

HAVING REGARD TO Law no. 210 of July 3, 1998;

HAVING REGARD TO art. 19 of Law no. 240 of December 30, 2010;

HAVING REGARD TO the Ministerial Decree n. 226 of December 29, 2021;

HAVING REGARD TO the Ministerial Decree no. 247 of February 23, 2022;

HAVING REGARD TO the Statute of the University of Tuscia issued by R.D. no. 480 of 8 June 2012, pursuant to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, and amended by R.D. no. 185 of 11 March 2019;

HAVING REGARD TO the General University Regulations regarding PhDs;

HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the Administrative Council of May 29, 2025;

HAVING REGARD TO the "Procedures for entry, residency and enrolment of international students and the respective recognition of qualifications for higher education courses in Italy", valid for the academic year 2025-2026;

HAVING REGARD TO the Rectoral Decree of July 3, 2025, no. 408, by which the Call for Applications for admission to the PhD Programmes XLI cycle, A.Y. 2025/26, with administrative headquarters at the University of Tuscia in Viterbo, was issued, and subsequently extended by the Rectoral Decree of August 5, 2025, no. 476 (deadline August 20, 2025);

HAVING TAKEN NOTE of the requests from the PhD Coordinators regarding the availability of scholarships not awarded in the previous selection;

PROVIDE THAT all possible modifications, amendments and integrations to the this call will only be communicated on the [Call webpage](#);

DECREES AS FOLLOWS

Art. 1

Call for Applications

1. The University of Tuscia hereby announces a public selection for admission to following PhD Programs for the 41st cycle, academic year 2025/26:

- Engineering for energy and environment;
- Society in change: policies, rights and security.

2. The selection and allocation of additional scholarships concerns specific research topics detailed in the PhD Programme Information Sheet (**Annex 1**) of each programme, available on the [Call webpage](#).

3. The number of scholarship positions may be increased if further funding becomes available after the publication of this Call. Any such updates will be communicated exclusively on the [Call webpage](#).

4. The PhD Programme Information Sheets (**Annex 1**) of each PhD Program are published on the [Call webpage](#), on the Euraxess website (<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/>) and on the [website](#) of the Ministry of University and Research.

Art. 2

PhD positions

1. The positions offered in the competition can be consulted within the individual Information Sheets related to each PhD Programme (**Annex 1**).
2. The Information Sheet of each PhD Programme forms an integral part of this Call. It includes the following detailed information:
 - number of positions and related research topics;
 - admission requirements;
 - selection procedures;
 - evaluation criteria.

Art. 3

Admission requirements

1. Applicants of any citizenship and age can respond to this Call for Applications, provided that they hold one of the following requirements:
 - a) a degree awarded by an Italian University prior to Ministerial Decree 509/99, i.e. laurea vecchio ordinamento (L);
 - b) a second level degree awarded by an Italian University (pursuant to Ministerial Decrees 509/99 and 270/04, i.e. Laurea Magistrale (LM) or Laurea Specialistica (LS));
 - c) second cycle academic qualification issued by the institutions belonging to the AFAM (Higher Artistic and Musical Education) sector suitable for access to PhD studies;
 - d) an international qualification – i.e., obtained abroad – comparable to an Italian second-cycle EHEA (European Higher Education Area) / Level 7 EQF (European Qualifications Framework) degree, recognised as suitable for admission to PhD studies in the country of origin and issued by an officially accredited higher education institution;
 - e) bi-national Master's Degree/second cycle degree (double/multiple degree or joint degree) suitable for access to PhD studies. In this case, applicants may choose which degree to declare for the purpose of the application, or they may apply using the joint degree.

Only requirements and qualifications obtained by the Call for applications deadline may be evaluated.

2. Applicants whose required qualification will be obtained **by December 31, 2025**, may also take the admission exams, under penalty of forfeiture of admission to the program. In such cases, admission will be granted "conditionally" and the candidate must submit, upon enrolment in the program, the certification/self-certification of the degree obtained, under penalty of exclusion
3. Students currently enrolled without a scholarship can participate in competitive exams for the same PhD Programme they are already attending. However, if admitted, they cannot enroll unless they formally resign from their current doctoral position.
4. Applicants who have already held a PhD scholarship, in Italy or abroad (even if partial), are not eligible for a new scholarship.

