



**Public Competition Announcement  
for PhD programmes 37th cycle  
Academic year 2021/2022  
PON "Research and Innovation"**

Art.1 – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

1. The Free University of Bozen/Bolzano (unibz) announces a public competition, by examination and/or qualification, for the admission to the following PhD programmes of the 37th cycle, starting from the academic year 2021/2022 pursuant to Ministerial Decree 1061 of 10/08/2021 that centres on the allocation of the PON (Programma Operativo Nazionale - National Operative Programme) budget for "Research and Innovation" 2014-2020, with reference to Action IV .4 "Doctorates and research contracts on innovation topics" and Action IV.5 "Doctorates on green topics" detailed below:

	<b>PhD programm</b>	<b>Grant number Innovation</b>	<b>Grant number Green</b>	<b>Official languages of the PhD programm</b>
1	Mountain Environment and Agriculture		3	Inglese
2	Sustainable Energy and Technologies		2	Inglese
3	Food Engineering and Biotechnology	1	5	Inglese
4	Advanced Systems Engineering		5	Inglese
5	General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy, General Didactics and Disciplinary Didactics	2	5	Italiano, Tedesco e Inglese

2. For all the doctorate courses listed under the previous point, posts with a scholarship will be activated in addition to those already planned for cycle XXXVII under the call for applications as per Rectoral Decree no. 688 of 10.05.2021, focusing on the following topics:

- topics linked to innovation, enabling technologies, and the broader issue of digitalisation, as actions aimed at enhancing human capital in the world of research and innovation;
- Green themes (topics centering on the conservation of the ecosystem, biodiversity, as well as on the reduction of the effects of climate change and the promotion of sustainable development).

3. The actual activation of each of the posts with an additional scholarship referred to in the table under paragraph 1 is also conditioned by the allocation of places with a scholarship from the University budget and/or co-funded by third parties.



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4. The actual activation of each of the posts with an additional scholarship referred to in the table under paragraph 1 can only be effected provided that the MUR - General Secretariat - Research Directorate - Office III. 5 has verified the eligibility assessment for the support from PON "Research and Innovation" 2014-2020.

Details for each programmes referred to in this article, such as research areas, possible research projects, admission requirements, procedures and criteria for the choice can be found in the appendices, which are integral part of this announcement.

The duration of the PhD programme is three years, starting on 15 December 2021, with the possibility of postponement, which will be promptly communicated to the selected PhD students by e-mail.

This announcement is valid as the means of public notification to all intents and purposes. However, any changes, updates or supplements will be released **exclusively** through the university web page of the PhD programme.

## Art. 2 – TYPES OF AVAILABLE POSITIONS

1. The available positions referred to in the present call are positions with additional scholarships financed until 31 December 2023 through the National Operative Programme "Research and Innovation" 2014-2020, Axis IV "Education and research for recovery" - Action IV.4 - "Doctorates and research contracts on innovation themes" and Action IV. 5 "Doctorates on R&I PON Green topics 2014-2020". For the period after 31 December 2023, funding of the additional scholarships under discussion will be provided by the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano from its own resources or from resources deriving from agreements with national or foreign public or private entities that comply with the requirements of a high cultural and scientific qualification of their staff and possess suitable facilities and equipment.

2. Successful candidates enrolled in the relevant PhD course will be assigned a research topic to be developed during their PhD course and focusing on research topics consistent with innovation themes (innovation, enabling technologies, digitalisation) and green themes (ecosystem conservation, biodiversity, reduction of climate change effects and promotion of a sustainable development).

3. The training courses linked to the aforementioned scholarships require: a) a mandatory period of study and research in a company for a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of twelve (12) months; b) a period of study and research abroad to be carried out no later than 31 December 2023.

4. Payment of the scholarships to the successful candidates will be made from the moment when the competent ministerial office in charge of managing the funds for these scholarships has confirmed that the training course is eligible for funding.

## Art. 3 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All citizen, regardless of sex, age and nationality may apply to be admitted to a PhD:

- Applicants holding a postgraduate degree as per Italian Ministerial Decree no. 509/1999, a postgraduate degree as per Italian Ministerial Decree no. 270/2004, a degree of the former Italian university system, or an equivalent degree obtained abroad;
- Applicants achieving one of the above mentioned titles within October 31<sup>st</sup> every year. In this case candidates will be admitted conditionally to the selection procedure **and they must produce the degree certificate within the enrolment's deadline. If not, their application is considered null and void.**



All applicants are eligible for selection, subject to verification of self-certified statements pursuant to Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions. In the event of a false declaration, the university may order at any time, by order of the Rector, the exclusion of applicants from the selection process or from the PhD programme, without prejudice to the criminal liability arising therefrom.

