CALL FOR ADMISSION TO ADDITIONAL PLACES FOR PHD COURSE IN ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION AND VASCULAR BIOLOGY (ARHYVAB) FOR THE XXXVI CYCLE

The deadline for this call is 1 pm (CEST) of September 25th 2020

Art. 1 – SUBJECT OF THE CALL
1.1 The selection process has been announced at the University of Padova for admission to additional places for PhD Course in Arterial hypertension and vascular biology (ARHYVAB) for the 2020/2021 academic year - XXXVI cycle (hereinafter ‘selection process’).
The research subjects, methods and criteria for candidate selection to be used for ranking purposes are indicated on the information sheet of the Course (Appendix 1).
The information sheet also indicates the number of funded and unfunded places that will be assigned according to the specific ranking of the Course.

Art. 2 – JOINT PHD COURSES
2.1 The PhD Course in Arterial hypertension and vascular biology (ARHYVAB) is joint with Sapienza Università Roma and Maastricht University (The Netherlands).
2.2 The agreement shall regulate relations between the Parties involved, their respective contributions and commitments, the organisation of the Course, the specific management of the financial resources and the learning resources made available by the institutions forming part of the agreement of the Course.

Art. 3 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
3.1 Anyone in possession of the following, regardless of nationality, may apply to take part in the selection process:
• diploma di laurea (pre-reform regime);
• laurea specialistica/ magistrale (post-reform regime);
• Second-level academic qualifications awarded by AFAM (Higher Education in Art and Music) institutions.

3.2 Admission to the selection process for candidates who have not yet been awarded their academic qualification
Anyone yet to be awarded the required academic qualification, but who will have received it by no later than September 30th 2020, may also apply to take part in the entry examinations. Otherwise, admission to the course will be denied. Admission will be conditionally granted to these candidates, who will have to provide self-certification regarding the qualification awarded (or the certificate itself if the qualification was awarded in a non-EU country), together with an identity document by October 30th 2020. Said certification must be sent via email to phd.application@unipd.it. The self-certification (or the certificate itself if the qualification was awarded in a non-EU Country), must indicate the name of the university that awarded the qualification, the date it was awarded, the kind of degree (second-cycle Italian - degree, Master’s Degree or equivalent qualification), and the grade achieved, together with a copy of a valid identity document.

3.3 Admission to the selection process for candidates in possession of an academic qualification awarded abroad
Applicants with an academic qualification awarded abroad can be admitted to a PhD course only if the above-mentioned qualification is equivalent to a second-cycle Italian degree (“Laurea magistrale a ciclo unico”/“Laurea specialistica”/Laurea magistrale”) awarded at an officially recognized foreign academic institution, which grants admission to a PhD course in the education system/Country in which it was awarded (except for significant differences). Said qualification must be comparable to the Italian degree required for the admission to a PhD course (i.e. Master’s Degree or another equivalent second-cycle degree).
Admission to the selection process will be conditionally granted to those candidates in possession of an academic qualification awarded abroad that has not yet been officially recognised as equivalent to a second-cycle Italian qualification by the competent academic bodies of Italian universities.
To this end, when completing the online application process, the candidate must request that their qualifications be verified and attach the following documents:
- if already awarded, certificate or self-certification (in the cases provided for by Italian law) of both first (Bachelor) and second-cycle degree (Master’s), with grade;
- Certificate or self-certification (in the cases provided for by Italian law) of the list of exams/transcript of records of both first (Bachelor) and second-cycle degree (Master’s), with grade;
- any other documentation deemed useful for the assessment of the suitability of the qualification held (e.g. Diploma Supplement, Declaration of Value, Statement of Comparability and Verification issued by ENIC-NARIC).

The above-mentioned documents must be drawn up in Italian or English, under penalty of exclusion from the selection. The Selection Committee evaluates the suitability of the foreign degree according to the documentation attached to the application, and can therefore exclude the candidate if such documentation does not provide sufficient information for the assessment.

3.4 Only those who have not already pre-enrolled for the same Course in the admission notice of the XXXVI cycle can participate in the selection.

Art. 4 – APPLICATION FORM

4.1 The application form to participate in the selection process may only be submitted using the dedicated online procedure, available at: https://pica.cineca.it/unipd/dottorati36-arterial-hypertension-and-vascular-biology/. Application forms must be submitted no later than 1 pm (CEST) on the announcement deadline date (September 25th 2020).

