



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PLACES - PH.D. COURSE “PUBLIC HEALTH AND CLINICAL RESEARCH” - XLI CYCLE – UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA

Having regard to:

- The Ministerial Decree n. 226 of December 14th 2021 containing the rules on the modalities of accreditation of universities and Ph.D. courses and the principles for the implementation of Ph.D. courses in the accredited universities;
- the current Regulation of the University of Catania governing Ph.D. Courses;
- the Ministerial Decree n. 247 of February 23rd 2022;
- the Ministerial Communication n. 8936 of April 29 2025 concerning the accreditation of Ph.D. courses of the XLI cycle (academic year 2025/2026);
- the decision of the Board of Trustees of April 30 2025;
- the decision of the Board of Trustees of May 23 2025;
- the possibility of modifications and integrations of this call, if appropriate;
- the Decree of the Minister of Education, the University and Research n. 800 of September 19 2019, registered with the University protocol system with n. 13978 of the same date, by virtue of which Prof. Francesco Priolo has been appointed Rector of the University of Catania for six years since the date of issue of the aforementioned ministerial decree;
- All this considered

the following Call is issued by the Rector of the University of Catania

	UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI CATANIA Protocollo Generale
19/06/2025	
Prot.115592..... Tit. V Cl. 2...	
Rep. Decreti2615.....	

Art. 1 –Selection procedures

1. For the academic year 2025/2026 the University of Catania officially announces the selection procedures for places in the Ph.D. course in “Public Health and Clinical Research”- cycle XLI.
2. The Ph.D. course activities begin on October 31 2025 with the possibility of postponement of the start date to November 30 2025 because of the re-ranking of the ranking list.
3. The actual implementation of the Ph.D. course in “Public Health and Clinical Research” -cycle XLI is subject to the ministerial accreditation in compliance with the Ministerial Decree n. 226/2021.
4. Detailed information on the scholarships, including their related research topic, is included in the annexed information sheets which constitute essential and substantial part of the Call (annexes 1 to 20).

Art. 2 Admission requirements

1. Applications are open without any limitation of nationality, sex or age, with the sole exception reported in the following paragraph 2, to candidates who, by the deadline fixed by the present call:
 - a. hold either a *Laurea (Vecchio Ordinamento)* issued by an Italian University, or a *Laurea specialistica /magistrale* issued by an Italian University or, any foreign second level/master level degree suitable for access to Ph.D. courses in the country where it was issued **or**
 - b. are regularly enrolled in their final year of either *Laurea Vecchio ordinamento*, or *Laurea specialistica/magistrale* or foreign degree course provided they obtain their final degree by no later than **October 31 2025**. In case of a successful outcome of the selection procedure, their admission to the Ph.D. course is subject to the submission, at the same time of the course enrolment, of a self-certification of degree completion (for holders of *Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento* or *Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale*) or a degree certificate (for holders of a degree issued by a foreign university), with failure to submit any of the aforementioned documents at the time of the course enrolment leading to the exclusion from the doctoral course.
2. The suitability of the foreign degree is assessed by the selection committee of the relevant Ph.D. course, with respect to the rules in force both in Italy and in the country where the degree was issued, and according to international agreements on degrees recognition for further education.
3. Candidates holding a degree suitable for access to Ph.D. course in a non-EU country will need to submit either the **Declaration of Value** issued by the Italian embassy in their home country or the **Certificate of Comparability** issued by CIMEA – Academic Equivalence Mobility Information Centre (<https://www.cimea.it/EN/pagina-procedure-riconoscimento-titoli>) **at the moment of the course enrolment**, with failure to submit any of the aforementioned documents leading to the exclusion from the Ph.D. course
4. Specific entry requirements (additional to those already provided for in this article) are reported in the information sheets (annex 1) which constitute essential and substantial part of this Call.

Art. 3 – Application form

1. The application form is web based and must be completed electronically through the University of Catania online application system available at <https://studenti.smartedu.unict.it/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f> according to the guidelines included in paragraph 10 of the present article. The closing date for the application is **July 21 2025, 12 pm (noon) (Italian time, GMT+1)**.

