



**Call for Applications for Admission to the Ph.D. Programmes  
XL cycle - Academic Year 2024/2025**

**Art. 1**

*(Public Selection Announcement)*

A public selection is announced at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa (hereafter referred to as "Scuola") for admission to **55 (fifty-five)** Ph.D. positions for the academic year 2024/2025 - Cycle XL, in the following Programmes:

- Ph.D. in Agrobiodiversity
- Ph.D. in Agrobiosciences
- Ph.D. in BioRobotics
- Ph.D. in Economics
- Ph.D. in Emerging Digital Technologies
- Ph.D. in Health Science, Technology and Management
- Ph.D. in Human Rights, Global Politics, and Sustainability: Legal and Philosophical Perspectives
- Ph.D. in Law
- Ph.D. in Management Innovation, Sustainability and Healthcare
- Ph.D. in Translational Medicine

In the factsheets for each Ph.D. Programme, attached and representing an integral part of this Call, are detailed the available positions and types of scholarship or equivalent funding, the application evaluation criteria, contacts, and other information relevant to the specific Ph.D. Programme.

The number of positions may increase before the beginning of the Programmes, should additional funding become available, including, but not limited to, projects funded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU. Please note that funding for some positions may be bound to specific research topics.

Each Ph.D. Programme can reserve one or more positions in the ranking list for eligible candidates who belong to the categories set out in the Ministerial Decree nr. 226 of 14 December 2021 at art. 8, par. 2 and 4, and art. 8, par. 4. and have been assessed as eligible following this selection procedure.

**Art. 2**

*(Application Requirements)*

Applicants with at least one of the following qualifications may participate in the selection, without citizenship restrictions:

- *Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento* (Italian University degree obtained before 1999);
- *Laurea magistrale, magistrale a ciclo unico* or *specialistica* (Italian University second-level degree);
- A non-Italian MSc degree recognised as equivalent to the above-mentioned second-level academic degrees for the sole purpose of participating in the Call for admission to the Ph.D. programme.

The eligibility of the foreign qualification will be assessed by the Selection Committee according to the laws and regulations in force in Italy and in the country where the degree was awarded. The Commission will assess the equivalence in terms of level, nature, content, and academic rights to the Italian academic degree required for access to a Ph.D. Programme.



Applicants who, as of the deadline for participation in the competition, have not obtained the degree and will obtain it by September 30, 2024, may also participate in the selection; failure to do so will result in forfeiture of admission to the Ph.D. Programme.

Participation in the selection is not open to those who have already received a Ph.D. scholarship to attend a Ph.D. programme in Italy, even if only for one instalment.

### **Art. 3**

#### *(Application Submission)*

The application for participation in the selection must be submitted, under penalty of exclusion, **by 12:00 p.m. (noon, Italian local time) on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 2024**, through the online system available at <https://sss sup.esse3.cineca.it/Home.do>.

Prior to submitting the application, candidates must:

1. Register, by entering the requested data;
2. Save the login and password provided, which must be changed after the first log-in;
3. Re-enter the system with the new password, select the Ph.D. Programme, and, if applicable, the desired curriculum;
4. Complete the application following the instructions indicated on each page.

At the end of the procedure, please ensure that you have received the e-mail confirming that your application has been submitted.

The School accepts no liability for system malfunctions or connection problems.

In the application, applicants are required to declare, under their own responsibility, the following details:

- a) Surname, forename, place and date of birth, citizenship;
- b) Type of secondary school diploma, graduation date, and issuing School or Institute;
- c) Possession of the academic qualification referred to in Article 2 above with an indication of the degree course, its duration, and the issuing University or Higher Education Institution;
- d) the Date on which the degree is expected to be awarded, for those who do not yet possess it;
- e) E-mail address, which is mandatory for communications related to the Call.

Applicants must also complete the 'Additional Information' section as part of their application.

