

# CALL FOR PHD POSITIONS

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## Doctoral Programme in PSYCHOLOGY AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE

Cycle 42

Academic Year 2026/2027

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N.B. The English translation of this document is provided as a courtesy to the student community and has no legal standing. The Italian version, issued by Rector's Decree n. 339 of 15 April 2026 constitutes the sole authentic text and will be referred to in any legal matters.

## Art. 1 – SUBJECT OF THE CALL

The University of Trento announces the 42<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the Doctoral Programme in Psychology and Cognitive Science for the 2026/2027 academic year.

<b>Application deadline:</b>	<b>21 May 2026, 4:00PM</b> (Italian time)
<b>Positions:</b>	<b>n. 12</b>
<b>Scholarships:</b>	<b>n. 12</b>
<b>Supernumerary positions:</b>	<b>n. 1</b> (available for candidates who fulfil the requirements set out in art. 8).

The grants (three years) are financed as follows:

- **n. 6 grants** financed by the **University of Trento**;
- **n. 3 grants** financed by **Fondazione Bruno Kessler** on the following topics:
  - A Study of Evaluation Methodologies in Digital Games: Integrating Multimodal Player Data and Peripheral Indexes;
  - Enhancing Speech Language Models for Pathological Speech Analysis;
  - Cognitive and Motivational Mechanisms for Active Citizen Engagement in Urban Digital Twins;
- **n. 1 grant** financed by the **Department of Psychology and Cognitive Science** within the Project “Transparency in bodily and vocal signals: a tool for metacognition” (MUR\_FIS\_Fondo Italiano per la Scienza – CUP E53C25003260001) on the following topic:
  - “Transparency in bodily and vocal signals: a tool for metacognition”
- **n. 1 grant** financed by the **Department of Psychology and Cognitive Science** within the Project “Impact Evaluation of an Integrated Model for Teacher Training and Neurodivergent Student Inclusion” on the following topic:
  - “Impact Evaluation of an Integrated Model for Teacher Training and Neurodivergent Student Inclusion”;
- **n. 1 grant** co-financed by **MUSE- Museo delle Scienze di Trento** on the following topic:
  - “Cognition and symbolic production in Late Glacial Alpine and pre-Alpine contexts”.

Furthermore, candidates selected by dedicated committees are also eligible for the 42<sup>nd</sup> cycle, as they are involved in specific international mobility programs in which the University of Trento participates.

Topic-specific grants are conditional to the execution of a particular research topic for which specific skills are required. Those interested in these grants should carefully check the topic and required skillset indicated on the web page [phd.unitn.it/drsc/en/node/182](http://phd.unitn.it/drsc/en/node/182).

The number of places covered by scholarships and/or by internship contracts and by other potential financial support may be increased by funds from other universities, public research bodies or prestigious private companies, that become available after the publication of this announcement and before the evaluation of qualifications. Such occurrence will be communicated online, and nowhere else, at this [selection's webpage](#).

The application procedures for topic-specific scholarships that become available after the publication of this call will be announced on the selection webpage.

**Scholarship amount:** The annual gross amount of the scholarship is Euro 18.345,00 (Tier I)

**Information about scholarships:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/fees-scholarships-accommodation/scholarships-and-awards/phd-scholarships>

**Duration:** 3 years

**Beginning of the academic year:** 1 November 2026

**Programme Director:** Barbara Treccani (e-mail: [barbara.treccani@unitn.it](mailto:barbara.treccani@unitn.it))

**Doctorate website:** <http://phd.unitn.it/drsc/en>

**Selection website:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/phd/cognitive-science>

**Webpage about rights and duties of PhD students:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/register/information-phd-students/rights-and-duties-phd-students>

**Official language of the Doctoral Programme:** Italian and English

All doctoral students are encouraged to learn Italian during their studies.

