



**Ph.D. PROGRAMMES SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR STUDENTS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDED BY THE CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL
40th CYCLE
DEADLINE: December 18th 2023 at 1.00 p.m. (CET)**

Art. 1 - PURPOSE

The University of Padova, given the agreement with the China Scholarship Council (CSC), announces a Selection **based on evaluation of qualifications and oral examination** for Admission to the Ph.D. Programmes for the academic year 2024/2025. The Admission procedure is reserved exclusively to citizens of the People's Republic of China.

The duration of the programmes is normally 3 years, except for the Ph.D. Programmes in "HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL, ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDIES" and "ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT", whose duration is 4 years. All the programmes start approximately on October 1st, 2024.

The list of the PhD courses for which applications are open is available at <http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

The candidates selected by the University of Padova will receive a letter of acceptance. In order to obtain the scholarship, such candidates must submit an application to the China Scholarship Council, in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the CSC itself. Only candidates who have obtained the scholarship by the CSC will be allowed to enrol at the University of Padova through this call.

The University of Padova exempts candidates from the payment of tuition fees, while the amounts due for stamp duty, and regional tax for the right to study must be paid.

Art. 2 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants with the qualifications hereunder, can apply:

- Citizenship of the P.R.C.;
- Master level degree (the Master degree must be awarded no later than September 30th 2024);
- Excellent knowledge of English verified by the Selection Committee through an oral exam. Applicants will take the interview via ZOOM videoconferencing (see art. 4).

All applicants are admitted to the procedure with reserve.

The University of Padova may exclude applicants at any time on the grounds of non-eligibility by reasoned order. Applicants will be informed of their exclusion via email.

Art. 3 - APPLICATION

Each applicant may apply to one single doctoral programme only. In case of Ph.D. programmes articulated in more curricula, the candidate must choose one single curriculum.

We inform applicants that for the academic year 2024/2025, the list of the Doctoral Programs is provisional and that their activation depends on the conclusion of the Ministry examination process

on their requisites (DM 226/2021). Application forms will be selected only for those Doctoral Programs that will be confirmed by the Ministry.

Applications for the competition will be available **from November 10th, 2023**. **Applications must be exclusively completed and submitted online** at the web address: <https://pica.cineca.it/unipd/csc40/> by 1.00 p.m. (CET) of the deadline date (**December 18th, 2023**). **Only submitted applications by the above-mentioned deadline will be taken into consideration.**

A valid Identity Document must be attached to the application form.

The University of Padova cannot be held responsible for any telematics errors not caused by the Administration itself.

In order to fill in the online form, applicants must first complete the registration procedure within the PICA Cineca platform and obtain a username and a password. They will then be able to proceed with the application form by following the guidelines available at <https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students> (*How to participate*).

Candidates **must** state the following information and any other relevant information on the application form and do so under their own liability:

- personal data, date and place of birth, place of residence;
- citizenship;
- academic degrees, with an indication of when and from which university they were/will be awarded;
- the Doctoral Programme and the chosen curriculum (if foreseen) they are applying for.

Candidates must attach:

Scanned valid Identity Document with photograph	Upload both sides (e.g. passport, Chinese ID card)
Admission Qualification	Attach the scanned copies of the certificates of the academic qualifications with the list of the exams and the corresponding marks; if the qualification has not been awarded yet, attach the exam transcripts. If these certificates are written in a language different from Italian or English, a certified English translation must also be attached.
Curriculum Vitae (CV)	Use the specific template available at https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students
Research Project	The research project must be drawn up, in English language, using the template available at https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students

Moreover candidates can:

- provide an English language knowledge certificate included among those within the “English certifications TABLE” available at the following link
- https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students
- attach a motivation letter;
- attach an abstract of their master thesis/project (max 4 pages);
- specify any additional information complementary to the data provided in the application form that may be relevant to the selection process;
- attach any other certificate that should be taken into account (e.g. research papers and publications, language knowledge certificates other than those requested by the programme etc.);
- specify the names and email addresses of two professors or experts who will write the reference letters. These letters must be written by professors or experts who have supervised candidates in their studies and research. The requests to fill in the reference letters are sent by the candidate through the online procedure and the reference letters are filled in electronically by the professors/experts. Reference letters can be filled in and sent online by the professor/expert by December 20th 2023 at 1.00 p.m. (CET).

The application must be completed in English or Italian.

