CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

II LEVEL MASTER

Perioperative Care of Congenital Heart Diseases

Academic Year 2017/2018- 2018/2019

In collaboration with Fondazione G. Monasterio - Regione Toscana - CNR

Article 1 – General Information

The Institute of Life Sciences of Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies, in Pisa, Italy, according to the article 3 of the School’s Statute, and in partnership with the Fondazione Toscana G. Monasterio - Regione Toscana-CNR, has activated the first edition of the II level Master course “Perioperative Care in Congenital Heart Diseases”, within the Academic Years 2017/2018- 2018/2019.

The Course's venue will be the main campus of Sant'Anna School; practical activities will be held in Fondazione G. Monasterio in Massa and in other sites.

The Master will begin in April 2018 and end in October 2019.

Official language of the Master is English.

The following information can be found in the appendix A (integrative part of this call for applications):
- start and end dates
- educational objectives
- structure and teaching methodology
- number of University Credits (ECTS) necessary to obtain the Degree
- number of places available
- application deadline
- selection process
- master fee and payment modalities
- any other contribution and allocation modalities

Article 2 – University Credits (ECTS)

The Master provides students with maximum 70 University Credits (ECTS).

According to what stated by the Internal Regulation of the Master, the attendance of courses, as well as the completion of the intermediate and final tests of proficiency are mandatory to obtain the Master's degree.

The Master Degree is acquired with 66 CFU at least, and is subject to the respect of the minimum attendance requirements, i.e. 90% of the scheduled teaching activities including practical internships as for article 4.

According to the Circular Letter of the Ministry of Health of March 5, 2002, the attendance of a Master Degree programs, does not issue CME credits, but it exempts healthcare professionals from achieving CME for the duration of the Master years.

Article 3 – Goals and Job Opportunities

The main goal of the Master consists in developing scientific, technical and cultural background for the management of patients with congenital heart disease through an interdisciplinary approach.

The Master will provide anesthesiologists/intensive care physicians, cardiologists, cardiac surgeons,
pediatricians/neonatologists with key elements to assure congenital heart disease patients the best and up-to-date treatment.

In particular, the Master aims:
1) to provide the fundamental knowledge for the diagnostics and treatment of patients with congenital heart diseases from the prenatal period to the grown up age.
2) to give a specific insight into the congenital heart disease pre-, intra- and post-operative/procedure process;
3) to illustrate the theory and practice of the state of the art in the field of congenital heart diseases;
4) to develop clinical and management skills that can enable a correct understanding and compilation of core pathways in congenital heart diseases in different geographic backgrounds.
5) to give the basis of multidisciplinary team work in the process of clinical evaluation and shared therapeutic decision-making.

The Master increases knowledge of congenital heart diseases and promotes employment opportunities in the leading centers and institutions in this field.

**Article 4 - Teaching Methods and Course Schedule**

The Master Course has a duration of 18 months amounting to a total of 700 hours, divided as follows:
- 160 hours of classroom seminars and lectures for 4 weeks (usually every 4 months) at Scuola Superiore di Sant'Anna - 16 ECTS;
- 240 hours of on-line learning (e-learning platform, open source Moodle) - 24 ECTS;
- 300 hours of residential training programs in Fondazione G. Monasterio, Regione Toscana-CNR, Massa and in other qualified international Institutions selected by the Master’s Direction - 30 ECTS.

The Master Program is structured in the following main areas:
- Anesthesiology and Intensive Care: to acquire theoretical and practical knowledge regarding the peri-operative/procedural evaluation and risk stratification of patients with congenital heart disease, as well as management of the critical phases of the diagnostic and therapeutic approach.
- Cardiology: to acquire the advanced knowledge on diagnostics and therapeutics, as well as the principles of interventional cardiology for the management of congenital heart disease patients.
- Cardiac Surgery: to acquire advanced and up to date knowledge and expertise in the surgical treatment of congenital heart diseases.
- Imaging: to acquire the correct indication and interpretative basis of main imaging techniques in order to optimize the peri-operative/procedure process and management.

For this edition the sites for the residential training are: Fondazione G. Monasterio, Regione Toscana-CNR Massa, Italy and other Centers that will be communicated during the master.

Practical internships have a duration of at least 300 hours; it is mandatory to spend 80 hours in the Critical Area Department and Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiothoracic Department of Fondazione G. Monasterio in Massa Italy.

Rights and duties of the students of the Master, as well as the relationship between them and the School are regulated by "General Rules and Regulations for University Master" of the Sant’Anna School and by the Rules and Regulations of the Master “Perioperative Care of Congenital Heart Diseases”.

**Article 5 - Master Thesis**

At the end of the Master Course, the students shall produce a written thesis (Project Work) based on the work carried out during the internships, which will be discussed and assessed by an Evaluation Committee nominated by the Rector with a Decree.

The discussion of the Thesis must be held within the first session of the Academic Year following the year in which the Master will end.

The Project Work must be registered for publication in the archives of the Thesis online of Sant’Anna School, within the timing indicated in the Internal Regulation of the Master.