**Information about the scholarship:** <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/fees-scholarships-accommodation/scholarships-and-awards/phd-scholarships>



### IMPORTANT

- a. The dates of the selection process and all results (interim and final), any exclusion ex officio from the selection due to incomplete applications (see Art. 4 below), and exclusion due to foreign qualifications not recognized as eligible (see Art. 2 below), will be published on the competition webpage, with reference made **solely to the application ID**, which is displayed during the application process and in the submission confirmation email. This publication shall serve as official notification for all legal purposes and no personal communications will be sent.
- b. Without prejudice to the provisions of this article and the following art. 5 co. 7 and 6 co. 5, any notifications relating to the application will be emailed to the address linked to the account registered upon application. Candidates who are still enrolled or have recently graduated from the University of Trento are advised to check that their email address is valid at this link: [Profile data](#). Any changes to personal contact details after the application is closed should be communicated to the PhD Office - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area ([phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it)).

## Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications for admission to the selection process are accepted from candidates regardless of nationality, who hold:
  - a) an Italian “Laurea Specialistica o Magistrale” (Master’s Degree) according to Ministerial Decree no. 270 of 22 October 2004, or a university degree awarded under the previous Italian regulations;
  - b) or a second-level university degree issued by an Italian “AFAM” Institute (Alta Formazione Artistica e Musicale/Artistic and Musical Higher Education);
  - c) or an equivalent degree qualification obtained abroad (Master’s Degree) at a recognized academic institution, which:
    - allows access to an equivalent PhD course in the country/higher education system of origin (unless substantial differences are encountered);
    - is equivalent to the Italian *Laurea Magistrale* (Master’s Degree), in terms of duration, level<sup>1</sup> and subject area<sup>2</sup>;
    - is considered suitable<sup>3</sup> by the Admission Committee for the sole purpose of the admission to the PhD Programme.
2. Applications are also accepted from candidates who do not hold the required degree but expect to obtain it, **by 31 October 2026**. In this cases admission is "conditional" and applicants must submit the degree certificate or a self-declaration to the PhD Office - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area (email: [phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it)) **no later than November 6 2026. Failure to provide the certificate will lead to exclusion.**
3. It's in the applicant's best interest to provide all elements necessary for evaluation, especially in case the educational system of the country where the title was obtained is not comparable with the Italian one.  
The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to ask applicants to provide additional documentation, if deemed necessary, in order to be considered for the selection.
4. Candidates who have already obtained a PhD degree can apply for a second PhD Programme only if its main research topics and scientific-disciplinary fields are different from those of the candidate's first Doctoral Programme. For applicants who have already benefited - even partially - from a doctoral scholarship in the past, the admission to the new PhD Programme can't be covered by a scholarship<sup>4</sup>.
5. The list of candidates' IDs whose academic degree has been considered not eligible for the admission selection by the Evaluation Committee will be available at the [selection's webpage](#).

## Art. 3 – THE DOCTORATE PROGRAMME AND RESEARCH AREAS

1. The Programme is shown on the web page of the doctoral course [phd.unitn.it/drsc/en/node/184](http://phd.unitn.it/drsc/en/node/184).

IMPORTANT: In the second year, all enrolled PhD students are required to spend a study period of research abroad for a minimum of six months.

### Research Areas:

#### *Psychology*

Attention and executive function

Behavior analysis and modification

Development of psychometric models of cognitive functions

<sup>1</sup> The foreign qualification must be a second-level degree according to the Bologna Process (EQF level 7 / 2nd cycle QF-EHEA).

<sup>2</sup> For more information on the Italian University system visit the webpage: <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/study/new-degrees.html>

<sup>3</sup> The eligibility of the foreign qualifications is assessed by the Admission Committee in accordance with the legislation in force and with international treaties or agreements concerning the recognition of qualifications for continuing the studies.

<sup>4</sup> [Opinion from the National University Council \(CUN\)](#) of 20 March 2008; Note from the Ministry of Education University and Research (MIUR) of 14 September 2010 n. 1746; art.6 par.2 of Law n.398 of 1989 “Regulations about university scholarships”.