All documents written in a language other than Italian or English must be submitted together with a CERTIFIED translation in English.

Candidates with disabilities or specific learning disabilities (SLD) may support the admission tests with reasonable adjustments, making an explicit request to the Student Services Office - Inclusion. To this end it is necessary to:

- 1) request the individualized test through the dedicated online application;
- 2) send an email to inclusionone.studenti@unipd.it specifying the supports, aids or compensatory measures needed (additional time assigned cannot exceed 30% for candidates with SLD and 50% for candidates with disability);
- 3) send the relevant documentation to the Student Services Office – Inclusion (inclusionone.studenti@unipd.it), together with a copy of a valid identity document by 1 pm of December 18th 2023.

Useful documentation for reasonable adjustments includes:

- certification pursuant to Law 104/1992;
- civil disability certification;
- SLD diagnosis certification (issued for no more than 3 years, or renewed as an adult, by facilities of the National Health Service or by specialists and accredited facilities).

Candidates with disabilities or specific learning disabilities (SLD) residing in foreign Countries must submit the certification about disability or SLD issued in the Country of residence, together with a sworn translation in Italian or English. On the basis of the documentation presented, and after possible interview with dedicated personnel (way to be agreed), supports for the test will be considered.

It is therefore recommended to contact the Student Services Office – Inclusion well in advance of the date of the test, by sending an email to inclusionone.studenti@unipd.it.

Further information can be found at the following link: <https://www.unipd.it/en/inclusion-reception-and-admissions-tests>.

Art. 4 - SELECTION COMMITTEES AND ELIGIBILITY OF QUALIFICATION

A Selection Committee for the admission procedure shall be nominated for each Ph.D. Programme.

Preliminarily the Selection Committee shall decide for each candidate the eligibility of the foreign qualification for the sole admission to the chosen Ph.D. Programme.

The selection is based on evaluation of qualifications and oral examination. The oral examination is aimed at verifying candidate's motivation, knowledge of the project and ascertaining their excellent knowledge of the English language.

Candidates who passed the first phase of the selection procedure (evaluation of qualifications) obtaining a **minimum score of 42/60** will be admitted to the oral examination.

The oral examination will be passed with a **minimum score of 28/40**.

Only candidates awarded a score of at least **42/60** in the evaluation of the qualifications will be contacted for the ZOOM interview to verify their knowledge of English as well as their motivation to be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme and the knowledge of the project. The instructions on how to use the ZOOM video conferencing will be sent by the commission.

Candidates must be available at the day and time previously agreed with the Selection Committee. For identification purposes, and under penalty of exclusion to the selection procedure, every candidate must show the original identification document of the copy submitted with the application form before starting the interview.

Failure to connect online, show a valid identification document or being unavailable on the day and time set for the interview constitute grounds for exclusion from the selection procedure.

The University of Padova accepts no liability for missed interviews due to technical faults.

At the end of the selection procedure, only candidates who have passed both the evaluation of qualification and the oral examination obtaining an overall minimum score corresponding to at least 70/100 will be considered suitable for the purposes of the final ranking. Failure to pass the oral examination will result in the non-admission to the Ph.D. course.

The score of the EVALUATION OF QUALIFICATIONS is broken down as follows:

Research project	max 25 points
Curriculum vitae (CV)	max 25 points
Reference letters	max 5 points
English language knowledge certificate *	max 5 points (B2: 2,5 points – C1: 5 points)
Minimum score to be admitted to the oral examination	42/60

* Only those language certifications included in the "English certifications TABLE" available at the following link <https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students> will be evaluated.

The score of the ORAL EXAMINATION is broken down as follows:

English language knowledge	max 10 points
Competences relating to the project	max 10 points
Motivation to be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme	max 20 points
Minimum score to pass the oral examination	28/40

Art. 5 – RANKINGS FOR ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME

The Rector approves the records of the competition and proclaims the list of candidates admitted. Such ranking will be made public by February 6th, 2024 by:

- the University’s official board;
- publication on the website: <https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

Successful candidates will receive a letter of acceptance to be presented to the China Scholarship Council. Only candidates who have obtained the scholarship will enrol at the University of Padova in the manner that will be communicated to them.