2. An application fee of € 30,00 as contribution to the costs for the organization of the selection procedure is required. The application fee must be paid by no later than **July 21 2025**. According to article 5, paragraph 7, of the *Avviso 15/2024 – Seconda Finestra -A.A. 2025/2026* (Call for applications 15/2024 – Second Call for expression of interest – Academic Year 2025/2026), selected candidates who are assigned a scholarship funded through the aforementioned call will be reimbursed of the application fee.
3. The application form, to be completed either in Italian or in English, must contain the following data:
 - a) candidate's name and surname, fiscal code, date and place of birth, address (including postal code), telephone number and e-mail;
 - b) candidate's nationality;
 - c) name of the Ph.D. course for which the candidate intends to apply;
 - d) name of the candidate's degree;
 - e) disability with relative percentage, if any;
 - f) declaration of commitment to immediately communicate to the e-mail address dottorati@unict.it any change of address, telephone number or e-mail address;
 - g) declaration of acknowledgment of the content of the present call.
4. The following annexes must be attached to application form:
 - a) *Curriculum vitae et studiorum /Resume*, duly dated and signed, containing the authorization to the treatment of personal data according to the regulation in force (only handwritten or digital signatures are considered valid);
 - b) A document attesting any of the entry requirements listed in article 2, paragraph 1, according to one of the following cases:
 - **Candidates with either a *Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento* or a *Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale* issued by an Italian university:**
Self-certification attesting the award of the degree including the study plan, the transcript of records and the final grade;
 - **Candidates with a second level/master level degree issued by a non-EU university:**
Certificates attesting the award of the degree suitable for access to a Ph.D. course in the country where it is issued. The certificate must include the transcript of records, the final grade and the date of the award of the degree. If candidates belonging to this category already hold their Declaration of Value (issued by the Italian embassy in their home country) or the Certificate of Comparability (issued by the CIMEA), they can submit any of these documents at the moment of the application;
 - **Candidates with a second level/master level degree issued by a EU university:**
Certificate attesting the award of the second level/master level degree including the study plan, the transcript of records and the final grade;
 - **Candidates enrolled in courses such as *Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento* or *Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale* offered by Italian universities who do not hold the degree at the moment of the application:**
Self-certification of enrolment in the final year of the degree course, including transcripts of records;
 - **Candidates enrolled in second level/master level courses offered by foreign universities who do not hold the degree at the moment of the application:**
Certification of enrolment in the final year of the degree course, including transcripts of records;

5. All annexes listed in par. 4 must be uploaded in PDF format onto the online application system one by one. When the size of a file exceeds the maximum size permitted by the online system, all files can be merged into one unique file and upload this latter onto the online system.
6. All annexes listed in par. 4 can be either in Italian or in English. Any annex in a language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by a legal translation in Italian or in English, under penalty of inadmissibility to evaluation.
7. Application forms will not be considered if either incomplete or submitted with different modalities or after the deadline indicated in this article. Furthermore, application forms will not be considered if the application fee is paid after the deadline indicated in par. 2 of this article.
8. Candidates are strongly advised to complete the application procedure well in advance of the expiration date of this call in order to avoid the clogging of the online system due to the number of applications. The University is not responsible whereas the candidate cannot complete the application procedure because of unforeseeable circumstances, force majeure or any event not imputable to the university's administration.
9. Candidates are the sole responsible for the authenticity of the information included in both the application form and the annexes. The university's administration reserves the right to scrutinize the application forms and related annexes according to the legislation in force and exclude, in any moment and provided a proper motivation, those candidates whose applications do not comply with the requirements of this call.
10. In order to complete the application procedure, each candidate must:
 - a) Go to <https://studenti.smartedu.unict.it/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f>;
 - b) Complete the registration entering his/her personal data in order to receive personal access credentials (candidates already registered with the University's online system proceed from c);
 - c) Enter his/her personal credentials in the login box in order to access to his/her personal account;
 - d) Once in his/her personal account, in the box “**Enrolment**” click in order “**Doctorate**” and “**Admittance test**”;
 - e) Choose the Ph.D. course for which they intend to apply;
 - f) Enter the data required by the online system and check their correctness;
 - g) Upload all the documents required in par. 4 of this article in PDF format onto the online application system;
 - h) Confirm the data clicking the appropriate confirmation command;
 - i) Pay the application fee according to the procedure provided for in the online system;
 - j) Print and save a copy of the confirmation of the completion of the application procedure.
11. Candidates with disability higher than 66% who need assistance during the examination must submit formal request to the University's Centre for the Inclusion of people with disability and DSA, Via A. di Sangiuliano 259, 95131 Catania, tel. 095/7307182-189-188, e-mail: cs.cinap@unict.it, website <http://www.cinap.unict.it/>, reporting the name of the Ph.D. course for which they have applied. This request must be submitted by no later than **July 21 2025, 12 pm (noon) (Italian time, GMT+1)**.