### **Candidates with degrees obtained abroad that have not already been declared equivalent to an Italian degree**

On the basis of the documentation produced, the selection committee will declare the foreign qualification equivalent to a Master's degree, solely for the purposes of participation in this competition. Candidates with a foreign qualification will be **admitted to the selection process with reservation** and will be excluded from the PhD programme if it turns out, after verification, that the qualification does not comply with the requirements of this call for applications and therefore does not permit enrolment in the PhD programme.

Applicants with a degree obtained abroad must certify that at the university in the country in which the degree was obtained they have access to a course of study similar to that chosen at unibz. They must therefore upload one of the following documents to the pre-enrolment portal:

- The **Diploma supplement**, where it must be indicated: that the person has achieved at least 300 credit points (ECTS) and that the study title gives access to a PhD programme. In case of doubt, unibz reserves the right to request the Statement of comparability
- **Statement of comparability** of the qualification, issued by the Italian Information Centre on Academic Mobility and Equivalence (CIMEA), in the case the Diploma supplement is missing
- **Declaration of equivalent value** of the qualification, issued by the Italian consulate or embassy abroad, as an alternative to the Statement of comparability

If the required document is not uploaded by the time of enrolment, the applicant will be enrolled with reservation.

## Art. 4 – APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC COMPETITION

Applications to the selection procedure can be submitted from the date of the announcement of the public competition.

Each application is subject to a payment for administrative expenses (30 EUR). This registration fee cannot be reimbursed under any circumstances.

In order to apply, you need to follow these steps:

- 1) Create an account at <https://aws.unibz.it/exup/> and upload in electronic format a passport-size colour photo and a valid ID (passport or identity card, front/back)
- 2) In the application portal, select the PhD programme and pay the registration fee of 30 EUR (see instructions in the portal)
- 3) Fill in the online form in the same portal and upload the additional required documents (see the specific attachments to the call for each PhD programme)

Completing the application online is the **only way** to submit the application. Applications will not be considered if:

- incomplete or without compulsory entry qualifications / requirements;
- sent by e-mail.

It is necessary to upload the required documentation for each PhD programme chosen in the portal. A traffic light system indicates complete/incomplete documentation (missing documents will be marked in red).

Only documents uploaded by the deadline will be evaluated.

It is advisable to apply online well in advance and to check the portal regularly to take note of any notes concerning missing and/or incorrect documents.

The application must be completed **within 5 November 2021 at noon (GTM + 2.00)**. After this deadline, it will no longer be possible to complete/correct incomplete applications. The University is not liable if the portal is overcharged, due to the net or do the software itself.

**In the application portal, applicants must upload, otherwise excluded:**

- **if graduated in Italy:** diploma supplement or self-declaration (following the Italian D.P.R. no. 445/2000) of the degree awarded with the exams passed (if graduated) or just with the exams passed (if not graduated yet);
- **if graduated abroad:** diploma supplement or final degree certificate with exams passed (if graduated) or transcript of records (if not graduated yet) in Italian, German or English.

**The above must contain the following information:** final grade, exams passed with grade and date of passing, credit points, scientific fields (the latter only for Italian titles), university where the degree was or will be awarded and date of graduation.

**For qualifications obtained abroad, also:** scale of grades awarded by the University of Provenance (with a minimum final grade to obtain the qualification and a maximum final grade achievable).

The Faculty reserves the right to request a description of the contents of the single courses and/or teaching hours where necessary.

All applicants are admitted to the competition conditionally until the requirements for admission have been completely verified. The Free University of Bozen/Bolzano have the right to check by sampling (according to the provisions of art. 71 and subsequent of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000). The exclusion of applicants who do not have the requirements as per this announcement can be excluded any time for justified reasons by the Rector.

## Art. 5 – SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure, the specific admission requirements and the dates of the examinations are mentioned in the descriptive appendices for the individual PhD programmes, which are an integral part of this announcement and are published in the university web pages of the PhD programmes.

Applicants who are admitted to the exams have to sit the examination and/or interview, if not otherwise communicated, using videoconference (e.g., Teams, Skype, Adobe Connect) and must ensure that they use a proper webcam to allow the Selection Committee to clearly identify them through a valid ID.