Emotions and emotional regulation  
Epistemological foundations of cognitive science  
Gender and gender relations  
Judgment, decision-making and reasoning in law, economics and health  
Learned regulation of brain signals  
Parenting: biology and environmental factors  
Psychology and Clinical research methodology  
Psychology of Language, Linguistics and Neurolinguistics  
Social cognition and intergroup relations  
Statistical and psychometric techniques for complex data  
Typical and atypical development  
Work, organizational and personnel psychology

#### *Cognitive Technologies*

Automatic analysis of human behavior  
(Automatic) Natural language processing  
Cognitive ergonomics and interaction with intelligent systems  
Interaction with Big Data and decision-making  
Technology for education

#### *Education and training*

Inclusive processes in educational contexts  
Media, eLearning and Learning Communities online in educational processes  
Quality of education and training process

## Art. 4 – APPLICATION

1. The application must be completed and submitted by **21 May 2026 - 4:00 p.m. (Italian time)**, exclusively through the online system: <https://www.unitn.it/en/apply/dott> which will be available within three working days from the date of publication of the notice.
2. Applicants can access the online registration procedure in one of the following ways<sup>5</sup>:
  - **with a SPID account or CIE** (Electronic Identity Card): those who have an Italian Tax Code (codice fiscale) and an Italian identity document must access the registration with CIE (more information at <https://www.cartaidentita.interno.gov.it/en/home/>) or with SPID, the Italian Public Digital Identity System, which automatically certifies the identity of the person on the UniTrento systems and sets up an @unitn.it account.  
To request the SPID identity (useful for accessing various online services of the Italian Public Administration), please consult the website <https://www.spid.gov.it/en/what-is-spid/how-to-activate-spid/>
  - **with a UniTrento account**: those who already have an account issued by the University can access the registration procedure with the username they already have (name.surname@unitn.it).  
If you do not remember your password or for further information on UniTrento username and password: [Account@unitn.it](mailto:Account@unitn.it)
  - **registration of UniTrento "guest" account**: anyone who does not have an Italian Tax Code can register a temporary account as a "guest". After enrollment, this account will be converted into a definitive@unitn.it account.  
To register a guest account: <https://webapps.unitn.it/Registration/en/Home>.
3. Participation in the selection process is subject to the payment of a non-reimbursable application fee of **€30.00 by pagoPa system**<sup>6</sup>, as indicated in the appropriate section of the application ('Selection participation fee').
4. **Administration highly recommends that candidates make sure to have received the notification email confirming that their application has been successfully completed and submitted. UniTrento refuses any responsibility for all those applications not properly closed by candidates.**
5. Candidates will be considered totally responsible of their applications. Incomplete or irregular applications, missing attachments, non-payment of the participation fee, or applications transmitted in ways other than those set out in this article, shall not be considered valid and candidates will consequently be excluded from the selection process.
6. All applicants are admitted to the selection **conditionally upon ascertaining that they fulfil the admission requirements**.  
The University of Trento has the right to verify the documents delivered pursuant to articles 71 et seq. of the Presidential Decree n. 445 of the 28.12.2000.
7. **A candidate whose submitted degree does not satisfy the requirements specified in art. 2 or if the information provided in the application is not true, may be excluded at any time from the selection process or even after enrolment and the beginning of the PhD course.**
8. According to Italian Law n. 104/92, Art. 20 and to Italian Law n. 68/99, Art. 16 (1), applicants with special needs or with learning disabilities, according to their particular disability may explicitly request special assistance or extra time during the examinations in

<sup>5</sup> To those who need a guest account we suggest to register well in advance of the deadline. It can take up to three working days for credentials to be issued.

<sup>6</sup> More information at <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/fees-scholarships-accommodation/tuition-fees/how-pay-your-fees>



their online application. In this regard, the data will be processed in compliance with the regulations in force as indicated in the information on the processing of personal data (art. 10 of this call).

9. The application is to be considered for all purposes in law as a self-certification of personal data and declared qualifications.
10. **COMPULSORY ATTACHMENTS** (failure to upload one or more compulsory attachments results in expulsion from the selection)<sup>7</sup>:

**A. Identity document (ID):**

a copy of the **identity card** (for EU citizens) or of the **passport** (pages with photo, personal data, place and time of issue of the document, expiration date of the document);

**B. Documents related to the academic degree:**

**a. Italian qualification**

- **already obtained/to be obtained: a self-declaration**, in accordance with the Presidential Decree Article 46 n. 445 of 28.12.2000 and subsequent amendments, stating:
  - the possession / not possession of the degree (see Art. 2),
  - type of degree / degree to be obtained,
  - “Classe di laurea”,
  - award date and final grade / possible award date,
  - issuing University,
  - list of **examinations taken**, date of successful passing, credits and grades obtained. A **fac-simile** is available for download on the selection webpage, but similar documents are also accepted as long as they contain the information required in the call. Graduates from the University of Trento may only declare the place and the date of award / foreseen date of award as the other information can be collected ex officio.