Those who already hold a PhD are allowed to enrol, upon successfully passing the admission exams, another PhD Programme without scholarship (if they have been already granted one in the previous PhD), provided that topics and main scientific sectors are different from those related to the already obtained PhD.

5. The application will be rejected or the applicant excluded if:
 - the requested documents and information are not provided within the deadline and according to the rules laid down in the Call;

- the academic qualification awarded abroad is not recognized as equivalent to an Italian qualification.
- the “Diploma Supplement” or the “Dichiarazione di valore” issued by the University or the Italian embassy/consulate in the country where the degree was awarded, respectively, or the certification of eligibility issued by CIMEA, is not provided to the PhD Office within the prescribed terms;
- the application fee is not paid by the established deadline;

Art. 4

International qualifications

1. The international academic qualification must be comparable to an Italian second-cycle degree (EHEA, pursuant to the 1999 Bologna Process) or to a Level 7 qualification under the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and must grant access to PhD studies in the country where it was awarded.

2. For the sole purpose of admission to this selection process, the Examination Board (Art. 7) will carry out an assessment of the qualifications in order to determine the eligibility of international qualifications. The assessment regarding the suitability of the international qualification is based on the documentation uploaded with the application for this selection. Should the submitted documentation not provide sufficient elements for the assessment, the Examination Board reserves the right to exclude the applicant.

3. Applicants who hold international qualifications must upload the following documents to the online application system:

a. First-cycle degree (EQF Level 6 (e.g., Bachelor’s Degree) and second-cycle degree EQF Level 7 (e.g., Master’s Degree) or a single-cycle degree granting access to PhD studies in the country where the qualification was awarded. These qualifications must have been issued by an officially recognized academic institution and must indicate the degree award date and, where available, the final grade obtained.

b. Official transcripts of records for both the first- and second-cycle degrees, listing all examinations taken and the corresponding grades.

c. For qualifications issued in countries that are not signatories to the Lisbon Recognition Convention and/or in non-EU countries: Comparability and Verification Certificates issued by an ENIC-NARIC centre (for Italy, the designated centre is [CIMEA](#)) or, where available, a Diploma Supplement.

d. For qualifications issued in countries that are signatories to the Lisbon Recognition Convention and/or in EU countries:

- a Diploma Supplement

or, where the Diploma Supplement is not available,

- a certificate of correspondence that can be independently downloaded from the [ARDI](#) (Automatic Recognition Database), and

- a verification certificate issued by an ENIC-NARIC centre (for Italy, [CIMEA](#) is the designated centre). Please note that, as a secondary option, the “*Dichiarazione di Valore in loco*” issued by the local Italian Embassy or Consulate in the country where the degree was awarded may be accepted, but only if neither a Diploma Supplement nor ENIC-NARIC certification is available;

Failure to provide the documents referred to in points a) and b) of this article will result in exclusion from the selection process. Candidates admitted to the PhD programme must in any case submit the documents referred to in point c) or d) (as applicable) by 31 January 2026, otherwise their admission will be revoked.

Applicants whose degrees will be awarded after the call deadline must upload their first cycle degree (Bachelor's degree) and the Transcript of records of first and second cycle degree programmes or of single cycle degree programme.

The transcript must include the grades obtained in the individual exams and the degree grade scale. The candidate may be required at any time to submit further documents to verify the eligibility of his/her degree.

If the official documents are issued in a language other than Italian, English, or French, a complete translation into Italian, English, or French must be submitted. Such translation must be certified as conforming to the original by the issuing institution, by an Italian Embassy/Consulate, or by an authority recognized by the Italian Embassy/Consulate, and must be uploaded to the platform.

4. The results of the eligibility assessment carried out by the Examination Board will be published exclusively on the Doctoral School website, on the [Call webpage](#).

