

F.A.Q. “Proroga” – 3 months paid extension of the deadline for the thesis submission – 35° cycle PhD student

This 3 months extension foreseen by Italian law is paid if you are holding a scholarship (please read this FAQ).

All PhD students can apply for the extension (please read this FAQ).

This extension request may be withdrawn: the corresponding procedure will be available on the Moodle platform around June 2023.

1. Does the extension (“proroga”) only allow a postponement of the thesis submission or does it allow also an extension of the time required to complete the theoretical courses required by the Ph.D. Course?

The “proroga” implies an extension of the deadline for the submission of the thesis, but it does not modify the legal duration of the PhD course. This means that the “proroga” only implies an extension of the time granted to write the thesis. It does not include extra time for academic activities.

The possibility of organizing any exams during the months of extension by the PhD course is up to the course itself. For any inquiries, please contact the Coordinator of the PhD.

2. Does the granting of the extension also involve a postponement of the PhD defence?

Yes, the extension entails a delay of the deadline for submitting the thesis and consequently shifts forward also the date for the defence.

The time schedule for the 35th cycle will be published around June 2022 on the following webpage:

<https://www.unipd.it/en/teaching-and-research/doctoral-degrees-phd-programmes/phd-final-exam>

3. How can I request the extension?

For PhD students of the 36th cycle, the procedure to apply for the “proroga” will be available on the Moodle platform from the 2nd to the 30th September 2021. According to the Ministerial Circular, PhD students must submit the request no later than the end of the academic year 2020/21 (i.e. no later than the 30th September 2021).

4. In case I ask for the extension, will the award ceremony take place according to the schedule foreseen for the cycle I belong to?

It depends on your specific case. In some cases, it will be possible. However, if you ask for an extension of 6 months or in the event of a request for major revisions by the external evaluators, you may not be able to attend the same ceremony as your colleagues.

5. Is it possible to request an extension for periods other than those established?

No, the extension foreseen by Decreto Legge 22 marzo 2021, no. 41, as converted by Legge 21 maggio 2021, no. 69, may only be requested for 3 months.

6. If I ask for this extension, may I still using my budget for research activities?

Yes, it is possible to use the research budget if still available. Its use has to comply with the regulations in force regarding possible expenses of the budget.

7. Can I submit an application for scholarships and/or research grants calls during the extension months?

The “proroga” does not change the legal duration of the PhD course, so you are allowed to apply for scholarships and research grants.

8. Can I apply for a Master's degree programme?

Yes, the "proroga" does not change the legal duration of the PhD Course, so you are allowed to apply for a UNIPD Master's degree programme. To enrol in a Master's degree organised by another University, please contact that University.

10. Can I carry out work activity during the "proroga"?

Yes, during the extension period you can work without the need for authorization by the Academic Board of the PhD course.

11. If I work during the extension period, how do I have to consider the salary for the yearly income limit?

The salary of the work activity carried out during the extension period is not considered for exceeding the income limit by a PhD student. The extension does not change the legal duration of the PhD course, which terminates at the original date. It only regards an extension of the deadline for the thesis submission.

12. Does the limit of 40 hours of teaching assistance activity remain valid during the extension?

No, it does not.

13. Is it possible to spend a period abroad?

Yes, it is possible to spend a period abroad.

14. May I request the 50% increase in the scholarship amount for working abroad during the "proroga"?

Yes, it is possible to request an increase in the scholarship, in compliance with the provisions of the Regulations.

15. Am I still covered by insurance during the period of extension?

Yes, you are. All doctoral students are covered by insurance from the legal end of the PhD courses up to the date of the thesis defence, but only if the defence takes place during the first session available.

16. Are all PhD students entitled to apply for the extension?

Yes, all PhD students can apply for the extension, but not all PhD students will be granted an extension with scholarship.

17. I am not holding a scholarship: am I entitled to apply for the extension? Will I be paid during the extension?

You may ask for the "proroga" and receive an extension of the deadline for the submission of the PhD-thesis, but you will not receive any scholarship.

18. I am holding a Unipd scholarship: will I be paid during the extension?

Yes, you will receive the scholarship.

19. I am holding a CARIPARO PhD scholarship: will I be paid during the extension?

Yes, you will receive the scholarship.

20. I am holding a FSE PhD scholarship, will I be paid during the extension?

Yes, you will receive the scholarship.

21. I am holding a PhD scholarship funded by private Italian entities, will I be paid during the extension months.

Yes, you will receive the scholarship.

22. I am holding a scholarship funded by a foreign entity (such as CSC / Guangzhou University, ...) or on an international project (such as Marie Curie), may I request this “proroga” and will I be paid the extension months?

You may ask for the “proroga” and receive an extension of the deadline for the submission of the PhD-thesis, but for an eventual payment you have to contact the entity that provides the scholarship.

23. If I am granted this extension, may I renew my stay permit for study purposes?

If you need to renew your stay permit, you must ask the PhD Office to issue a certificate for the “Questura”.

24. I am a scholarship holder, may I apply for the Italian DIS-COLL?

It depends on your specific situation. Please, ask INPS for further information.

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