*Italian degree applicants who **have not yet obtained their degree**, who expect to complete it by **October 31, 2026** and therefore “**conditionally**” admitted to the selection, need also to provide a statement from the thesis supervisor or other academic/administrative supervisor/staff declaring that conferral of the University degree will occur by **31 October 2026**.*

**b. Foreign qualification**

- **already obtained:**
  - a **certificate attesting to the possession of a second level university qualification** (see art. 2 paragraph 1 letter c), issued by the institution that awarded it. The certificate must indicate the type of diploma, the date it was awarded and the relative grade;
  - the **list of examinations** taken to obtain the qualification to access a Doctoral Programme (academic transcript of records of the Master’s degree) with relative credits (if provided for in the university system of the country that awarded the qualification), marks, and rating scale. If the university studies carried out abroad are divided into first and second level, the Bachelor’s degree and the list of examinations taken to obtain that degree (academic transcript of records of the Bachelor’s degree) should also be attached.

If the foreign academic qualification has already been recognized as equivalent<sup>8</sup> to a second cycle Italian qualification **by the competent academic bodies of Italian universities**, the equivalence provision (Rectoral Decree) must be attached in the appropriate section of the online application.

- **to be obtained (the following two points refer to foreign degree applicants who have not yet obtained their degree, who expect to complete it by 31 October 2026 and are therefore “conditionally” admitted to the selection):**
  - a **certificate of enrolment in a course of study that allows admission to a Doctoral Programme** (see art. 2 paragraph 1 letter c), with a **list of the examinations** successfully passed, credits obtained in each examination (if provided for in the university system of the country that awarded the qualification), marks, rating scale (academic transcript of records) and the possible award date. If the university studies carried out abroad are divided into first and second level, the Bachelor’s degree and the list of examinations taken to obtain that degree (academic transcript of records of the Bachelor’s degree) should also be attached.
  - a **letter signed by the thesis supervisor** or other academic/administrative supervisor/staff stating that the candidate will obtain the academic title **by 31 October 2026**.

<sup>7</sup> The list of candidates (identified by their ID #) who are not deemed eligible due to an incomplete application, will be published at <https://www.unitn.it/en/phd/cognitive-science>.

<sup>8</sup> Details at <https://www.cimea.it/EN/pagina-riconoscimento-accademico>



If the aforementioned documents are different from Italian or English, they must be accompanied by a translation in Italian or in English, made provisionally by the applicant who takes responsibility for the accuracy of the translation and its compliance with the original text, in order to allow the Admission Committee to evaluate the eligibility of the certificate, for the sole purpose of participation participating in this admissions process.

In addition, if available, also the following documents:

- Academic degree (diploma) of the required title (Master of Science/Art or equivalent) in the original language;
- *Diploma Supplement*<sup>9</sup>(according to the model developed by the European Commission, the Council of Europe and UNESCO / CEPES), or;
- *Declaration of value*<sup>10</sup> which certifies that the educational qualification is valid in the country of achievement for being admitted to Doctoral Programme (third level of higher education according to the Bologna Process - European Higher Education Area; EQF level 8), or;
- the *Statement of comparability - university qualification*<sup>11</sup> awarded by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA) that contains all the information necessary for the evaluation of the qualification.

- C. **Motivation letter** (in Italian or in English) indicating why you chose to join a PhD and in particular the PhD program in Psychology and Cognitive Science;
- D. **Curriculum vitae et studiorum** (in Italian or in English, preferably using [the Europass model](#)) including any research skills obtained by the applicants, any other academic degrees (2nd level Masters, PhD degrees, specializations, other high school education, etc.), or any other document relevant to the topic of the call (list of publications, participation in conferences, etc.);
- E. **Research project (only one)** in Italian or in English language (approximately 3,000 words, excluding references and abstracts) accompanied by abstract (approximately 150 words) and bibliography. It is to be filled in following the guidelines of the document "schema\_progetto.pdf" available on the [selection's webpage](#), related to one of the research areas listed in Art. 3. The project have to be potentially feasible in the Doctoral Course with the supervising of a component of the PhD Committee (please check the areas of interest of teachers at link [phd.unitn.it/drsc/en/node/181](#) and the topic-specific grants page at [phd.unitn.it/drsc/en/node/182](#)).