Art. 4 – Type of places

1. Technical specifications concerning scholarships are reported in the information sheet of the relevant Ph.D. course. By way of example but not limited to, technical specifications may concern:
 - a. specific eligibility requirements for a particular scholarship;
 - b. research topic associated with a specific scholarship;

- c. specific modalities of development of the educational project connected to a particular scholarship.

2. Scholarships are financed by the Department of Medical and Chirurgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies "G.F. Ingrassia" in collaboration with private companies

3. **One place without scholarship is available, with the related research budget being financed by the University of Catania.** Further places without scholarship can be made available providing that they are less or equal in number to one third of the places with scholarship and their related research budget is financed through departmental funds.

Art. 5 – Selection procedures

- 1. The candidates' selection is based on the evaluation of qualifications and an oral examination
- 2. The maximum score assigned in the evaluation of qualifications is 60 points according to the following distribution:

Evaluation of qualifications	Maximum score	Assessed aspects
<i>Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum</i> (Resume)	30 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completion of the master degree course within its legal duration; - Final grade/ Arithmetical or weighed average of exam scores - Further study or work experience deemed worthy of evaluation including certifications attesting computer skills
Currently valid language certificates	5 points	Any certificate attesting the knowledge of EU language issued by a legally recognized institution (by way of example but not limited to: TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge Esol, DELF, DELE, KEG, Goethe Institut)
Publications, if any	5 points	For the publication to be assessed it is necessary that the applicant indicate the DOI/ISBN/ISSN
Research project	20 points	Pertinence to the research topics related to the <i>Avviso 15/2024 – Seconda Finestra -A.A. 2025/2026</i> (Call for applications 15/2024 – Second Call for expression of interest – Academic Year 2025/2026) and/or the research themes of the Ph.D. course.

		Development of the project, innovativeness and feasibility of the project, expected results. Grammatical, syntactical and presentation correctness.
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To be admitted to the following phases of the selection procedure, candidates need to obtain at least 40 out of 60 points in the evaluation of qualifications.

3. The maximum score in the oral examination is 60 points according to the following distribution:
 - a. Dissertation on the project submitted by the candidate (maximum 40 points)
 - b. General knowledge of the topics connected to the Master degree held by the candidate and/or the topics related to the Ph.D. course (maximum 20 points).
4. To pass the selection candidates need to obtain an aggregate score of a minimum 80 out 120 points, with a minimum of 40 out of 60 points in the evaluation of qualifications and a minimum of 40 out 60 points in the oral examination.
5. The research project assessed by the selection committee in the phase of the evaluation of qualifications and discussed in the oral examination is not binding for the purposes of the assignation of the research topic to the candidates admitted to any doctoral program.
6. The oral examination will be held in the dates, hours and places indicated in each Ph.D. course information sheets annexed to this call (see art. 1). No written notice will be sent to candidates. Any variation of the date, hour or place will be promptly posted with appropriate notice on the website of the Department of Medical and Chirurgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies “G.F. Ingrassia” of the University of Catania.
7. Candidates admitted to the oral examinations must be identified through the exhibition of a valid identity document.
8. Candidates whose residence is not in Sicily and who are not able to reach the University of Catania can take **the oral examination** in videoconference modality provided proper communication to the President of the selection committee within 5 working days prior to the oral examination. The selection committee has full discretion to decide which videoconference platform is to be used for the oral examination. Before the start of the oral examination, each candidate is required to pass the identification procedure by exhibiting his/her valid identity document. If the candidate is unavailable on the established day and hour of the oral examination or is not in possession of his/her valid identity document, he/she will be excluded from the selection procedure. The University of Catania is not responsible for any technical problem impeding the oral examination in the form of video conference interview in case this technical problem is not imputable to its administration.
9. The selection procedure must be completed by no later than **September 24 2025**.
10. The report of the selection procedure is to be sent to the offices by no later than **September 26 2025** to meet the deadlines scheduled in this call for applications.