The candidates must indicate whether they are exclusively competing for unfunded places. This choice cannot be changed afterwards.

4.2 All required documents to be submitted listed in the information sheet for the chosen PhD course must be attached to the application form, together with a copy of a valid identity document. If the candidate is applying for more than one course, each application must be completed with the relative documents required. All documentation must be attached in pdf format.

For all legal purposes, the application is to be considered as a self-certification of the data included therein and of the attached documents, in accordance with articles 46 and 47 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.

Once the application form has been completed, it must be printed, signed and re-uploaded following the instructions described in the online procedure, and copy of a valid identity document must be attached. A missing signature and/or missing identity document could lead to exclusion from the selection process.

4.3 The application is automatically sent to the University when the online procedure has finally been completed. Therefore, no paperwork needs to be delivered or sent to the University’s offices.

4.4 Candidates are invited to complete applications for the selection process well in advance of the closing date specified in this competition notice. Candidates are responsible for verifying that the procedure is completed correctly. No complaints will be accepted for any malfunctioning of the IT system due to overload experienced by candidates near the closing date.

4.5 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 inclusione.studenti@unipd.it specifying the supports, aids or compensatory measures needed (additional time assigned cannot exceed 50% more than the time foreseen for the test):

3) send the relevant documentation to the Student Services Office – Inclusion (inclusione.studenti@unipd.it), together with a copy of a valid identity document by 1 pm of September 25th 2020. The form to be filled in is available at the webpage http://www.unipd.it/accoglienza-prove-ingresso.

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 inclusione.studenti@unipd.it.

Further information can be found at the following link: https://www.unipd.it/en/inclusion-reception-and-admissions-tests.
Art. 5 – ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND ENTRY EXAMINATIONS

5.1 Information on selection procedures and the dates for examinations, if applicable, are provided in the information sheet for the Course.

For all intents and purposes, the examination dates indicated in the Course information sheet represent official notification. Candidates will therefore not receive any further call or notification regarding the entry examinations.

To take the examinations, candidates must connect on the day and at the time indicated in the aforementioned information sheet, providing a valid identity document (e.g. a national identity card, passport or driving licence).

5.2 Oral examinations will be considered passed if the candidate obtains a mark equivalent to at least 7/10. The entry examination will be taken in the language(s) indicated in the Language(s) section of the specific information sheet of the Course, under the item “Admission exam”.

5.3 All candidates will take the oral examination remotely, using the videoconferencing equipment Zoom. Candidates must guarantee that they will use a webcam in order for them to be correctly identified by the Selection Committee and that they will connect on the day of the oral examination.

For identification purposes, and under penalty of exclusion from the selection process, candidates are required to identify themselves showing the same identity document already sent as an attachment to the application before the start of their oral exam.

Failure to connect or be reachable on the day and at the time agreed, or failure to show a valid identity document pursuant to the previous paragraph, may result in exclusion from the selection process.

The University of Padova shall accept no responsibility for any technical issues that may prevent the oral examination from being correctly carried out.

5.4 Oral examinations are public.

Art. 6 – SELECTION COMMITTEES

The Selection Committee are appointed by the Rector according to the proposal put forward by the PhD Board, in accordance with the University Regulations on PhD courses.

Art. 7 – RANKINGS AND ADMISSION TO COURSE

Upon conclusion of entry examinations, the Committee compiles the general ranking for admission to the Course based on grades achieved in the examinations. Candidates will be granted admission to the course according to the Course ranking.

7.1 The Rector approves the selection proceedings and declares the ranking official for the admission of candidates. The ranking will be made public from October 12th 2020 through:

• Publication on the University’s official register;
• Publication on the University of Padova website: https://www.unipd.it/dottorato/bandi-graduatorie

Successful candidates must enrol by October 21st 2020. Information on enrolment procedures will be published at the same time as the ranking.

Publication of enrolment deadlines are to be considered as official notification for all intents and purposes.

No personal communication will be sent to the candidates. Candidates granted admission to the Course are responsible for checking enrolment dates and procedures.

Art. 8 – PHD COURSES AND MEDICAL SPECIALISATION SCHOOLS

8.1 If successful in the selection process for a PhD, students enrolled at medical specialisation schools will be able to enrol in a PhD course:

- if they are already enrolled in the last or penultimate year of a specialisation school at the University of Padova;
- if they are already enrolled in the last year of a specialisation school at a university other than the University of Padova.