**Article 6 - Admission Requirements**

Applications for the Master Course can be made by European and Non-European citizens, who possess a University Degree in Medicine (or an equivalent qualification) and Specialization in Anesthesia and/or Intensive Care, Cardiac Surgery, Cardiology, Pediatrics and/or Neonatology (or an equivalent qualification). Other University Degree qualifications could be accepted under the Evaluation Committee assessment.

Students who are enrolled in University programs and expect to gain the Specialization Degree within the beginning of the Master are also eligible.
A good knowledge of English language is required (B2 level of Common European Framework of Reference for Languages is recommended).

Article 7 - Application Procedure
Applicants shall submit their application online at http://www.santannapisa.it/masterperioperatoria/application, within March 1st 2018.

Following, the documents to enclose to the application:
- Self-declaration of the Degree in Medicine and of the Specialization including the date and the final vote;
- curriculum vitae;
- other attendance certificates;
- motivational letter
- two letters of recommendation;
- copy of a valid identity card.

Those who expect to gain specialization within the beginning of the Master are required to present a self-declaration with a list of sustained exams, and the expected date of Specialization. If admitted, they must present a copy or a self-declaration of the Specialization Degree before Master initiation.

Incomplete or delayed applications, for any reason, will not be accepted.

False documents or false declarations will be punished according to the Penal Code and Special Laws in matter, articles 75-76 D.P.R. 445/2000.

Sant’Anna School can, at any time, even after the beginning of the Master, verify declarations and documents. In case they are false, School can exclude candidates with a Rector’s Decree.

Art. 8 – Selection process
The number of available positions is 15 with a minimum of 7 participants.
The selection process will be carried out by the Evaluation Committee nominated by the Rector through the evaluation of the titles, the curriculum and the motivation. If required, a phone or Skype interview will complete the evaluation process.

The Scientific Committee will select the applicants by awarding up to 100 points to their qualifications according to the following criteria:
- Academic curriculum (average of marks received at exams, mark of the MD graduation exam, consistency of the curriculum and dissertation with the contents of the Master Course): up to 40 points;
- Relevant professional experience in perioperative medicine for congenital heart diseases, research activity, and publications: up to 40 points;
- Motivation and two reference letters: up to 20 points.

At the end of the selection, the 15 best-ranked applicants will attend the Master.

In case of student withdrawal, the next eligible applicant who has confirmed the participation to the course will be admitted to the Master Course.

Only candidates who have been awarded an overall score of at least 70/100 points will be eligible to attend the Master Course.

In presence of an ex equo, the younger candidate will be chosen.

Once the selection is ended, Sant’Anna School, with a Rector’s Decree, will approve the procedure and the rank, after the verification of candidates’ requirements and titles. Final rank will be published exclusively online on the School’s website, in the section dedicated to the master.

In case of a low number of applications, Master’s Direction can decide not to activate the Master.

Art. 9 - Acceptance procedure
Admitted applicants must confirm their participation within the time fixed in the admission communication, sending by e-mail (altaformazione@santannapisa.it) or fax (+39 050 882633) the following documents:

- declaration of the intention to participate to the Master Course;
- copy of the receipt of payment of the first instalment € 2,000,00.
• copy of a valid identity document.

All admitted participants that have obtained their Degree abroad (EU or non EU countries) must also provide:
  * a copy of the degree in medicine, translated and legalized by the Italian diplomatic or consular representations of the country where the education was completed if different from English / French / Spanish / German.
  * certificate of equivalence of the diploma issued by the Italian diplomatic or consular representations of the country in which the education was completed.

Admission of candidates with degrees obtained in a non-EU country, is in any case subject to verification of the degree on the basis of the certificate of equivalence.

Candidates that have not yet finished their residency program will be admitted under condition that a copy or a self-declaration of the Specialization Degree will be sent to the school before Master initiation.

In order to complete their participation, at the beginning of the Master, students will present to the Secretariat a stamp of € 16.00 to apply on the application form.

The payment of the second instalment of the tuition fee of € 1.500,00 must be done according to the instructions given in the admission communication.

Bank transfers to:
Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna
UNICREDIT S.p.A., Filiale di Pisa,
IBAN IT 32 O 02008 14006 000401272765 (indicating: Master Perioperative – name and surname of the student).

**Article 10 – Master tuition fee**

Master tuition fee has been fixed to € 3.500,00 and warrants participation to all teaching activities as well as teaching material, accommodation and lunch expenses during lectures in Pisa, access to the e-learning platform, lunches during the lecture weeks at the Sant'Anna School, tutoring and assistance for preparation of the project work, tax stamp of € 16.00 for the Degree.

Travel and accommodation expenses during the period of internship are on student’s charge. In presence of public or private funds, Master Direction can provide these costs, if documented.

Travel and accommodation expenses during the workshop are on student’s charge.

In case of student withdrawal before the beginning of the Master, the eligible candidates will not be refund of the first half of the tuition fee.
If a student will interrupt the Master Course, he/she will not be refunded and the entire tuition fee amount is due.