Art. 6 – Designation and tasks of the Selection Committee

1. Each Selection Committee is composed according to art. 13 of the current Regulation of the University of Catania concerning Ph.D. courses.
2. Each selection committee is to be appointed by Rector's decree by no later than **July 31 2025**.
3. Each selection committee will first need to establish:
 - a. the criteria of evaluation and assignation of points to each document to be assessed within the score limit fixed in article 5, paragraphs 2 and 3, of this call for applications. **In case of candidates who are not yet been awarded a degree suitable for access in a Ph.D. course, selection committees, in order to evaluate the candidate's leaning path appropriately, will need to consider the candidate's arithmetic average score (Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento) or the weighted average score (Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale) attested by the candidate himself/herself at the moment of the application.**
 - b. In case the candidate holds two degrees suitable as entry requirement for Ph.D. courses that are awarded in two different academic years, the degree corresponding to the higher score will be considered in correspondence to the voices "completion of the degree course within its legal duration" and "finale grade", while the degree corresponding to the lower score will be considered in correspondence to the voice "study or work experience that are deemed worthy of evaluation" according to what is reported in article 5;
 - c. the criteria of organization and evaluation of the written examination, if scheduled, within the score limit fixed in article 5, paragraph 3, of this call for applications;
 - d. the criteria of organization and evaluation of the oral examination, within the score limit fixed in article 5, paragraphs 3 and 4, of this call for applications.
4. Before the start of the evaluation of qualifications, selection committees will take care to post the minutes including the criteria listed in paragraph 2 of this article on the website of the Department offering the Ph.D. course.
Selection committees will also take care to post the results of each phase of the selection procedure on the website of Department offering the Ph.D. course 5 days prior to the following phase.
5. Upon completion of the selection procedure, each selection committee will draw up the list of successful candidates ranked in descending order of score. Scores being equal, the younger candidate will prevail (law 16.6.1998, n. 191). Score and date of birth being equal, the candidate who first submitted the application form will prevail.
The ranking list is signed by both the President and the Secretary of the Selection committee. On the same day of its signature, the ranking list will be affixed to the Notice board of the Department where the selection takes place and posted on the website of the concerned Department.
The publication of the results of the selection procedure falls within the exclusive competence of selection committees that are responsible for the respect of the deadlines.
In case of places reserved to graduates from foreign universities with different selection modalities, the selection committee will draw a separate ranking list.

Art. 7 – Lists of selected candidates

1. The list of successful candidates eligible for Ph.D. places will be issued through a decree of the Rector of the University of Catania. The Rector's Decrees will be posted on www.unict.it (section "Bandi, gare e concorsi">>"Studenti e post laurea">> "Formazione post laurea">>"Dottorati di ricerca") within **October 1 2025**.

Art. 8 – Admission to Ph.D. courses

1. Candidates are admitted to Ph.D. programs according to the descending order on the ranking list of selected candidates until all the places available within each course are allocated. If a candidate is eligible for a place in two or more Ph.D. courses, he/she will have to choose the Ph.D. course in which he/she intends to enroll.
2. Candidates are excluded if they, within the deadline indicated in a further notice, do not submit the documents listed in article 9. In such cases, an incoming candidate in the ranking list in descending order of score becomes eligible to fill the vacant place.
3. Candidates admitted to Ph.D. courses are required to pay enrolment fees as stated in the following article 9.
4. Candidates with disability corresponding to 66% are admitted to the programme in supernumerary places without scholarship if their position on the list is below the number of available places in the Ph.D. program. Supernumerary places without scholarship reserved to candidates with disability can be up to half of the ordinary places.
5. Candidates who have already benefited from a doctoral scholarship, even for only one year or part of it, cannot be eligible for a second doctoral scholarship. Selected candidates falling within this category can be admitted to a place without scholarship only.