In any cases, attendance of both courses must be declared compatible and authorised by the Board of the specialisation school;

8.2 At least one month before the end of the joint attendance, the student must ask the PhD course Board to officially acknowledge the period of joint attendance. The PhD course Board, after an evaluation of the research activities carried out by the individual during the period of joint attendance certified by the specialisation school Board, may then formally acknowledge the validity of the abovementioned period for the purposes of being awarded the PhD.

8.3 In any case, the thesis and its assessment must follow the provisions set forth by art. 14 of the present announcement.
8.4 During the period of joint attendance, those enrolled in the specialisation school will not be eligible for PhD grants or other forms of funding.

**Art. 9 – ENROLMENT**

9.1 Successful candidates, with or without a grant, must enrol by **October 21st 2020**, following the procedures published together with the ranking.

**Failure to enrol by the deadlines set to the Course will be considered as renunciation of the place (with or without a grant), which will subsequently be assigned to the next candidate according to the ranking.**

9.2 The duly signed enrolment form must be submitted to the ‘Ufficio Dottorato e Post Lauream’ (PhD Office), along with the following documentation on plain paper:

- Enrolment form for the first year of the PhD course, with indication of the assigned place;
- Copy of a valid identity document;
- Copy of confirmation of payment, as per the following art. 12;
- A passport-size photograph.

When completing the enrolment form, the successful candidate declares, inter alia, that:

- They are not enrolled, nor shall they enrol for the duration of the PhD, in another university Course unless authorised by the present announcement or by current legislation;
- If enrolled in a first- or second-cycle degree course (with exclusion of the academic qualification required to access the PhD, in accordance with art. 3), they will have been awarded all credits, except for those relating to the final examination, by September 30th 2020;
- If enrolled in a university master course, they had fulfilled the attendance obligations established by the master by September 30th 2020;
- The final examination of the course first enrolled in (excluding the PhD), will have been passed no later than ninety days after the start of the PhD;
- They are not enrolled, and nor shall they enrol, with a Specialisation School (with the exception of the cases stated in art. 8 of the present announcement). If enrolled, they declare that they will suspend attendance before beginning the PhD course, where this is possible; if enrolled in the final year, they declare that they will complete their specialist training before the start date of the PhD Course;
- They shall undertake to ask the competent body of the Course for authorisation to carry out work outside of the course;

and, if a grant holder:

- They have not already benefited from another PhD Course grant in the past;
- They will not accumulate the grant with another grant, awarded for whatever reason, except for those assigned by national or international institutions for the purposes of integrating the research activities of the PhD student with time spent abroad;
- They are aware that the grant is only awarded to those who have a yearly income (gross sum) that is below the equivalent of a year’s grant amount for the tax years when the grant will mainly be used, and shall provide prompt notification should their income exceed this limit;
- They shall undertake to pay back the monthly grant instalments received in the academic year in which their income exceeded the limit;

9.3 Candidates with a foreign qualification must also attach to their application:

- in case of academic qualifications awarded in non-EU Countries: a copy, in Italian or English, of both first and second-cycle degrees 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 both first and second-cycle qualifications or, alternatively, Statements of Comparability and Verification issued by ENIC-NARIC;
- a valid stay permit if already issued, or a copy of the request made to the competent authorities within 8 working days of arriving in Italy (only for non-EU citizens).

Should there be any doubts regarding the nature or validity of academic qualifications awarded in EU countries, the University reserves the right to request the certificate or a Declaration of Value. For further information on the Declaration of Value, visit the web page [http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-07.html](http://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studying/info-07.html).
Candidates in possession of a foreign academic qualification who have not provided the required documentation requested at the time of enrolment will be enrolled conditionally and will be excluded from the PhD course, with the obligation of refunding grant instalments unduly received, if:
- They do not submit such documentation within 12 months of the start of the course;
- Following verification, the academic qualification does not meet the requirements of the present competition notice and does not permit enrolment on the PhD course.

