diplomas Office, State Exams and Specialization Schools - Educational Offer and Right to Study Area - Sapienza University of Rome - Piazzale Aldo Moro, 5 - Rome - e-mail address: ufficio.dottorato@uniroma1.it.

According to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) n.679/2016 of April 27th, 2016, concerning the protection of individuals and other subjects with respect to the processing of personal data, there is a specific document attached, that is an integral part of this call (**Annex B**).

Art. 10

Applicable regulations

For all the matters not expressly addressed in this call, please refer to the current legislation on the subject and to the University PhD Regulation available at <https://www.uniroma1.it/en/documento/research-doctorate-regulations>.

Art. 11

Advertisement of the call

This application call will be published at <https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/phd-programmes> and advertised on the Euraxess and the MUR's websites.

*** Please note: the official version of this call is in Italian and is available on the Sapienza website.**

This abridged version is not valid and may not be used for any legal purpose.