Pursuant to art. 9, paragraph 2 of Legislative Decree No. 68/2012 the Institution grants total exemption regarding payment of the enrolment fee in the case of students with disabilities, acknowledged to be equal to or greater than sixty-six percent, in accordance with art. 3, paragraph 1 of Law No. 104/1992, and applies a 1.5% reduction for every percentage point of disability in the case of students who have been acknowledged a disability of less than sixty-six percent. A student that intends to take advantage of the exemption or the reduction is required to attach an appropriate certificate to the online application.

**Article 11 – Degree Awarded**

At the end of the Master Programme, the Institution issues a second-level University Master's Degree, pursuant to art. 3 of Ministerial Decree No. 270/2004, as subsequently amended, to students who attended the entire training syllabus regularly and successfully, in accordance with the requirements envisaged in the Disciplinary Regulations and who are up-to-date with the payment of the enrollment fee.

**Art. 12 - Personal Data and measures of prevention of corruption**

The Responsible of the U.O. Alta Formazione of the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies - Via Maffi, No. 27, 56127 Pisa - tel. 050/882645 - fax 050/882633 - e-mail: altaformazione@santanapisa.it, is the person
Ms Roberta Chiordi is the person in charge of personal data collection. The personal data provided by the candidates will be processed mainly in an automated form and in compliance with art. 11 of Legislative Decree No. 196/2003 ("Personal data protection code"), in order to manage the competitive entrance examination procedures. Furthermore, the data are rendered anonymous and may be used for statistical purposes. Providing the data is necessary in order to participate in the competitive entrance examination. The data subjects may, at any time, exercise the rights envisaged in art. 7 of the above-mentioned Legislative Decree by writing to the Public Relations Office – Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies – Piazza Martiri della Libertà, No. 33, 56127 Pisa – e-mail: urp@santannapisa.it.

The Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies complies with the laws and regulations relating to the prevention of corruption (Law No. 190/2012) by applying the measures identified in the “Three-year prevention of corruption plan” published in the “Transparent Administration” section of the institutional website at the following address: www.santannapisa.it
Appendix A

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**Educational objectives**

The main goal of the Master consists in developing scientific, technical and cultural background for the management of patients with congenital heart disease through an interdisciplinary approach.

The Master will provide anesthesiologists/intensive care physicians, cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, pediatricians/neonatologists with key elements to assure congenital heart disease patients the best and up-to-date treatment.

In particular, the Master aims:

1) to provide the fundamental knowledge for the diagnostics and treatment of patients with congenital heart diseases from the prenatal period to the grown up age.

2) to give a specific insight into the congenital heart disease pre-, intra- and post-operative/procedure process;

3) to illustrate the theory and the practice of the state of the art in the field of congenital heart diseases;

4) to develop clinical and management skills that can enable a correct understanding and compilation of core pathways in congenital heart diseases in different geographic backgrounds.

5) to give the basis of multidisciplinary team work in the process of clinical evaluation and shared therapeutic decision-making.

The Master increases knowledge of congenital heart diseases and promotes employment opportunities in the lead centers and institutions in this field.

**Teaching and internal structure**

The Master has a duration of 18 months amounting to a total of 700 hours, divided as follows:

- 160 hours of classroom seminars and lectures for 4 weeks (usually every 4 months) at Scuola Superiore di Sant’Anna;
- 240 hours of on-line learning (e-learning platform, open source Moodle);
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Practical internships have a duration of at least 300 hours; it is mandatory to spend 80 hours in the Critical Area Department and Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiothoracic
Department of Fondazione G. Monasterio in Massa Italy.

**European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)**

The Master's degree entitles the student to the recognition of up to 70 ECTS. A minimum of 66 ECTS is necessary for obtaining the Master degree.

**Selection criteria**

The Scientific Committee will select the applicants by awarding up to 100 points to their qualifications according to the following criteria:

- Academic curriculum (average of marks received at exams, mark of the MD graduation exam, consistency of the curriculum and dissertation with the contents of the Master Course): up to 40 points;
- Relevant professional experience in perioperative medicine for congenital heart diseases, research activity and publications: up to 40 points;
- Motivation and two reference letters: up to 20 points.

At the end of the selection, the 15 best-ranked applicants will attend the Master. In case of student withdrawal, the next eligible applicant who has confirmed the participation to the course will be admitted to the Master Course.

Only candidates that have been awarded an overall score of at least 70/100 points will be eligible to attend the Master Course.

In presence of an *ex aequo*, the younger candidate will be chosen.

**Fees and method of allocation**

The enrollment fee for the Master is € 3,500.00.
- The first payment of the amount of € 2,000.00 must be done at registration.
- The second payment, of the amount of € 1,500.00, must be done according to the indications given in the admission notice.

**Contributions and assignment methods**

According to art. 9th paragraph 2 of DLgs 68/2012 the School completely exempts from the enrolment fee students with disabilities, recognized in accordance with art. 3, paragraph 1 of Law 104/1992, equal to sixty-six percent, and apply a reduction of 1.5% for each percentage point of invalidity to those who have recognized a disability below sixty-six percent. The student who intends to take advantage of the exemption or reduction will have to attach the proper certification to the online application.

**Contacts**

| U.O. Alta Formazione | Email: altaformazione@santannapisa.it | Tel: +39 050882645 |