The following documents, in 'PDF' format, must be attached to the application:

1. Copy of a valid **identity document** (copy of passport is preferable for non-EU applicants);
2. **Academic qualification:**
  - Obtained in Italy: certificate or self-certification of the degree and the graduation mark, including a list of all completed courses indicating the CFU (ECTS or equivalent) and the grade achieved for each course;
  - Obtained abroad: (for EU countries) the *Diploma Supplement* issued by the University of origin, or (for non-EU countries) a Statement of Comparability of the foreign university degree issued by the ENIC-NARIC centre in Italy (CIMEA) together with a transcript including a list of all completed courses indicating the ECTS (or equivalent) and the grade achieved for each course (with a translation if the transcript is in a language other than English/French/Spanish/German);  
Please note: If CIMEA's Credential Information Service (CIS) is not available by the application deadline, applicants may attach a copy of the diploma and a transcript including a list of all completed courses indicating the ECTS (or equivalent) and the grade achieved for each course (with a translation if both documents are in a language other than English/French/Spanish/German);

- If the required qualification has not yet been obtained: transcripts or certification of all completed courses taken in the MSc degree course (or equivalent), indicating the ECTS (or equivalent) and the grade achieved for each course;
- 3. **Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum**, in Italian or English;
- 4. **Motivational letter**, in Italian or English;
- 5. **Research project**, in Italian or English, related to the research areas of the Ph.D. Programme of interest, designed to be evaluated for admission. Applicants are invited to review the research areas of the Ph.D. Programme of interest on the School's website.

Each Ph.D. Programme factsheet, which represents an integral part of this Call, may include further guidance on the above items and the request for additional information and documentation to be attached to the application.

Failure to submit the mandatory documents will result in exclusion from the competition.

Applicants with a disability or specific learning disorders must attach the medical documentation attesting to their disability or specific learning disorders along with a note requesting any assistance needed for the selection procedure and any additional time required for the application. If the disability does not permit the use of the online application system, the applicant may request to use an alternative method.

Please note that **it will not be possible** to supplement the documents attached to the application after the deadline for submission.

The School may, at any time during the procedure, even after the beginning of the Programmes, perform checks on the truthfulness of the declarations and documents submitted and may request the presentation of the original documents. In the event of false declarations, the School may, at any time, by motivated decision of the Rector, order the exclusion of candidates from the selection procedure or the Ph.D. Programme, without prejudice to any criminal liability deriving from the same.

According to Art. 7, par. 4 of the School's Code of Ethics, should an applicant taking part in the selection procedure be up to a 4th-degree relative or 2nd-degree relative-in-law of a member of the Faculty, technical-administrative, or research staff of the School, he/she must give written notice of their kinship prior to the beginning of the selection procedures.

#### **Art. 4**

##### *(Selection Committees and Assessment)*

The Selection Committees for admission to the Ph.D. Programmes are appointed by the Rector's decree and their members can be found on the School's website.

Each Selection Committee may appoint sub-committees to ensure the efficiency and rapidity of the selection procedure.

The relevant activities of the Committees may be also carried out remotely, while guaranteeing the security and traceability of communications, according to current legislation.

The selection will entail an evaluation of the qualifications and the research project submitted and an in-person or online interview, in Italian or English. During the interview, the applicant's motivation to participate in the doctoral programme will be assessed, among other things. The positive outcome of the assessment of the qualifications and the research project is a necessary condition for admission to the interview.

The list of those admitted to the interview and the interview schedules will be published **by the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2024**, on the School's website, on the specific web pages indicated in each Ph.D. programme factsheet attached to this Call. Applicants must be available for the entire day set for the interview.



In the case of online interviews, it is the candidate's responsibility to ensure the availability of the required hardware (PC, webcam) and software and a reliable internet connection. At the beginning of the online interview, applicants must show the identity document that was submitted with their application for identification purposes.

The criteria for assessing applications are detailed in each Ph.D. Programme factsheet attached to this Call, of which they represent an integral part.

The minimum score required to be added to the general merit ranking list is 70/100.

All information concerning the selection will be published on the School's website. This publication will have the value of a final notification for all purposes. **No personal communications will be sent to the individual candidates**, except for the communication sent to the successful candidates admitted to the Programme at the e-mail address provided at the time of application.

### **Art. 5**

#### *(Ph.D. Programme Admission and Enrolment)*

The final ranking lists, approved by the Rector's decree, will be published on the School's website. In case of an equal ranking position, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

Successful candidates will be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme according to the ranking list order and up to the number of available positions. According to Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 December 2021, the School will be able to enrol successful candidates only upon successful completion of the accreditation process for the XL Cycle.