**Only one research proposal per candidate is allowed.**

#### 11. OPTIONAL ATTACHMENTS:

- List of publications;
- summary of the master' thesis (rationale, research methods, results and implications)
- copy of the degree dissertation;
- document reporting any other relevant information about the role, and the skills acquired, during research related experiences;
- certificates (if any) proving the knowledge of the English language;
- any other documents useful to demonstrate the candidates' research skills and their abilities;
- Up to **two Academic Reference Forms**<sup>12</sup> filled out by experts structured as University staff or in national or international research organizations. Within 24 hours of completing and saving the online *Referees* section, the online application system sends an email directly to *Referees* chosen by the applicant with the attached form and instructions on filling it out and transmitting it to the University. It is highly recommended that applicants verify that their *Referees* send the *Academic Reference Forms* no later than the first step of the selection process begins (see dates and details at the selection's webpage.

12. Should candidates wish to add and/or change further documentation to the application after having already submitted the application, they may do so **by the deadline of the selection announcement** emailing [ateneo@unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@unitn.it). In this case, **the subject line should be:** *Application ID - Candidate's Last Name and Name – Doctoral Course in Psychology and Cognitive Science 4<sup>2nd</sup> cycle - "integrazione domanda"*, and the body of the email should contain a note explaining the purpose of the additional or changed attached documentation<sup>13</sup>.

**Documentation sent by other means will not be accepted.**

<sup>9</sup> The Diploma Supplement is a document attached to the final qualification, intended to improve international "transparency" and to facilitate academic and professional qualification recognition (diplomas, degrees, certificates etc.). The Diploma Supplement must be issued by the same institution which has given the diploma.  
<http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/il-sistema-italiano-di-istruzione-superiore/diploma-supplement.aspx>

<sup>10</sup> See: <http://www.cimea.it/en/servizi/procedure-di-riconoscimento-dei-titoli/glossario.aspx>; <http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-07.html>

<sup>11</sup> The University of Trento signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association for the evaluation and verification services of foreign qualifications through the use of the [Diplome platform](#). The statement of comparability of qualifications relating to the 55 countries of the Lisbon Convention can be downloaded directly and free of charge through [ARDI - Automatic Recognition Database Italia](#).

<sup>12</sup> In case the two reference forms are not available the candidate will not be excluded by the selection procedure.

<sup>13</sup> Please verify that the file name is suitable and accurate.

## Art. 5 – APPLICANT EVALUATION

1. Upon hearing the Doctoral Programme Committee the Rector appoints the Admissions Committee. It consists of at least three members chosen among Italian and foreign professors and researchers, who are experts in the scientific areas of the Doctorate. The Committee may also include up to two experts, even foreign, of public and private national and international research organizations.
2. The selection exams are intended to assess the applicant's preparation and aptitude towards scientific research with specific reference to the chosen research topic.
3. The **selection** takes place as follows:
  - evaluation of curriculum vitae, qualifications and research proposal (according to above Art. 4) on the basis of criteria established at the beginning of the selection process by the admissions Committee;
  - an interview intended to assess the research knowledge and the attitude of the candidate to the research in the fields of the research project presented. The selection may be held in Italian or in English language prior authorization by the Admission Committee. In any case, candidates have to demonstrate a good knowledge of English.

Regarding the **evaluation of qualifications** and the research project proposal, the committee will use the following criteria and parameters in its assessment:

- *criteraion 1*: academic background, curriculum vitae et studiorum, motivation letter, relevant certifications, research experiences, and publications. The following sub-criteria will be taken into consideration:
  - I. academic curriculum;
  - II. research experiences, publications, conference presentations, and motivation letter;
  - III. training courses and other educational experiences;
- *criteraion 2*: research project (also assessed in relation to its feasibility within the PhD programme). For scholarships with a specific theme, the relevance of the proposed project to the research theme will also be evaluated. The following sub-criteria will be taken into consideration:
  - I. theoretical framework;
  - II. project originality and consistency of the interpretative hypothesis;
  - III. proposed methodology and project feasibility;
  - IV. linguistic appropriateness and clarity of argument and presentation.

