



► Open day Dottorato di Ricerca

Sabrina Pazzagli
Head of the PhD Office



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

Why a PhD Open Day

Objective: to provide comprehensive information about doctoral studies in general, and specifically at the University of Florence, ahead of the upcoming call for applications.

The PhD represents the third and **highest level** of academic **education**.

Unlike traditional degree programmes, which focus on the acquisition of existing knowledge, the PhD is a paradigm shift, where the goal is no longer to assimilate knowledge, but to **produce new knowledge**.

Key concept: from knowledge *acquisition*  to new knowledge *creation*

When was the PhD established in Italy?

It was introduced in 1980 by **Presidential Decree (D.P.R.) no. 382 of July 11, 1980**. It took some time for Universities to organize the programmes, however, and the PhD officially launched a few years later, in 1984 with the 1st cycle.

A "**cycle**" is simply the term used by the Italian university system to track the starting years of PhD programmes.

At the University of Florence, the PhD programme lasts 3 years, **the upcoming 42nd cycle** will begin on November 1st and conclude on October 31st, 2029.

The PhD at the University of Florence

Students enrolled in active cycles (39th, 40th, 41st): **1.106**, divided into **571 women** and **535 men**

Students enrolled with a scholarship or other form of funding: **1.030**

Percentage of students enrolled with a scholarship or other form of funding: **93%**

Cycle 42nd: **31 PhD programmes** belonging to different research areas:

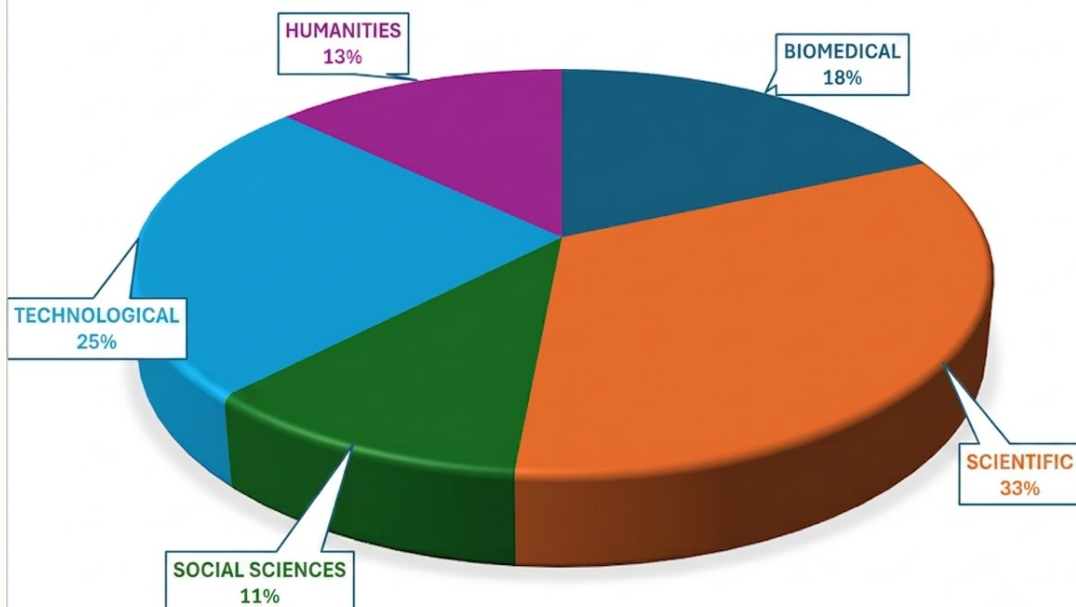
- biomedical (5 programmes)
- scientific (8 programmes)
- social sciences (3 programmes)
- technological (9 programmes)
- humanities (6 programmes)