This publication serves as an official notification for all legal purposes; therefore, candidates will not receive any personal communication regarding the eligibility results.

Art. 5

Application and deadline

1. Applications must be completed and submitted through the online platform **by the 22 December 2025 at 12.00 a.m.** (noon) Central Europe Time.

Applications must be submitted only through the online [Student Portal](#).

2. Applicants must first register on the Student Portal (Portale dello Studente) platform to get the credentials (username and password) needed to access the sign-up process. Detailed instructions are available on the [Call webpage](#).

Qualifications and documents required by the chosen PhD program and indicated in the Programme Information Sheet (**Annex 1**) must be uploaded within the application.

Qualifications and documents must be attached as .pdf files and must not exceed 10MB each. Each file's name must include the candidate's surname and the type of qualification (e.g., **surname_curriculumvitae**).

At the end of the online application procedure, candidates must pay a € 25,00 application fee. This can be done either directly by credit card (the preferable option for applicants residing abroad) or by printing the PagoPA bulletin and paying at banks, post offices, and authorized stores. This payment is compulsory for each application submitted.

The fee paid for participation in the selection will not be refundable under any circumstances, including failing to submit the application.

Applications received by email or any method other than the online platform will not be considered.

Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered, and applicants will be excluded from the selection procedure.

If applying to more than one PhD Program, each application must be accompanied by the relevant qualifications and required documents.

3. Applicants with a disability can benefit from 50% additional time.

Upon request, applicants with a specific learning disorder can benefit from 30% additional time.

These requests must be submitted following the information available in the online application procedure.

4. Applicants are kindly invited to submit their application well in advance of the deadline.

Applicants are responsible for verifying the correct completion of the online procedure. After the submission is completed through the online procedure, it's not possible to make changes or add documentation.

Complaints pertaining to any system malfunctioning due to website traffic overload close to the deadline won't be accepted.

Art. 6

Entrance examinations

1. The comparative evaluation of the candidates is aimed at assessing the applicant's attitude to scientific research and it will be carried out according to the criteria outlined in the PhD Programme Information Sheet (**Annex 1**).

The evaluation of candidates will be based on:

- an assessment of academic qualifications;
- an oral examination. It includes an assessment of English language knowledge.

2. The schedule for the oral examination, specifying the method, day, month, and time at which it will take place, will be published on the Research Doctorate webpage of the University website **by the call deadline**. This publication will serve as the official convocation of the candidates.

Candidates admitted to the oral examinations will bring a valid identity document as per current legislation.

3. The oral exams will take place in person. Applicants who do not live in Italy may choose to take the oral exam via videoconference, by submitting a specific request. The form is available on the [Call webpage](#).

In the event of impediments arising after the submission of the application, the candidate must submit a reasoned request to be forwarded by email for the attention of the Examination Board.

In these cases, the candidate must communicate their connection address (account details) to the email address dottorati@unitus.it, which will be used by the Examination Board for the video call.

At the interview, candidates must present the ID they have attached to their application form for the purpose of identification.

Non-provision or incorrect indication of the videoconference address, unavailability of the candidate at the day and time established by the selection committee, and non-presentation of the identity document will constitute grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure.

The University of Tuscia declines all responsibility for any unforeseen technical problem impeding the oral examination conducted via videoconference.

4. If the number of candidates doesn't allow for a single-day exam session, it will be extended into the following days; the schedule will be published on the University website.

5. Any change in the date, timetable or location of the exams will be published on the university website mentioned above; applicants will not receive any convocation notice from the University.

Art. 7

Examination Boards

1. The Examination Board is composed according to the University Regulations about the PhD Programmes.

There is one Examination Board for each PhD Programme and it is responsible for the whole selection and evaluation procedure, from the eligibility and minutes drafting step to the interview and the drawing up of the final ranking list.

The Board composition will be published on the [Call webpage](#) after the Call for applications deadline.

2. The Selection Boards' first action is to decide, if not already specified, the criteria and procedures for evaluating applications.