9.4 Candidates who are winners of a place, with or without scholarship, must enrol in both universities.

Art. 10 – VACANT PLACES
Following explicit or tacit withdrawal by successful candidates before the start of the course, any vacant places will be assigned to the next candidates in the ranking, according to the criteria set out in art. 7.
Should any places with funding become available following withdrawals, the following may apply for such vacant places: winners who already enrolled without scholarship, winners of a place without funding who haven’t enrolled by the deadline for the enrolment, the other eligible candidates in the ranking. Those candidates who in the application form indicated that they competed exclusively for unfunded places cannot apply for vacant places with funding.

From October 26th, 2020, available places will be published and interested candidates must submit their applications by October 28th, 2020 according to the procedure indicated. Candidates who have submitted their applications for vacant places will be contacted directly by the office and will have to complete enrolment by October 30th, 2020. Successful applicants without funding who are interested in a vacant place with funding may apply for a place if, within the time allowed, they have also tacitly given up a place without funding.

No personal notifications will be sent to the candidates.

Art. 11 - GRANTS
11.1 Grants are only awarded to those who have a yearly income (gross sum) that is below the equivalent of a year’s grant amount for the tax years when the grant will mainly be used. Should the grant holder’s income exceed this limit, they will lose their right to the grant for the academic year in which the limit was exceeded. In this case, the PhD student concerned will be obliged to pay back any monthly grant instalsments already received.
Should applications have equal merit, the assessment of the applicant’s economic situation is the deciding factor in awarding a grant. This is calculated pursuant to ISEE (Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator) values. Unfunded places will be awarded to the younger applicants.
11.2 In accordance with Italian Ministerial Decree n. 40 dated 25 January 2018, the annual amount of the grant is 15,343.28 euros, gross, less national insurance and pension contributions payable by the recipient to INPS (Italian National Institute for Social Security), pursuant to art. 2, paragraph 26 et. seq. of (Italian) Law no. 335 dated 8 August 1995, and subsequent amendments and integrations.
11.3 PhD grants cannot be used together with other grants, awarded for whatever reason, except for those assigned by national or international institutions for the purpose of integrating the research activities of the PhD student with time spent abroad.
11.4 The amount of the grant is increased by 50% for any time spent abroad
11.5 The grant takes effect when the holder effectively begins to attend the course. The grant is paid in deferred monthly instalsments.
Anyone who has already benefited from a PhD grant, cannot do so for a second time.
11.6 In the joint PhD course in agreement with other institutions (see art. 2 of the present announcement), the management of financial resources, including grants, is defined and governed by the individual agreements in place.

Art. 12 – ENROLMENT AND TUITION FEES
12.1 PhD students are exempt from university tuition fees and must only pay an amount corresponding to the regional contribution to the right to education, civil insurance and stamp duty.
12.2 PhD students may request exemption from payment of the regional contribution, quantified as per the ISEE presented. For PhD students with a grant, the quota for the aforementioned contribution, quantified as per the ISEE, will be withheld from the grant payment.
12.3 The amounts referred to in point 1. can be consulted in the Fees and contributions table for those enrolled in PhD courses for the 2020/2021 academic year. This table will be published on the University of Padova website at the address: [http://www.unipd.it/ricerca/dottorati-ricerca/tasse-borse-studio-opportunita-dottorati](http://www.unipd.it/ricerca/dottorati-ricerca/tasse-borse-studio-opportunita-dottorati).

**Art. 13 – COURSE START DATES AND OBLIGATIONS OF PHD STUDENTS**

13.1 Courses will begin on November 1st 2020. Admission to a PhD course is a full time, exclusive commitment.

13.2 PhD students are obliged to carry out the activities relating to their approved research plan and to present a report on the activities and research carried out to the competent body of the Course at the end of each year, as well as the PhD thesis, complete with original contributions, at the end of the course. Theses must be submitted in accordance with the procedures established in the University Regulations for PhD courses. After evaluating the activities carried out by the PhD student, the competent body of the Course will deliberate whether to admit the PhD student to the next year of the course. With a substantiated decision, the Doctoral Board may also propose to the Rector that the student be excluded from continuing the Course.

13.3 All enrolled PhD students will be required to spend at least six months at the partner University or on the basis of the previsions contained in the specific agreement.

**Art. 14 – OBTAINING THE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION**

14.1 The PhD is awarded upon successfully passing the final examination. This examination consists of an oral discussion with the candidate on their thesis. The supervisory committee for the final examination will be formed and appointed in compliance with the University Regulations for PhD courses.