► Open day

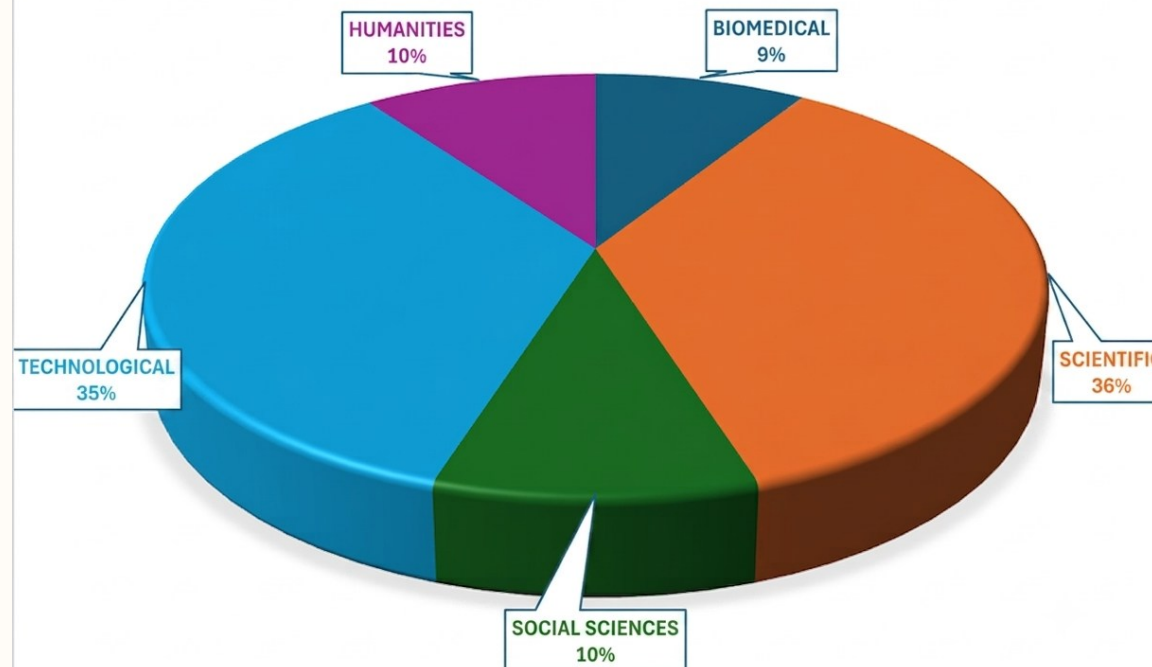
Dottorato di Ricerca

ENROLLED STUDENTS, DISTRIBUTION BY AREA (Cycles 39th-41st) (tot 1.106)

DISTRIBUTION BY AREA,
WOMEN
(total 571)



DISTRIBUTION BY AREA,
MEN
(total 535)



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

DISTRIBUTION BY PHD COURSE – Cycles 39th-41st



Employment rate of PhD graduates

Employment data 1 year after PhD graduation

	PhD Graduates	Almalaurea survey As a percentage of respondents	Employment rate As a percentage of respondents	Started working ONLY after graduation As a percentage of respondents	Average monthly salary
women	135	68,50%	92,60%	56,80%	1.833,00 €
men	142	69,60%	92,40%	58,25%	1.981,00 €
Total / averages	276	69,05%	92,50%	57,53%	1.907,00 €

Employment data 3 year after PhD graduation

	PhD Graduates	Almalaurea survey As a percentage of respondents	Employment rate As a percentage of respondents	Started working ONLY after graduation As a percentage of respondents	Average monthly salary
women	121	72,25%	93,60%	56,80%	1.817,00 €
men	140	69,85%	95,90%	60,40%	2.056,50 €
Total / averages	260	71,05%	94,75%	58,60%	1.936,75 €

Career Opportunities

Career prospects for PhD graduates have evolved significantly in recent years. While in the past a PhD was seen almost exclusively as a mandatory step for an **academic career**, today the degree has become a strategic asset in many other sectors.

- **Research institutions**: public and private (Italy/Abroad)
- **Industry**: many high-tech or innovative companies actively seek PhDs to lead innovation
- **Consulting companies**: for their ability to analyse complex problems and manage long-term projects
- **Public Administration**: challenges of the digital and energy transition

How to Apply

The admission to PhD programmes is subject to a **competitive selection process** based on qualifications, exams and the submission of a research proposal.

Usually, the University of Florence publishes **2 Calls** for applications:

- The **Main call**, scheduled for publication on May 12th
- The **Pegaso Call (only for specific PhD programmes)**, partially funded by the Tuscany Region and scheduled for early July

Admission Requirements

To apply, candidates must hold a **Master's degree** (laurea magistrale or specialistica) or an equivalent foreign qualification. Undergraduate students may also apply, provided they obtain their degree by **October 31, 2026**.

There are no restrictions regarding age or citizenship. For "Pegaso scholarships" funded by the Tuscany Region, however, candidates must be under 35 years of age.

How to submit your Application

The application procedure is **exclusively online**.

Required documents: identity document, CV, Research project, academic qualifications. Additional documents may be required based on the PhD programme of interest (detailed information can be found in the programme factsheet).

Participation fee: € 30,00.

Each candidate will be assigned an identification code, which will replace their name both on the lists of the successfully admitted to the interview and in the final ranking (except for the winners, whose first and last names will be published).

The Call for Applications

Call Analysis: The Call for Applications serves as the absolute legal reference. Reading it thoroughly is mandatory to ensure application compliance and prevent candidate exclusion.

Focus on the Course Sheet: each PhD programme has unique specifications. The factsheet outlines the available positions (with/without scholarship), research topics, evaluation criteria and the examination schedule.

Document Checklist: verify all attachments (CV, Research Project, Qualifications) before final submission on the portal.