Art. 9 – Enrolment procedures

1. Candidates admitted to Ph.D. courses (published on the University website www.unict.it , Bandi, gare e concorsi > Studenti e Post laurea > Formazione post laurea > Dottorati di ricerca) can proceed with their enrolment from **October 1 2025** to **October 10 2025**. From **October 11 2025** to **October 30 2025** the Academic Board of each Ph.D. course will proceed with allocation of the scholarships to the Ph.D. students. The Academic Board's decisions will be confirmed by a Rector's decree.
2. Within the deadline reported in the previous paragraph, the selected candidates will have to proceed with the enrolment and pay the enrolment fee reported in the following paragraph 4, letter e) according to the procedure indicated in paragraphs 3) and 4). No personal notice will be sent to selected candidates.
3. In the enrolment form the candidate shall enter:
 - a) name and surname, fiscal code, date and place of birth, address (including post code), telephone number and e-mail address;
 - b) disability with indication of its percentage, where applicable;
 - c) declaration to commit himself/herself to attend the Ph.D. course full time according to the provisions of the Academic board as stated in the Regulation governing Ph.D. courses currently in force at the University of Catania.
4. To complete the enrolment procedure candidates must:
 - a) go to <https://studenti.smartedu.unict.it>;
 - b) log in to their account with the same credentials as those used during the application procedure;
 - c) once in their account in the box **Iscrizione** click the heading “**Dottorati**” and then “**Domanda di immatricolazione**”;
 - d) enter all the required details in the specific spaces and confirm them;
 - e) proceed with the payment of the enrolment fee consisting of:
 - Place with scholarship, € 356,00 broken down into:
 1. € 200,00 tuition fees;
 2. € 140,00 regional fee for the right to study;
 3. € 16,00 virtual fiscal stamp

- Place without scholarship, € 156,00 broken down into:
 1. € 140,00 regional fee for the right to study;
 2. € 16,00 virtual fiscal stamp.
- Candidates with disability corresponding to 66% or more, whether in ordinary or supranumerary places
 1. € 16,00 only, virtual fiscal stamp.

5. By no later than November 5 2025 (December 5 2025 for candidates admitted because of the sliding of the ranking list), candidates admitted to places with scholarship will need to send to dottorati@unict.it the following documents:

- a) Proof of registration with the Italian National Institute for Social Security;
- b) Declaration attesting whether they are registered or not with further institutes for social security;
- c) Copy of the Italian fiscal code;
- d) Copy of a valid identity document;
- e) Form reporting bank details for the payment of the scholarship;
- f) Declaration of acknowledgment that doctoral scholarship are not subject to income tax and, whatever their utilization, do not count for the quantification of service years in legal and economic terms.

6. **Within October 31 2025**, graduates from non-EU universities will also have to submit the **Declaration of Value** issued by the Italian embassy in their home country or the **Certificate of Comparability** issued by CIMEA – Academic Equivalence Mobility Information Centre (<https://www.cimea.it/EN/pagina-procedure-riconoscimento-titoli>) attesting that their second level/master degrees are suitable for access to Ph.D. courses, with failure to submit one of the aforementioned documents leading to the exclusion from the Ph.D. course. If one of aforementioned document has already been submitted at the time of the application procedure, a second submission of such documents will not be required.

7. Enrolment forms submitted with different modalities or after the deadlines indicated in the Rector's Decree mentioned in paragraph 1 will not be considered. Enrolment forms that are not finalised by the payment of the enrolment fee will not be considered either. The University of Catania is not responsible for any delays due to a third party, accident or force majeure.

8. Candidates' failure to comply with the aforementioned provisions is considered equivalent to formal renunciation to the place in the Ph.D. course. Vacant places will be made available for other candidates on the ranking according in descending order of score and until all vacant places are allocated. These candidates will be invited to enroll in the Ph.D. course within a deadline reported in a notice to be sent to the email address indicated in the application form.