Subject to compliance with the reservation of positions under Article 8, par. 2 and 4, of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, the School reserves the right to assign any positions which become available as a result of candidates renouncing or withdrawing, to eligible candidates on the ranking list before the beginning of the Programme or after that date, but no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, 2024, subject to the approval of the Ph.D. Programme Faculty Board.

Successful candidates must confirm their acceptance within 7 days from the date of receipt of the notification, otherwise, they will be excluded, and the position will be assigned to the first eligible candidate on the ranking list. In the event of renunciation of the position or the scholarship, these will be re-assigned to the first eligible candidate on the ranking list, subject to compliance with the specific provisions of agreements with public or private organisations financing the scholarships conditioned on meeting certain requirements or aimed at specific research topics.

The start date of all Ph.D. Programmes is on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2024.

To enter Italy, students who are citizens of non-EU countries must apply for a visa for study purposes, issued by the Italian embassies or consulates with jurisdiction over the country of origin. Upon arrival in Italy, students are required to apply for a residence permit for study purposes within eight (8) days. More information can be found at: <http://www.santannapisa.it/it/internazionale/welcome-and-support>

In special and justified cases related to the procedures for obtaining a visa to enter Italy, the arrival of the students may be postponed, normally no later than 30 days from the official start of the Ph.D. Programme.

To finalise their enrolment, students must provide the following documents:

- **valid identity document;**
- (only for those who obtain their degree after the deadline for application) **copy of the degree** as specified in Article 3;



- **Regional Tax for the Right to University Study payment receipt** (under Art. 18, par. 8, of Legislative Decree no. 68 of 29 March 2012) the amount of which, for the academic year 2024/2025, is set at € 140.00.

The following individuals are not required to pay the regional tax for the Right to University Study:

- ✓ Those who have applied for a grant for the 2024/2025 academic year to the Azienda Regionale per il Diritto allo Studio Universitario (Tuscany Regional Agency for the Right to University Study). Students who are subsequently not awarded or are only eligible for this grant ranking list must pay the regional tax after the publication of the final ranking list by the Tuscany Regional Agency for the Right to University Study;
- ✓ Students with disabilities, with a recognised disability (Article 3(1) of Law no. 104 of 5 February 1992) or with a disability of 66% or more;
- ✓ Students with parents who are disability pension holders (Art. 30 of Law No. 118 of 30 March 1971).

For more information on the regional tax for the Right to University Study, please visit:

<http://www.dsu.toscana.it>

## **Art. 6**

### *(Ph.D. Scholarships and Other Contributions)*

Scholarships are for the duration of the relevant Ph.D. Programmes and confirmed annually upon admission to the following year by approval from the Advisory Board of the individual Programme. Ph.D. scholarships are awarded following the ranking order, except for scholarships linked to specific topics or research projects, which may be awarded to the first eligible candidate(s) identified by the Selection Committee.

The annual budget for each student comprises a scholarship of € 16,243.00 (€ 18,800.00 for the Ph.D. Programmes in Biorobotics and Emerging Digital Technologies), including social security charges payable by the recipient and paid in monthly instalments in arrears, and a housing grant of € 2,200/year.

Scholarships cannot be combined with other scholarships for any reason whatsoever, except for those granted by national or foreign institutions, aimed at supplementing the student's research activities with visits abroad. Doctoral students who have previously received a Ph.D. scholarship in Italy, even partially, are not eligible for another Ph.D. scholarship.

Ph.D. students have access to the School's library and laboratories in accordance with their respective regulations. Students can also use the School's canteen for the duration of the Programme (with the benefit of 26 free meals per month, excluding holiday periods as specified in the academic calendar).

For periods of study and research abroad, authorised by the Faculty Board, the scholarship can be increased by 50% (max € 5,010 gross beneficiary for 6 months for standard scholarships and max € 5,798 gross beneficiary for scholarships for the Ph.D. Programmes in Biorobotics and Emerging Digital Technologies), following the procedures set out in the Training Activities Regulations.

In addition, under Article 9 of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, the School makes available to all Ph.D. students an individual budget of no less than 10% of the annual amount of the scholarship (€ 4,873 for three-year Programmes, € 6,498 for four-year Programmes and € 5,640 for Ph.D. Programmes in Biorobotics and Emerging Digital Technologies) to cover expenses related to their research activities.

The scholarships and contributions referred to in this Article are subject, for tax and contribution purposes, to the current regulations on scholarships provided by universities and Regions.