## Art. 6 – SELECTION COMMITTEE

Each committee consists of three members chosen from tenured professors and university researchers who are experts in the scientific areas of the PhD Research Programme. The Committee may also include up to two experts, Italian or foreign, from public and private corporations or research institutes.

Once the entrance examinations are completed, the Selection Committee will draw up a ranking list, based on the number of points the applicants obtain from the various examinations, and then

publish said information in the university web pages of the PhD programmes.

## Art. 7 – ADMISSION TO THE PHD PROGRAMME

Applicants will be admitted to the PhD programme according to the ranking list until all available places have been filled. In case of equal merit, the youngest candidate shall prevail (ex art. 3, paragraph 7, Law no. 127 of 15 May 1997, as amended by art. 2, paragraph 9 of Law no. 191 of 16 June 1998).

The ultimate ranking lists will be published on the university web pages of the PhD programmes. The mentioned **publication is considered the official notification**.

If a successful applicant does not enrol or withdraws before the course enrolment date, the next applicant on the ranking list will be offered the place.

If a successful applicant withdraws or is excluded during the first quarter of the first year of the course, the PhD Course Committee may decide to fill the vacant place with the next applicant on the ranking list.

## Art. 8 – ENROLMENT PROCEDURE

In order to enrol, the admitted applicants according to each ranking list need to:

### 1. PAYMENT OF THE TUITION FEES AND CONFIRMATION OF THE STUDY PLACE:

**Access the application portal**, choose the PhD programme and **pay with one of the methods indicated in the portal**, to confirm your study place (164.50 EUR - one hundred and sixty-four and fifty).

Deadlines	From	To (no extension!)
Admitted Students	November, 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2021	November, 30 <sup>th</sup> 2021 at <u>12</u> (GTM+1:00)

If you do not meet this deadline, you will automatically lose your study place which will be offered to the next applicants in the ranking list.

**Please note** that payment does not allow you to get the student status, which will be acquired upon enrolment. If you have a confirmed study place but you do not enrol on time, there will be no refund of the tuition fees unless you do not pass your university final exam or, in the event of non-EU applicant's resident abroad, you do not receive the necessary documents from the Italian authorities in your country.

In any case, tuition fees will be reimbursed if the additional PON PhD scholarship is not funded by the Ministry.

### 2. ENROLMENT:

in the application portal enrol online.

Deadline	From	To (no extension!)
	November, 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2021	November, 30 <sup>th</sup> 2021, at <u>12</u> (GTM+1:00)

It is recommended to start the enrolment procedure as soon as possible since it may be necessary to upload in time missing documents.



If you don't meet the deadline for enrolment, you will lose your study place, which will be offered to the next applicant in the ranking list.

<p><b>If you gained your qualification abroad you must upload the following documents (if not uploaded upon application):</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>official translation of your diploma into Italian (translation is not necessary if the certificates have been issued in a German or English-speaking area).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the diploma supplement of the master degree should state:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- that the student has achieved at least 120 credit points (ECTS) and</li> <li>- that the study title gives access to a PhD programme.</li> </ul>           In cases of doubt, unibz reserves the right to request additional documents (e.g. declaration of value).         </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Declaration of equivalent value of the degree, if there is no diploma supplement. If the university degree was obtained abroad, but has been already recognized in Italy, it is sufficient to attach a copy of the recognition decree.</li> </ul>

At the beginning of the Phd Programme you have to submit the originals of the above mentioned documents to the Student Secretariat in Bolzano/Bozen. The Phd students enrolled to the Programme in General Pedagogy, Social Pedagogy, General Didactic and Subject Didactics have to submit the original copies to the Student Secretariat in Bressanone/Brixen.

### **Non-UE citizens residing abroad:**

If the candidate is eligible for admission and has also applied on [University](#), the Italian Authorities in his country of origin will issue the entry visa for studies/university.

This will allow him to arrive in Italy to enrol for the study programme that he has applied for, after passing the admission procedure.

According to Italian law, within 8 working days of your arrival in Italy, non EU-citizens must have applied for the residence permit: as soon as they arrive, they can contact the Study and Tuition office ([phdunibz@unibz.it](mailto:phdunibz@unibz.it)), which will give them the necessary information.

Once they will obtain the residence permit (permesso di soggiorno), they have to hand it in at the Student Secretariat personally or via e-mail (front/retro).

### **Please note:**

Enrolments received by means other than those listed above and / or beyond the terms provided for in this article will not be accepted.