14.2 The PhD degree will be issued in the form of a joint or double degree, according to the rules of the single universities involved.

**Art. 15 – PROPERTY OF RESULTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

15.1 Intellectual and industrial property rights on the results obtained by the PhD student, including but not limited to software, patentable or non-patentable industrial inventions, know-how, models, data and data collections, are regulated in accordance with current legislation, the University Regulations and, if applicable, on the basis of individual agreements with Universities, Enterprises and Bodies involved.

15.2 PhD students who realize that they made an invention must immediately inform their supervisor or the Director of the Department, who, from that moment on, shall maintain the confidentiality and notify without delay the Settore Trasferimento Tecnologico of the University in order to proceed with the evaluation of the results linked to the invention as well as to the appropriate protection measures.

15.3 In any case, the PhD student is guaranteed the opportunity to carry out the usual permitted publishing activities, which should be planned in a manner compatible with the protection of any results.

**Art. 16 – PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA**

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). Further information can be found here: [https://www.unipd.it/en/privacy](https://www.unipd.it/en/privacy)

**Art. 17 – INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE FOR PROCEEDINGS**

Pursuant to art. 5 of Italian Law no. 241 dated 7 August 1990 (New rules regarding administrative procedures and the right of access to administrative documents) and subsequent amendments, the individual responsible for proceedings is Dott. Andrea Crismani – Director of the ‘Ufficio Dottorato e Post Lauream’ (PhD Office).

**Art. 18 – NOTES AND INSTRUCTIONS**

Disclaimer: this is a translation of the selection announcement for PhD Courses. Its purpose is to provide information to foreign students. It has no legal value. The only official and legally binding source is the original Italian announcement.

18.1 The present announcement is to be considered as official notification for all intents and purposes. No personal notifications will be sent to the candidates. Any amendments or integrations to the present announcement shall be notified through:

a) Publication on the University’s official register;

b) Publication on the University of Padova website: [https://www.unipd.it/dottorato/bandi-graduatorie](https://www.unipd.it/dottorato/bandi-graduatorie)
18.2 Candidates can take part in the selection process, subject to verification that they meet the requirements stated in the announcement. Verification will be carried out in accordance with art. 43 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445 dated 28 December 2000. The University will check the truthfulness of the declarations which candidates have provided to substitute certificates and, therefore, may exclude candidates from the selection process at any given moment. Anyone making false declarations will be punished in accordance with the penal code and special applicable laws. The candidate in question will be informed of their exclusion via written notification sent to the home address indicated on their application form.

At any given moment, even after Courses have begun, the University may carry out checks into the truthfulness of the declarations provided and may, by a substantiated decision, exclude candidates for failing to meet the requirements set out in the announcement.

18.3 The University shall assume no responsibility for the loss of any notifications resulting from the candidate providing inaccurate indication of their residence and contact details, or caused by failure or delay to communicate any variations of these details. The University shall not be held responsible for any postal or telecommunications errors which are not the fault of the University itself.

18.4 Any matters not covered by the present announcement shall be governed by current applicable rules and legislation and, specifically: Italian Ministerial Decree no. 45 dated 8 February 2013; University Regulations on PhD courses issued with Italian Regional Decree no. 2547 dated 3 October 2013 and subsequent amendments; Agreements with other institutions for the creation of PhD courses and agreements for PhD funding, agreements for the initiation and funding of industrial PhD places and agreements to initiate higher-level education and training apprenticeship courses for the purposes of obtaining the PhD qualification.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**
For assistance with completion of the online application:
- Write to phd.application@unipd.it; we cannot guarantee that emails sent to other addresses will be read;
- Telephone Help Desk service at +39 331 6502029 available Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 12.30 am (CEST).

For information on the PhD course:
Contact the telephone numbers indicated in the information sheet for the PhD course you are interested in, under the section “For further information”.

The present selection announcement is available on the website at [https://www.unipd.it/dottorato/bandi-graduatorie](https://www.unipd.it/dottorato/bandi-graduatorie) and a copy is available at ‘Ufficio Dottorato e Post Lauream – Settore Dottorato di ricerca’ (PhD Office), in Via Venezia no. 15 Padova.

To find out the days when ‘Ufficio Dottorato e Post Lauream – Settore Dottorato di ricerca’ (PhD Office) may be closed, please check the University website.

Padova,

The Rector
Prof. Rosario Rizzuto