Regarding the **oral exam**, it will focus on verifying basic knowledge of the topics covered by the PhD programme, with particular reference to the research project presented, previous research experiences, and the candidate's motivations.

The Committee will apply the following criteria and parameters:

- a) degree of knowledge and mastery of the project's themes;
  - b) aptitude, skills, and research motivation;
  - c) clarity of presentation and argumentative ability;
  - d) level of English language proficiency.
4. Candidates who intend to compete also for a **topic-specific grant**, indicated in article n.1 of this call, must express their interest in the online application and present a project related to the specific topic; they will be evaluated on the knowledge of the specific subject matter(s) of that grant during the interview.
  5. Candidates may also opt for topic-specific grants made available after this call's publication. In order to be considered for the additional topic-specific grant/s, the candidates must express their intention to the Admissions Committee before the assessments of qualifications, following the instructions given at the [selection's webpage](#) in case of new available scholarships. In such case, their knowledge on the specific topic of the scholarships will be evaluated during the interview.
  6. The option for a topic-specific grant expressed by a candidate implies the preference of the candidate for the award of that specific scholarship with respect to all others.
  7. The Admissions Committee has an overall score of 120 points available, partitioned in the following way:
    - 60 points for the qualification's assessment;
    - 60 points for the oral examination.In order to be admitted to the interview candidates must reach a minimum score of 36/60 in the assessment of qualifications and research project.
  8. The results of the assessment of the qualifications and of the oral exam will be published at the [selection's webpage](#)<sup>14</sup>.
  9. The candidate may choose to be interviewed in one of the following two ways:
    - a) in presence, at the University of Trento.  
In this case the candidate must show a valid ID document before the interview begins. Should the candidate fail to attend the interview for whatever reason this will be considered as renunciation of participation in the selection procedure;
    - b) by videoconference through the use of audio-video connection tools that allow the correct identification of the participants (through a webcam) and the carrying out of the interview in public.

<sup>14</sup> The chosen candidates will be listed using their application ID



The starting time of the interviews are established by the Commission. The candidate must first show the same identity document attached to the application. Failure to connect or unavailability at the established date and time or failure to show the identification document, will result in exclusion from the selection. The University assumes no responsibility in the event of technical problems that do not guarantee the proper conduct of the interview.

The indication of the date and time and of the place (seat of the University of Trento, if in presence) where the interview will be held will be provided at least 20 days prior to the date of the interview on the [selection's webpage](#).

Any changes in the date of the examination will be published on this same web page.

10. The oral examination is considered passed with a minimum score of 36/60.

## Art. 6 – RANKING

1. The Committee draws up a merit-based ranking according to the scores obtained by the applicants from the qualification's assessment, the project and the interview.
2. Scholarships are assigned to eligible candidates based on:
  - a) Ranking order;
  - b) candidate eligibility for topic-specific grants. Please note that topic-specific grants are assigned following the ranking and until their maximum number is filled.
3. The candidate who has been awarded a topic-specific grant, must accept it since the choice for a topic-specific grant he/she expressed implies the candidate's preference for the award of that specific scholarship with respect to the others. Renouncing the topic-specific grant implies the exclusion of the candidate from the right to enroll in the PhD Programme.
4. Unassigned topic-specific grants will result in the reduction of positions available.
5. The ranked list (using candidates' application IDs) will be published on the [selection's webpage](#).
6. **By publishing the ranking, notification concerning the selection results is considered fulfilled.** Admitted candidates will not receive any personal messages.

## Art. 7 – ADMISSION TO THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE OFFER

1. Applicants will be admitted to the Doctorate according to their rank in the final score list and until all available and eligible positions have been filled.
2. In case of equally ranked candidates, the candidate's economic situation shall be the deciding factor, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers (D.P.C.M.) of 9 April 2001 as amended.
3. If an eligible applicant withdraws before the beginning of the Programme (*1 November 2026*), the next applicant in the ranking list will be offered the place.