Applicants are not allowed to enrol at more than one university or for more than one course at the same university.

Applicants who find themselves in a good position on the ranking lists of more than one PhD programme can only enrol for one of these programmes. Once they have enrolled, they lose the right to enrol for any of the other(s).

Applicants who intend to withdraw from the course and not enrol, or waive their right to a scholarship are requested to inform the university as soon as possible and in any case before the enrolment deadline at the following e-mail: [phdunibz@unibz.it](mailto:phdunibz@unibz.it).

Any changes will be published on the university websites of the PhD programmes.



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For the PhD courses – 37<sup>th</sup> cycle in the 2021/2022 academic year, the following tuition fees should be paid at the time of enrolment and amount to 164, 50 EUR (one hundred sixty-four Euros and fifty cents, which includes the provincial tax for the right to study in higher education, of 148,50 EUR (one hundred forty-seven and fifty cents), and a duty stamp of 16,00 EUR (sixteen) in virtual form.

A refund of the fees paid cannot be claimed in case of suspension or withdrawal from studies.

## Art. 10 - SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships are assigned following the ranking list drawn up by the Evaluation Committee. If an applicant decides to forego a scholarship, the next enrolled applicant on the ranking list will be offered the scholarship.

The yearly study scholarship amounts to **€ 17,000 gross**.

In the case of scholarship financed by external funders, the annual amount may be increased.

The study scholarship is also subject to national insurance contributions (INPS) according to current laws.

The scholarship is paid in monthly instalments.

The scholarship is increased by 50% for study periods spent abroad authorised.

The scholarship is awarded for the entire length of the PhD Programme except in case of suspension or withdrawal from studies. Scholarships will be reconfirmed from one year to the next, unless the PhD Course Committee officially decides otherwise.

Scholarship holders are not employees of the university.

Scholarships cannot be combined with other scholarships or scholarships awarded for any purpose, except those awarded by national or foreign institutions which supplement, with stays abroad, the research activities of the student. Anyone who has already received a scholarship in Italy for a PhD programme cannot hold a further scholarship on the same purpose.

## Art. 11 – RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF PHD STUDENTS

PhD students are obliged to attend the PhD courses and to carry out research activities according to the schedules and the regulations laid down by the PhD Course Committee.

More details can be found in the following document: [Regulations of Ph.D Degree programmes](#).

Scholarship financed by external bodies where specific research is required limit the scholarship holder to carry out only that specific work.

The university provides, for the duration of the course, insurance cover for accidents and damage to third parties that may occur during the activities related to the Ph.D.

According to art. 2 first paragraph, of law August 13, 1984 no. 476 and subsequent amendments, public servants who are admitted to a PhD programme may apply to be placed, for the duration of the programme, on leave without pay for study purposes, and may apply for a scholarship.

In the event of admission to PhD programmes without a scholarship, or if the student has refused a scholarship, the person on leave maintains his/her salary, social security and pension from the public administration which has established the working relationship. If, after obtaining the PhD degree, the employee discontinues his/her working relationship with the public administration in question within two years of the end of the course, s/he is obliged to return all sums received during the PhD programme.



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Moreover, as per art. 3 Paragraph 3 of the implementing regulation of Ministerial Decree 1061/2021, for each additional scholarship funded with the support of R&I PON 2014-2020, the PhD students must:

- a) formally undertake to carry out the planned research periods (minimum 6 months, maximum 12 months) in the previously selected company and abroad (optional), at the same time stating that they are aware that failure to comply with the minimum company-period will result in grant revocation;*
- b) certify that they are aware that a change in the project objectives and in the expected results (unless previously authorized by the MUR) will result in the revocation of the grant and in the obligation to totally refund any amounts already paid;*
- c) certify that they are aware that any negative judgement by the Academic Board and the consequent non-admission to the following year of the doctoral programme will result in the revocation of the sums already paid for the current year, and that failure to obtain the degree will result in the revocation of the sums already paid for the final year of the course;*
- d) certify that they are not currently in receipt of any other scholarship for any reason whatsoever; they must also undertake not to take advantage of any other scholarship for any reason whatsoever, with the exception of those eligible under current national legislation, for the entire duration of the additional scholarship.*

#### Art. 12 – PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT

The Administration of the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano, according to the European Regulation 2016/679, will use the applicants' personal data only for the selection procedure and for institutional purposes.

In observance of the above-mentioned law, participation in the selection requires the applicant to consent tacitly to the publication of his/her personal data and the data concerning the results of the selection procedure on the website of the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano.