9. The renunciation to a place in a Ph.D. program does not give the right to a refund of the enrolment fee even when the candidate has not attended any course activities.

10. In order to allow a rapid allocation of the places to the candidates in the ranking list, selected candidates who intend to renounce to a Ph.D. place are requested to send immediate written notice to dottorati@unict.it. A copy of the identity card in PDF format must be attached to the notice of renunciation. The consequent reallocation of the vacant place(s) can be completed by no later than **November 30 2025**.

11. Any variation of the enrolment procedure shall be duly communicated to the selected candidates with appropriate notice poste on www.unict.it (Bandi, gare e concorsi > Studenti e post laurea > Formazione post laurea > Dottorati di ricerca).

12. By no later than November 30th of each year, unless otherwise specified by the university's administration, Ph.D. students must renew their registration in the following year. The enrolment is bound to the decision of the Ph.D. academic board according to art. 15, par. 7 of the Regulation of the University of Catania governing Ph.D. courses currently in force. Failure to renew the enrolment within September 30th leads to the payment of a default charge of:

- € 100,00, if the enrolment in the following year is completed with a delay of 30 days from September 30th;
- twice the fee (see art. 9, par.4, lett. e) if the enrolment in the following year is completed with a delay of more than 30 days from September 30th.

Art. 10 - Scholarships

- The scholarships, whose maximum duration corresponds to the duration of the Ph.D. course, are assigned to candidates in the ranking list, provided a comparative evaluation in terms of merit and according to the order of the list, and are confirmed with the candidate's admission the following year of the Ph.D. course.
- Each scholarship amounts to € 16.243,00 per year, before social deductions charged to the scholarship holder. This amount will be adjusted according to increases established by the law, if any.
- The amount of the scholarship is increased up to 50% in correspondence and proportionally to research periods at foreign institutions, both public and private, provided these research periods are authorized by the related Ph.D. Academic Board and corresponds to minimum one uninterrupted month.
- Under no circumstances can the foreign mobility be less than 6 months and more than 12 months out the entire duration of the Ph.D. course. Foreign mobility can be extended to 18 months of joint thesis supervision.
Foreign mobilities must be priorly authorized by the Ph.D. Academic Board. Within the minimum duration of 6 months and the maximum duration of 12 months, extendable to 18 months in case of joint thesis supervision, the months of foreign mobility do not have to be consecutive.
- The 50% increase reported in paragraph 3 will be paid for foreign mobilities of a duration corresponding to one uninterrupted month. For a mobility whose duration is less than one uninterrupted month, Ph.D. students can request a reimbursement of their expenses through the budget mentioned in the following paragraph 7 of this article.
The 50% increase will not be paid in case of mobility to the foreign country of birth or residence of the Ph.D. student.
- In compliance to article 9, paragraph 4, of the Ministerial Decree 226/2021, each doctoral student is granted, within the financial resources of the university's administration, an additional research budget from the first year of Ph.D. course. This additional research budget corresponds to 10% of the gross amount of the scholarship.
As a first approximation, this research budget amounts to **€ 2.003,70**. This budget can be used by the doctoral student to cover any costs concerning his/her research in Italy and abroad.
This budget is transferred every year to the Department offering the Ph.D. course indicated in the information sheet. **To access and use this budget, each doctoral student will need to refer to the financial division of the Department offering the Ph.D. course.**
- The payment of the scholarship is bound to the effective attendance to course activities and the effective development of the research project assigned by the Academic Board.
- The provisions concerning tax benefit included in art. 4, Law 476/1984 apply to doctoral scholarships.