This candidate is expected to accept the offer **within 8 days** from the day after having received the notice from the Support of the PhD Office - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area. If an eligible applicant withdraws or is excluded in the first three-month term of the first year, the Doctoral Programme Committee may decide to fill the vacancy with another candidate next in rank in the final score list.
4. Admitted applicants must accept the offer **within 8 days** from the day following the day of publication of the final ranking list by submitting the online application available at <https://www.unitn.it/en/study/register/information-phd-students/enrolling-phd>.
5. Admitted applicants with a qualification that has not been awarded in Italy must deliver to the Support of the PhD Office - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area, in advance by email ([PhD.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:PhD.office-cssh@unitn.it)) if they had not already done so during the application phase, the following documents **by 6 November 2026**:
  - original or certified copy of the **academic diploma of the Master degree** (Master of Science/Arts or equivalent) **together with the academic transcript of records**, possible official translations<sup>15</sup>, legalized<sup>16</sup> or with an apostille affixed (verify the fulfilment of the requirements set by the issuing country of the title);
  - **Diploma Supplement** (if provided for by the university where the title was issued, it is commonly used within the member countries of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA))

*alternatively*

  - **Declaration of Value** issued by the Italian diplomatic or consular representations country of origin of the institution that issued the title

*alternatively*

  - **Statement of comparability of foreign university qualifications**<sup>17</sup> issued by the ENIC-NARIC Center in Italy (CIMEA) that contains all the information necessary for the assessment of the qualification.

<sup>15</sup> Details at: <https://www.esteri.it/mae/it/servizi/italiani-all-estero/traduzione-e-legalizzazione-documenti.html>

<sup>16</sup> Details at: <https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-13.html>

<sup>17</sup> The University of Trento has signed an agreement with the CIMEA Association for the evaluation and verification services of foreign qualifications through the use of the [Diplome platform](#). The statement of comparability of qualifications relating to the 55 countries of the Lisbon Convention can be downloaded directly and free of charge through [ARDI – Automatic Recognition Database Italia](#).



In case the Diploma Supplement, or the Declaration of Value, or the Statement of comparability are not available by **6 November 2026**, admitted applicants must deliver a document showing that they asked the University/the Italian diplomatic or consular representations/the ENIC-NARIC center for the documents to be issued.

Admission to the Doctoral Programme for successful candidates who do not provide the required above-mentioned documents by 6 November 2026 will be "conditional" and the applicants will be excluded from the Doctoral Programme if:

- they do not deliver the documents within 6 months from the starting date of the Programme;
  - upon verification, their title is not in compliance with the requirements of this call for selection.
- Forfeiture from the course will result in the obligation to return any monthly scholarship money received.

Short-listed applicants who do not submit their acceptance **within 8 days** from when the final ranking is published lose their right to enroll and their position will be offered to the next ranked eligible candidate.

## Art. 8 – SUPERNUMERARY POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH POSITIONS

1. According to Art. 18, § 3 of the University Regulations for Doctorates of Research, the Admission Committee may admit **up to 1** supernumerary position without a scholarship of the University of Trento, if such candidates coincide with one of the following cases:
  - foreign nationality, eligible in the general ranking, who are granted scholarships by other entities;
  - shortlisted candidates from countries which have specific inter-governmental agreements with Italy, and with which an ad-hoc agreement with the University is then made, without the University of Trento being required to assume any financial obligations;
  - research fellows (*Assegnisti di ricerca*) whose contract lasts for a minimum of 24 months as from the starting date of the Programme and researching a subject relevant to the PhD Programme; such relevance has to be determined by the Doctoral Programme Committee;
  - employees in the public sector or the state legal system. Admission is dependent on candidates being given leave of absence or exceptional leave, in accordance with Article 2 of the Law of 13 August 1984, n. 476 and subsequent revision<sup>18</sup>.
2. Candidates who wish to assert their requirements for supernumerary positions shall request, by submission of appropriate documentation proving their status, their acceptance of such admission to the PhD Office - Cognitive, Social Sciences and Humanities (email: [phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it)), also **within 8 days** starting from the day following publication of the ranking.
3. Supernumerary admission acceptance is disposed of within the limit of the positions specified in Art. 1 following the order of the final ranking.
4. After verifying the documents referred to in paragraph 2, the candidates who will be admitted supernumerary will receive an email confirmation from the PhD Office - Humanities and Cognitive Science Area and must declare acceptance of the position by using the appropriate procedure online (see art. 7, 4), **within 8 days** from the day following the day of receipt of such notice.