Art. 8

Selection and ranking

1. The final ranking lists will be published on the [Call webpage](#).

The rankings will report the sum of the scores obtained in the admission exams and evaluation of qualifications.

Applicants will be admitted to the PhD Programmes following the order of merit within each ranking list. In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, the younger candidate will have priority in the ranking.

The rankings will be approved by Rector's Decree.

2. Should a scholarship winner withdraw or fail to enroll, the scholarship will be reassigned, based on score, to the next eligible candidate on the list.

3. A candidate admitted contemporarily to two or more PhD programmes must choose only one to attend.

Art. 9

Enrollment Procedure

1. Once admission procedures have ended and have been approved, the ranking lists will be published on the [Call webpage](#).

Following the publication of the ranking list on the website, a communication will be sent to the successful candidates at the email address indicated during the application submission phase. The notice will include the enrollment schedule and procedures.

Successful candidates who do not comply with these procedures will lose the right to their place, which will be offered to the next-ranked candidate.

2. If candidates withdraw from the course within one month from its beginning, the vacant places will be reassigned to the next candidates in the merit ranking list. These candidates will be duly informed by e-mail and, if interested, will have to enroll and pay the enrollment fee within the mandatory deadline of 3 days from the receipt of the e-mail. After that time, the candidate will be considered as having forfeited the position.

If a candidate benefits from a fellowship, they will be required to pay back any installments already received. The remaining part of the fellowship will be reassigned by the University to another PhD according to the ranking list.

3. Those awaiting graduation **by December 31, 2025**, must notify dottorati@unitus.it of their intention to enroll in the doctorate as soon as the required qualification is obtained. A scanned copy of a valid identity document must be attached to the email, or the application will be excluded. Failure to submit the aforementioned communication will be considered a waiver of the position.

4. Selected non-EU citizens residing abroad, once enrolled and the required fee has been paid, must submit a photocopy of their residence permit or a copy of the application made to the Offerta Formativa Office within 15 days of their arrival in Italy

. The enrollment procedure will be accessible through the [Student Portal](#). To complete the enrollment, it is necessary to follow the instructions published on the [Call webpage](#).

Art. 10

PhD Scholarships

1. The scholarship, pursuant to Ministerial Decree 247/2022, amounts to €16,243.00 gross per year, paid on a monthly basis. This amount includes National Insurance Contributions (INPS), which scholarship recipients are required to pay.

The gross annual taxable income limit for PhD scholarship eligibility is set at €14,000.00, excluding the scholarship itself.

2. Scholarship payments cover the entire duration of the PhD course.

Scholarships financed by external bodies are disbursed only once the respective institutions have transferred the owed funds to Tuscia University

3. Scholarship payments are made on a monthly basis.

The scholarship amount can be increased by up to 50% for authorized research periods spent abroad, for a maximum of 12 months. This increase can extend to a maximum of 18 months for doctoral students pursuing a joint thesis supervision agreement with Tuscia University and a foreign institution

4. Each PhD student, whether or not they receive a scholarship, is allocated a research budget for activities in Italy and abroad. This budget amounts to 10% of the scholarship value, in accordance with Ministerial Decree No. 226/2021, Art. 9.

5. The cases of total or partial incompatibility with the receipt of the scholarship are established by current legislation. In particular, doctoral scholarships cannot be combined with research grants/contracts and with funding referred to in the MUR Youth Fund, nor with other scholarships awarded for any reason, except for those granted by national or foreign institutions that supplement the fellows' training or research activities through stays abroad.

6. In case of incompatibility, students will have to reimburse any amounts unduly received. Reimbursements refer to an academic year or fraction thereof. Students cannot be awarded the doctoral scholarship twice.

Art. 11

Incompatibility

1. For the incompatibility regime, please refer to the provisions of the Italian current legislation

Art. 12

Ethical Code

1. PhD students will be required to abide by the provisions of the University of Tuscia Code of Ethics, available at the following link [Code of Ethical Conduct](#).

Art. 13

Tuition fees

1. PhD students who benefit from a doctoral scholarship, pursuant to Ministerial Decree (D.M.) 226/2021, are exempt from paying tuition fees. However, they are required to pay the annual virtual stamp duty of €16.00 and the annual regional tax for the right to education of €140.00.