9. Notwithstanding the provisos included in the Regulation (EU, Euroatom) n. 1046 of July 18th 2018 (art. 191: "Principle of non-cumulative award and prohibition of double funding"), doctoral scholarships are not compatible with other scholarships, conferred for any reason, including research scholarships. The doctoral scholarships can be compatible with additional scholarships, granted for research periods abroad only, provided the financial source funding the foreign mobility is different from the financial source funding the principal scholarship. To benefit from these supplementary scholarships additional conditions might be required which are expressly indicated in the call advertising these specific grants.
10. The payment of the scholarship consists in monthly salaries whose payment is deferred to the month following the month of reference. Payment modalities are detailed in the Rector's Decrees approving the allocation of the scholarships.
11. The scholarship 50% increase will be paid, provided the submission of the proper request form by Ph.D. students, according to one of the following modalities:
 - a. on a monthly basis;
 - b. with an advance payment corresponding to the 80% of the increase and a balance of the 20%. In such cases, the advance payment will be upon the Ph.D. Student's arrival at the foreign institution providing that he/she sends the following documents to dottorati@unict.it:
 - i. authorization to foreign mobility signed by the Ph.D. Coordinator along with an invitation letter by the hosting institution;
 - ii. certificate by the hosting institution attesting the arrival of the Ph.D. student at the same institution
12. Ph.D. students will have to return the scholarship salaries in case they:
 - c. are not admitted to any year following the first by the relevant Ph.D. Academic Board;
 - d. are not admitted to the final examination by the relevant Ph.D. Academic Board;
 - e. renounce to the scholarship and the Ph.D. course on a voluntary basis.

The salaries to be returned are those related to the academic year which is not completed for one of the abovementioned reasons.

Art. 11 – Rights and duties of Ph.D. Students and causes of exclusion

1. Ph.D. students will exclusively have to attend all course activities on a full-time basis – at the University of Catania or any other institution(s) provided the appropriate authorization – and comply to all is legally established by the Ph.D. academic board.
2. Ph.D. students in places with scholarship are requested to spend a period of foreign mobility according to the provisos included in the program financing the scholarship and for a duration of no less than 6 months.
3. Ph.D. students will have to respect all the pertinent administrative deadlines: Failure to respect of the deadlines, as well as job performances that are not previously authorized by the Ph.D. Academic board, can lead to the immediate exclusion from the course.
4. If the university's administration requires the Ph.D. student to integrate the documentation submitted at the moment of the application procedure, these integrations will have to be submitted within thirty (30) days from the day of the request. Failure to comply with this requirement will lead to the exclusion from the Ph.D. course.

5. Ph.D. students can carry out paid activities on condition that:

- a. the retribution concerning these activities is the responsibility of institutions that are external to the University of Catania in case of Ph.D. students in places with scholarship;
- b. these activities enable the Ph.D. students to acquire skills in the field of the Ph.D. course, provided the assessment of the compatibility of such activities with the Ph.D. research work;
- c. in case of Ph.D. students in places with scholarship, the annual income deriving from these activities must be less than or equal to the annual gross amount of € 20.037,00.

The Ph.D. Academic Board must authorize the Ph.D. Student who requires to carry out such activities, provided the assessment of the compatibility of such activities with the productive carrying out of the training, didactic and research activities related to the Ph.D. course.

Art. 12 –Treatment of personal data

1. With regard to the information about the treatment of the candidates' personal data, according to articles 12, 13 and 14 of the EU regulations on the treatment of personal data 2016/679 (GDPR) and article 13 of the legislative decree n. 196/2003 – candidates shall refer to the following link:
https://www.unict.it/sites/default/files/files/Informativa%20studenti_aprile%202021-DEF.pdf.

Art. 13 – Officers in charge of procedure

1. According to art.5, subparagraph 1, of Law 241/90, the official in charge of the procedure is:
 - the chairperson of the selection committee with reference to the selection procedure, from the appointment of the committee members to the publication of the selection results;
 - Ms. Anna Carolina Toscano (email: dottorati@unict.it) for any aspects concerning the present call for applications;
 - Mr. Salvatore Amedeo Libertini for any aspect concerning foreign applicants.

Art. 14 – Final measures

1. This call can be integrated in case the number of places with scholarships increases due to further funds made available by no later than the expiry date of this call for applications.
2. Any aspect related to Ph.D. course and not expressly covered in the present call is governed by Ministerial Decree 226/2021, the Ph.D. regulations in force at the University of Catania, International cooperation agreements, other legislation in force governing Ph.D. courses and the legislation in force.
3. For any information and/or explanations it is possible to contact the Ph.D. Students Office at the following contact details: dottorati@unict.it;

CATANIA, 19/06/2025

THE RECTOR
(Prof. Francesco Priolo)