## Art. 9 – ENROLMENT

1. The official registration in the doctorate, limited to short-listed candidates who have accepted the position according to the procedures in the preceding article, will automatically be made official as soon as the PhD Programmes' requirements verification by the Ministry of Education, University and Research for the 2026-2027 a.y. has been completed. In case of no conferrable accreditation, candidates who have accepted the position will receive a timely notification via email and the local education tax (TDS) will be refunded.
2. To complete enrolment, the candidate who has obtained the qualification abroad, upon arrival in Italy, will have to show the official documents (in original or copy conforming to the original), related to the academic path, already anticipated in a scanned form during admission to the selection or during the matriculation process, in order to allow the appropriate verification of the validity of the qualifications, also by means of the national information centers on the recognition of foreign titles as part of the ENIC-NARIC network. Until such time, candidates are admitted to the course *conditionally* and may be excluded if they do not meet these requirements.

## Art. 10 - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF RESEARCH FINDINGS AND PUBLICATIONS

1. Without prejudice to the Italian law on copyright (legislative decree 633/1941 and subsequent amendments), intellectual and industrial property rights on the results eventually achieved by the doctoral student, including (but not limited to) software, industrial inventions patentable or not, know-how, models, data and data collection, are regulated in accordance with applicable laws and

<sup>18</sup> Neither public employees who have already been awarded PhDs, nor those who have been enrolled on a PhD Programme for at least one academic year (having been granted exceptional leave), are entitled to exceptional leave, either with or without research grants, whatever their subject area.



University regulations and, if necessary, according to the provisions in the individual agreements with universities, companies or entities involved<sup>19</sup>.

2. Before the start of the research activity, the doctoral student is required to sign a specific declaration of commitment to confidentiality in relation to the information, data and documents of a confidential nature that he / she may become aware of in carrying out his / her activity at and / or on behalf of the University. At the same time, each PhD student is required to sign a specific declaration of transfer of intellectual property rights to the University, so that he / she is aware of the application of the relevant legislation and the University Regulations on intellectual property and possibly a confidentiality agreement with the funding body, if required, if the position is funded by an entity external to the University.

### Art. 11 - REGULATIONS

1. For matters not covered by this selection announcement refer to Law no. 398 of 30 November 1989, to art. 4 of Law n. 210 of 03.07.1998 as amended in Art. 19, paragraph 1, of the Law of 30 December 2010, n. 240, to the Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14.12.2021, to the University Regulations on Doctorates of Research of the University of Trento issued with the Rector's Decree n. 250 of 11.03.2022 subsequently amended, to the Students Honour Code issued with the Rector's Decree n. 416 of 13 June 2016 and to the Internal Regulations of the Doctorate in Psychology and Cognitive Science approved by the Board of the Department of Psychology and Cognitive Science.
2. The call will be published on the University of Trento, Euraxess and MIUR websites.
3. The person in charge of the administrative procedure is the Head of the Didactics and Student Services Department of the University of Trento. The office of reference is the Division for the Support of Doctoral Courses and Higher Education Polo Città e Rovereto; email: [phd.office-cssh@unitn.it](mailto:phd.office-cssh@unitn.it). The Selection Committee is responsible for the selection procedure of the applications, from the evaluation of the qualifications to the interview, from the drawing up of the minutes to the formulation of the merit rankings.
4. The processing of personal data provided for the purpose of participating in this call shall be carried out in accordance with **Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR)** and **Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended and supplemented**. The privacy notice regarding the processing of personal data is provided to applicants at the time of registration for the selection and is available on the competition webpage.

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<sup>19</sup> See <https://www.unitn.it/en/third-mission/recognising-value-research/intellectual-property>