#### Art. 13 – REFERRAL RULE

For matters not explicitly mentioned in the present competition announcement, art. 4 of law no. 210 of July 3, 1998, art. 19 of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, Ministerial Decree n. 45, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the "Regulations for PhD Research at the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano" with subsequent amendments, the "Regulations for research scholarships referred to in article 22 of Law no. 240/2010" and Ministerial Decree 1061 of August 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 shall apply.

#### Art. 14 – ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROCEDURE

According to law no 241 of August 7, 1990 and subsequent amendments, dott. Karin Felderer is in charge of this procedure. Address: Study and Tuition, Free University of Bozen/Bolzano, Piazzetta Franz Innerhofer 8, I-39100 Bozen/Bolzano – Tel. +39 0471 012805, fax +39 0471 012809, e-mail: [phdunibz@unibz.it](mailto:phdunibz@unibz.it).



## **Information pursuant to Articles 13-14, EU Reg 2016/679 "European Data Protection Regulation**

This information notice represents a fulfilment of the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, General Data Protection Regulation (hereinafter, GDPR), which, pursuant to Articles 13 and 14, provides for the obligation to provide data subjects with the information necessary to ensure the correct and transparent processing of their personal data.

### **1. Data subjects**

The data controller is the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano, with registered office at Piazza Università no. 1, 39100 Bozen/Bolzano, in the person of the President and legal representative pro tempore.

**1.2.** The Privacy Officer of the Free University of Bozen/Bolzano can be contacted at the following email address: [privacy@unibz.it](mailto:privacy@unibz.it)

### **2. Purposes of the processing for which the data are intended**

**2.1.** The personal data provided by you are processed for the management of the competition or selection procedure with any pre-contractual measures and for the management of the rankings (where provided for in the notice) which also includes the publication of the rankings on the University website. The processing also includes any checks on the declarations of support pursuant to Article 71 of Presidential Decree 445/2000 (see point 4.2).

**2.2.** The processing may also include special categories of data (e.g. health status and disability, etc.) as well as personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences pursuant to Article 10 GDPR. The processing of this data is required by the rules governing selection (e.g. to provide appropriate support for candidates with disabilities, etc.).

**2.3.** The personal data of the candidates are processed by the members of the commission, and by the administrative offices in charge of the selection procedures of the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano.

### **3. Modalities of data processing and duration of data retention**

**3.1** The data will be processed in such a way as to guarantee the security and protection of the data in full compliance with the provisions of the "European Regulation" and the national legislation on data protection and may be carried out by means of manual operations and/or the use of computer and/or telematic tools.

**3.2** In this case, applications to take part in the selection will be kept for 5 (five) years. The successful candidate's application will be retained indefinitely. The minutes of the Selection Boards and their annexes, and the approval and appointment measures shall be retained indefinitely.

### **4. Processing and scope of communication and dissemination of data**

**4.1.** The processing of personal data collected is carried out by the offices in charge and by the selection committee, which has been adequately instructed for this purpose in accordance with Article 29 of the GDPR.

**4.2.** In particular, your data may be communicated to other public bodies for the purposes of carrying out checks on the declarations in lieu of identity pursuant to Article 71 of Presidential Decree 445/2000. In addition, the University may acquire certain information ex officio in order to verify the declarations submitted by candidates (e.g. request for verification of criminal records, requests for confirmation of qualifications from schools, universities, etc.; requests to municipalities for family status, etc.).

## **5. Nature of the provision of data and legal basis for processing**

**5.1** The provision of data is necessary for the achievement of the purposes referred to in paragraph 2.

**5.2.** Personal data are processed in accordance with Articles 6(1)(b) - performance of a contract, (c) - fulfilment of legal obligations, (e) - public interest or related to the exercise of public authority; (f) - legitimate interest), 9(2)(b) - labour law obligations, (f) - defence in court, (g) relevant public interest and 10 (personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences GDPR.

## **6. Rights of the data subject**

**6.1** In your capacity as a Data Subject you have the rights set out in sections 2, 3 and 4 of Chapter III of the GDPR (e.g. to request from the data controller: access to and rectification or erasure of personal data; restriction of processing concerning you).

**6.2.** You also have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority (such as the Privacy Authority <http://www.garanteprivacy.it/>).

With regard to the exercise of these rights, you may send your request to [privacy@unibz.it](mailto:privacy@unibz.it).