



## FAQ

### PhD Open Day 2026 – 6 May 2026

#### Qualifications and Evaluation

**Q: Can I apply for a PhD with a *laurea triennale* (Bachelor's degree) and a *first-level Master's course* awarded in Italy?**

**A:** No. Admission requires a *Laurea Magistrale* (or *Laurea Specialistica*, i.e. a second-cycle degree). The *first-level Master's course* awarded in Italy does not replace the required second-cycle degree.

**Q: How are scores assigned in the selection process?**

**A:** Each PhD Programme Committee (*Collegio dei Docenti*) defines the evaluation criteria, which are detailed in the PhD programme description sheets attached to the call for applications.

**Q: I hold a degree obtained abroad. Do I need to have it translated?**

**A:** For degrees obtained within the EU, the Diploma Supplement is sufficient. For non-EU degrees, a *Dichiarazione di Valore* or a CIMEA Statement of Comparability is required. Formal recognition (*equipollenza*) is not required to apply.

**Q: I have not yet graduated. Can I still apply?**

**A:** Yes. Applicants who expect to obtain their second-cycle degree by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2026** are eligible. If the degree is not obtained by that date, any admission offer will be withdrawn.

**Q: Are there any age or citizenship restrictions?**

**A:** Generally, no. For the "**Pegaso**" scholarships (funded by the Tuscany Region), however, applicants must be **under 35 years of age**.

#### Financial Support

**Q: What is the amount of the PhD scholarship?**

**A:** The gross annual amount is **16.243 €**. Net of contributions, this corresponds to about **1.200 € per month**.

**Q: What are "Pegaso" scholarships?**

**A:** These are scholarships funded by the Tuscany Region and governed by a specific call (usually published in July). They include additional requirements and restrictions compared to standard scholarships.



## Call for Applications

### **Q: When will the call for the next cycle (XLII) be published?**

**A:** The standard call is expected to be published on **12 May 2026**, with a deadline of **11 June 2026**. PhD related activities are scheduled to begin on 1 November 2026.

### **Q: Can the € 30 application fee be reduced based on ISEE?**

**A:** No. The € 30 application fee is fixed for each application, and no exemptions or reductions based on ISEE (income indicator) apply.

### **Q: Can I apply for more than one PhD programme?**

**A:** Yes. You may apply to multiple PhD programmes. A separate application must be submitted, and fee must be paid, for each programme.

For PhD programmes with separate rankings, applicants may choose to apply to the general ranking, one or more specific rankings, or both, by submitting a single application and one or more research proposals, and paying a single application fee.

### **Q: How should I prepare the research proposal?**

**A:** Specific guidelines (length, criteria, topics) are provided in the “**Fact Sheet**” attached to the call. Requirements vary by programme, so it is essential to consult the relevant sheet.

### **Q: Is the final degree grade important for pre-selection?**

**A:** Yes. Degree grades (both first-cycle and second-cycle) and the academic CV are typically part of the evaluation criteria.

### **Q: I have been placed on the final ranking list as eligible. How does the ranking list update work?**

**A:** In the event of withdrawal or failure to enroll by a selected candidate, the next eligible candidate in the ranking will be admitted, according to the schedule indicated in the call. It is the responsibility of eligible candidates to monitor their position as the ranking list is updated.

The call will be published on the [PhD website](#) in both Italian and English.

## Compatibility and Employment

### **Q: Can I work or have other income while receiving a scholarship? Is there an income limit?**

**A:** PhD candidates are required to attend full-time and engage continuously in study and research activities.

The PhD Programme Committee may authorize paid work activities, provided they are relevant to the candidate’s training and compatible with the PhD programme’s academic, teaching, and research commitments.

In any case, annual income from such activities must not exceed the annual amount of the PhD scholarship.



The PhD scholarship cannot be combined with:

- other scholarships awarded for any reason, except those granted by national or international institutions to support research periods abroad;
- salaries from public sector employment, including fixed-term contracts.

**Q: I am a public sector employee. How should I manage my contract?**

**A:** Public sector salaries (including fixed-term) are incompatible with receiving a PhD scholarship.

If awarded a scholarship, public employees may renounce it only if the programme offers PhD positions without fellowship.

They must also request a special study leave (*congedo straordinario per motivi di studio*) from their employer (with or without pay).

## Services and Support

**Q: Are there specific support services for PhD candidates with learning disabilities (DSA) or disabilities?**

**A:** Yes. The “[Unifi Include](#)” service is available to ensure full access to higher education and an independent and full university experience. It supports students in overcoming material, cultural, and relational barriers, and provides tools to enhance individual potential and academic success.

**Q: Is a period abroad mandatory?**

**A:** Yes, for a **minimum of 3 months**. The exact duration is specified in the “**Fact Sheet**” for each PhD programme. During the period abroad, the scholarship is **increased by 50%**.