Administrative Requirements: complete the payment of the participation fee within the indicated, strict deadlines.

Proactivity and Timing: Time is essential. Upload your documents well ahead of the deadline to avoid potential system overloads during the final days.



DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

IN

Director prof. _____

XLII cycle – academic year 2026/2027

_____ AREA	
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE	Department of _____
WEB	<u>www.</u> _____
CURRICULA	1. _____ 2. _____
POSITIONS AVAILABLE: _ Positions with Scholarship: _ Positions without Scholarship: _	
SCHOLARSHIPS: _	University of Florence
STUDY/RESEARCH PERIODS ABROAD	_ <u>months</u>
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE ADMISSION (<u>under</u> penalty of exclusion)	- Copy of the <u>Identification Document</u> Self-certification for qualifications obtained in Italy (<u>laurea triennale, specialistica o magistrale o ciclo unico</u>) with list of exams taken, credits and related grade, title of the thesis and graduation mark (<u>using this template</u> or similar forms containing the required information) - Qualifications obtained abroad (Bachelor's and <u>Master Degrees</u> or combined cycle Degree) with a list of all exams taken, credits and related grade, rating scale, title of the thesis and graduation mark <i>The same documentation except for the final mark must be submitted by those who will graduate within the 31/10/2026</i>
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE EVALUATION	MANDATORY <u>Research Project</u>

	- Curriculum vitae, related to training activities and research carried out by the candidate, of maximum two folders, as well as an indication of the foreign language (<u>Ita/Eng</u>) chosen for verification - Abstract of the M. Sc. <u>Thesis</u> OPTIONAL - Copy of the M. Sc. <u>Thesis</u> - Copy of <u>thesis chapter</u> - Publications and any other qualification document																		
RESEARCH PROJECT																			
INTERVIEW MODE																			
FURTHER INFORMATION																			
EVALUATION MARKS	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>parameter</u></th> <th>minimum score</th> <th>maximum score</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Curriculum vitae, publications, other qualification documents</td> <td>10/120</td> <td>20/120</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Research Project</u></td> <td>30/120</td> <td>40/120</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 40/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interview (including discussion of the research project)</td> <td>40/120</td> <td>60/120</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>parameter</u>	minimum score	maximum score	Curriculum vitae, publications, other qualification documents	10/120	20/120	<u>Research Project</u>	30/120	40/120	Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 40/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview			Interview (including discussion of the research project)	40/120	60/120	Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120		
<u>parameter</u>	minimum score	maximum score																	
Curriculum vitae, publications, other qualification documents	10/120	20/120																	
<u>Research Project</u>	30/120	40/120																	
Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 40/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview																			
Interview (including discussion of the research project)	40/120	60/120																	
Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120																			

EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULE		
	DATE	TIME
INTERVIEW		
The list of the candidates admitted to the interview and the final ranking will be published at the page PhD courses		

Evaluation Process

- **Pre-selection**, which is based on the assessment of the submitted qualifications and research projects, with the assignment of corresponding scores.
- **Interview** for candidates who meet the minimum score requirement (the PhD programme in Legal Sciences also includes a written exam).

Results

published by **Rector's decree approving the proceedings.**

Self-enrollment

in accordance with the deadlines indicated in the call and/or in the course sheets

The Main Steps*

Main Call

May: publication of the call

→ **June:** call deadline

→ **July:** admission exams

→ **August/September:** ranking lists and enrollment

Pegaso Call

July: publication of the call

→ **August:** call deadline

→ **September:** admission exams

→ **September/October:** ranking lists and enrollment

* Always check the calls for applications for precise deadlines

Structure of the PhD Programmes

- **Coursework:**
acquisition of university credits (ECTS), in accordance with the programme regulations.
- **Soft Skills:**
a minimum of **6** mandatory **ECTS** (1 ECTS = 6 hours).
- **International Mobility:**
a research period abroad of **at least** 3 months (depending on scholarship/course).
- **External Experiences:**
potential training periods at external institutions or companies, which are mandatory for specific types of scholarships.

Internationalisation

The importance of a constant and thorough interaction with the international scientific community

Periods Abroad: mandatory research periods at partner institutions (with an increase in scholarship).

Doctor Europaeus: additional certification of European Excellence.

Joint Supervision: the opportunity to obtain a double degree (Italian and Foreign).

Financial Support During the PhD



Scholarship

≈ 1.200 € month net



Scholarship Increase

≈ 597 € month net (*for 30 days abroad*)



Research Budget 10%

4.872,9 € for three years

Your Future in Research starts here.

✉ **Institutional email**
dottorato@unifi.it

🌐 **Website**
<https://www.unifi.it/en/study-us/after-graduation/phd-programmes>

Take home messages:
Read the call. Mind the deadlines. Invest in your future.

**Thank you for
listening!!**