Successful candidate who have confirmed their willing to enrol must complete the enrolment procedure according to the guidelines available within the invitation letter sent from the University of Padua and by presenting the following documents:

- the enrolment application form for the Doctoral Programme;
- a photocopy of the passport and of the Study Visa;
- in case of academic qualifications awarded in non-EU Countries: a copy, in Italian or English, of the second-cycle degree as well as a copy of the certificate indicating the examinations taken and the relative grades, together with the translation, legalisation and Declaration of Value issued by Italian diplomatic or consular authorities or, alternatively, Statements of Comparability and Verification issued by ENIC-NARIC;
- in case of academic qualifications awarded in European Union Countries: Diploma and Diploma Supplement in English for the second-cycle qualification or, alternatively, Statements of Comparability and Verification issued by ENIC-NARIC; one passport-size photo;
- a color passport-size photo;
- Receipt of the payment as stated in Art. 1.

Art. 6 – DUTIES OF PH.D, STUDENTS

Admission to the PhD programme requires an exclusive and full time commitment.

Students are required to diligently carry out the activities related to the approved research project and to submit to the PhD programme, at the end of each year, a report on the activities and research performed and, at the end of the programme, the doctoral thesis with original contributions.

Following the evaluation of the activity performed by the student, the competent authority of the Ph.D. programme will decide on the admission of the doctoral student to the following year. Given a valid reason, the competent authority of the Ph.D. Programme also has the authority to exclude candidates from progressing to the following academic year.

Art. 7 - AWARDING OF THE DEGREE

The Ph.D. is awarded once the doctoral candidate had passed the final exam. The examination consists of an oral exam during which the student will defend his/her thesis. The examination board is appointed in accordance with the Rules for PhD Programme.

Art. 8 - REFERENCE LEGISLATION

For anything not envisaged within this Selection Announcement, the University shall refer to the following Italian legislation:

- Art. 4 of Law no. 210 dated 3 July 1998;
- M.D. no. 226 dated 14 December 2021;
- University Regulations governing Ph.D. Programmes.

Art. 9 - PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING

The processing of personal data provided by candidates collected for the purposes identified in this notice takes place in compliance with the provisions of EU Regulation 27.04.2016 n. 679 (General Data Protection Regulation, following: GDPR).

For the purposes of processing personal data, the University of Padua is the data controller under the GDPR, art. 26. The University of Padua is therefore obliged to implement appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure that the treatment is compliant with the GDPR, verifying and periodically updating the data protection policies pursuant to the GDPR, arts. 24-25; it is also subject to all the obligations of the data controllers, in particular that of the release to the interested parties of specific information pursuant to the GDPR, art. 13-14.

The provision and collection of data is mandatory for the selection process and, in the case of sensitive data, it is carried out pursuant to Law 68/1999 and Law 104/1992. The provision of the data indicated in the notice is mandatory and necessary for the purposes of assessing the admission requirements and the formulation of the rankings, under penalty of exclusion from the selection.

As regards the specific consent for the potential contracts for Higher Education and Research Apprentices, see Article 4 of this notice.

For the purposes of processing personal data, CINECA, Inter-university Consortium, is appointed by the University of Padua, in charge of the treatment pursuant to the GDPR, art. 28; CINECA therefore undertakes to provide, upon request by the university, suitable guarantees that it has put in place suitable technical and organizational measures to ensure that the processing of the data conferred to it meets the requirements of the GDPR regarding the protection of the rights of the interested parties. The data processed will not be the subject of communication or dissemination to third parties by CINECA, which acts as data controller as expressly appointed by the University.

CINECA personnel units, designated by the Director of the Consortium, are responsible for processing the data.

The data collected will be kept for a period of time not exceeding the achievement of the purposes for which they are processed ("conservation restriction principle" GDPR, art.5) or on the basis of the deadlines established by law. The verification of the obsolescence of the data stored in relation to the purposes for which they were collected is carried out periodically.

Art. 10 - FINAL PROVISIONS

In accordance with Art. 5 of Law no. 241 dated 7 August 1990 and subsequent amendments and integrations, the person responsible for the selection procedure administration is Dr. Elena Pavan Head of the Ufficio Dottorati di ricerca (Ph.D. Office) - University of Padua.

This announcement is available on the WEBPAGE of the University of Padua:

<http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

Any changes or additions to the contents of this announcement will be made by:

— the University's official board;

— publication on the website:

<http://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-chinese-phd-students>

Further information and details can be requested directly to:

china.phd@unipd.it

The Rector
Prof Daniela Mapelli