2. Students with a recognized disability equal to or greater than 66%, as well as students who are recipients or eligible for a scholarship from the Lazio Region for the Right to University Education (DSU), a.y. 2025/26, are exempt from paying the regional tax.
3. Withdrawal after enrolment or exclusion from the PhD program does not entitle the student to a refund of the contributions paid

Art. 14

Duties of Ph.D. students

1. PhD courses will last no less than 3 years and will begin **on January 2, 2026**. Admission to the PhD program requires an exclusive full-time commitment, as per the University of Tuscia's PhD Course Regulations. Doctoral students must carry out their curricular activities in accordance with the procedures and timelines established by the Professors' Board of the PhD program.
2. For doctoral students from outside Europe who require a visa to enter Italy, the option to begin research activities remotely is available, subject to the positive opinion of the Doctoral Course Coordinator. This option is granted upon proof of visa application submission at the relevant Embassy or Consulate, which must be provided as soon as the application procedure is completed. Arrival in Italy must take place **by February 28, 2026**.

Art. 15

Final examination

1. At the end of their doctoral training, PhD students will take a final examination. For this, they must submit a written thesis demonstrating scientifically relevant results. To be admitted to the final examination, candidates must submit their doctoral thesis by the established deadline. The terms and conditions for both admission to the final examination and thesis submission are announced annually.

Art. 16

Intellectual property of research results and publications

1. Intellectual and industrial property rights concerning any findings by PhD students are governed by current legislation (Copyright Law - Legislative Decree 633/1941 - and Industrial Property Code - Legislative Decree 30/2005), by the University's Regulations for the management of industrial and intellectual property rights regarding research activities conducted by university personnel, and, where applicable, as stipulated in individual agreements with participating universities, companies, or other entities.
2. Applicants who are awarded scholarships funded by external entities acknowledge and accept the intellectual and industrial property provisions stipulated in the agreement between the University and the funding body. The doctoral students' inalienable moral right to be recognized as authors or inventors remains intact.
3. PhD students are, in all cases, guaranteed the opportunity to engage in the normal publication activities foreseen by the program. These activities must be scheduled in a manner compatible with the protection of any intellectual property.

Art. 17

Personal Data Processing

1. Pursuant to art. 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679, the information supplied by candidates will be gathered by the PhD Office and used for the management of the admission competitions and of the possible candidates' academic career. Granting consent for the handling of personal data is therefore mandatory and failure to do so will result in candidates' exclusion from the competition.
2. The information provided by the candidates will be communicated to the Tuscia University administrative offices and to the departments directly concerned with the legal and financial positions of the successful candidates.
3. Candidates are entitled to the rights stated in art. 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679, including access to their personal data, its modification, updating, integration, cancellation etc., and likewise reserve the right to oppose any use of the data other than the institutional purposes stated above.
4. Personal information and documents provided by applicants will be treated by the University respecting the discipline described at <https://www.unitus.it/ateneo/privacy/>.

Art. 18

Head of Administrative Procedures

1. The Manager of Administrative Procedures, under Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990 and subsequent modifications and additions is Mr. Paolo A. Capuani, Head of the Educational Offer Office, via S. Maria in Gradi n. 4, Viterbo. For information please contact the email address dottorati@unitus.it.
2. Candidates have the right to exercise access to the procedural documents in accordance with current legislation. Requests for access to the documents must be sent to the University's PEC (Certified Electronic Mail) address protocollo@pec.unitus.it, using the form published at the following link: <https://www.unitus.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/domanda-diritto-accesso-agli-atti.pdf>.

Art. 19

Final regulations

1. For all matters that are not expressly disciplined by this call, please refer to the specific rules governing this area and to the [University PhD Regulations](#).
2. This is a translation of the Call for Application for PhD Courses. Its purpose is to provide foreign students with necessary information. Only the Italian version of this call for applications will be binding in case of controversies.

Prof. Tiziana LAURETI