The School insures each student against accident and civil liability for the entire duration of the Programme and ensures that the safety conditions of the premises, facilities, instruments, and equipment used in the Ph.D. Programme are observed.

The School also provides insurance coverage for health and ancillary risks during duly authorized off-campus travel undertaken in accordance with internal regulations.



## **Art. 7**

### *(Ph.D. Student Obligations)*

Ph.D. students are required to attend the courses and research activities offered by the School for the Ph.D. Programmes, to fulfill the obligations provided for in the Training Activities Regulations (Book III), including the submission of the annual report on the educational and research activities carried out, and to comply with the policies included in the School's Statute, internal Regulations, Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct.

Ph.D. students must:

- Complete the training evaluation questionnaires required by the School;
- Complete any periodic reports required by the type of scholarship funding awarded;
- Comply with the requirements of the type of scholarship awarded;
- Timely notify the supervisor and the Ph.D. Office of any requests to use the research budget and to spend a term abroad.

For health and safety protection, Ph.D. students must also:

- Fill in the Employment Destination form;
- Undergo health checks as part of the health surveillance carried out by the School's Medical Officer;
- Participate in the planned training and instruction courses.

Failure to comply with these obligations will result in sanctions up to a ban on access to the School premises.

The Rector  
Prof. Sabina Nuti

#### **Person in charge of the competition procedure, processing of personal data, and corruption prevention measures.**

Under the provisions of art. 5 of Law 241/90 and ss.mm.ii, the person in charge of the competition procedure referred to in this notice is Dr. Chiara Magini, Head of the U.O. Ph.D., Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Via Santa Cecilia, 3, 56127 Pisa - e-mail: phdoffice@santannapisa.it. Under the "European Personal Data Protection Regulation" Reg. UE/679/2016, the Data Controller of the personal data provided in the context of the competition procedure in question is the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, in the person of the Rector, Piazza Martiri della Libertà 33 Pisa. The Internal Data Processor is designated in the person of Dr. Giovanna Bottai, Head of the Postgraduate Training Area, e-mail: giovanna.bottai@santannapisa.it.

Other subjects authorised to process data are the staff working at the U.O. Ph.D. and the Coordinators of the Ph.D. Programmes and the relative Commissions and eventual sub-Commissions, through the use of computerised procedures, in any case in the manner and within the limits necessary to pursue the purposes indicated below. The data, rendered anonymous, will be used for statistical processing.

The provision of personal data (including name, surname, contact details, and all other data provided in the form above) is necessary for participating in this competition.

The processing of data is aimed at carrying out the following institutional activities:

- Completion of competition proceedings;
- Creation of the career file.

The data acquired will be processed, stored, and communicated in compliance with the relevant European and national legislation (Reg. 679/2016 and Legislative Decree 196/2003) for an indefinite time, as set out in the School's Maximum Storage Schedule and by the principles of publicity and transparency for the proper functioning of the Public Administration. The involved subjects may, at any time, assert their rights in front of the School, to access their personal data, to ask for them to be corrected, updated, and deleted if these are incomplete, erroneous, or collected in breach of the law, the subjects may also to oppose their processing for reasons recognised by law, as well as to request the deletion, transformation into anonymous form or blocking of data processed in violation of the law, including data whose storage is not necessary with the purposes for which the data were collected or subsequently processed, by making a request to the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, U.O. Ph.D., Via Santa Cecilia, 3, Pisa, e-mail: phdoffice@santannapisa.it. It is the right of the data subject to lodge a complaint with the personal data protection authority.

For further clarifications and information, please contact the Data Protection Officer of the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna at the following e-mail address: dpo@santannapisa.it.

The Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna operates in compliance with the regulations on the prevention of corruption (L.190/2012) by applying the measures identified in the "Three-year Corruption Prevention Plan" published in the "Transparent Administration" section of the institutional website at: [www.santannapisa.it](http://www.santannapisa.it)

#### **Normative references:**

Equivalence and recognition of foreign degrees: Law no. 148/2002; Ministerial Decree no. 270/2004, Presidential Decree no. 189/2009

Self-certifications: Presidential Decree No. 445/2000 as amended.

Assistance, integration, and rights of the disabled: Law No 104/1992

Single text for safety at work: Legislative Decree No 81/2008