

Public competition announcement for No. 68 PhD positions at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – 33rd Cycle – Rome campus

Art. 1

Opening

For each PhD Programme included in the present competition, duration, number of positions, number of studentships, affiliated organisations, coordinator, and calendar of competition examinations are indicated.

The number of studentships may be increased as a result of funding from public and private institutions, provided that the related agreement is signed within the date of expiration of the present public announcement.

An increase in the number of available studentships may result in an increase in the number of positions opened for public competition.

PhD Programme in: EXPERIMENTAL AND TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 6.

Studentship-based positions: 5.

Fee-based positions: 1.

Coordinator:

Prof. Giovanni GAMBARO.

Calendar of examinations:

Wednesday , September 20th, 2017, 9.00 am, room Cabrini, Complesso Integrato Columbus, Via Moscatti, 31, Rome.

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/medicina-sperimentale-home>

PhD Programme in: NEUROSCIENCES

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 16.

Studentship-based positions: 12.

Fee-based positions: 4.

Cooperating institution granting studentships:

- Fondazione Omnia ONLUS;
- Ipsen S.p.a.;
- Novartis Farma S.p.a.

Coordinator:

Prof. Paolo Maria ROSSINI.

Calendar of examinations:

Monday, September 25th, 2017, 9.00 am, room 615, 6th floor, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Largo "A. Gemelli", 8, Rome.

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/dottorato-neuroscienze-home>

PhD Programme in: CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR CLINICAL RESEARCH

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 10.

Studentship-based positions: 8.

Fee-based positions: 2.

Cooperating institution granting studentships:

- Biotronik Italia S.p.a.

Coordinator:

Prof. Filippo CREA.

Calendar of examinations:

Monday, September 18th, 2017, 9.00 am, room 615, 6th floor, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Largo "A. Gemelli", 8, Rome.

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/cellulare-molecolare-home>

PhD Programme in: BASIC BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 10.

Studentship-based positions: 8.

Fee-based positions: 2.

Coordinator:

Prof. Maurizio SANGUINETTI.

Calendar of examinations:

Monday, September 25th, 2016, 9.00 am, room 7, 1st floor, "Polo Universitario Giovanni XXIII", Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Largo F. Vito, 1, Rome.

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/biomediche-base-home>

PhD Programme in: SCIENCES OF NUTRITION, METABOLISM, AGEING AND GENDER PATHOLOGIES

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 10.

Studentship-based positions: 8.

Fee-based positions: 2.

Coordinator:

Prof. Alfredo PONTECORVI.

Calendar of examinations:

Monday, September 25th, 9.30 am, room 716, 7th floor, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli, Largo "A. Gemelli", 8, Rome.

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/nutrizione-metabolismo-home>

PhD Programme in: ONCOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Duration: 3 years.

Positions: 16.

Studentship-based positions: 12.

Fee-based positions: 4.

Cooperating institutions granting studentships:

- Amgen S.r.l.
- Beckman Coulter S.r.l.
- University Pettsburg Medical Center Italy S.r.l.

Coordinator:

Prof. Carlo Antonio BARONE.

Calendar of examinations:

Tuesday, September 19th 2017, 8.30 am, room 1, 7th floor, "Polo Universitario Giovanni XXIII", Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Largo F. Vito, 1, Rome.

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/oncologiche-home>

Art. 2

Admission requirements

Application for participation in the competition, with no restrictions with respect to age and nationality, is open to candidates holding a Master's degree, or a degree obtained under the education system prior to Ministerial Decree no. 509 of November 3rd, 1999, and its subsequent amendments and additions, or an equivalent university degree obtained abroad and recognised as eligible.

Applications may be submitted also by students who expect to obtain the qualifications referred to in the first paragraph **by October 31st, 2017**.

Italian, EU and non-EU candidates that obtained or will obtain a university degree abroad, **by October 31st, 2017**, for the sole purpose of admission to a PhD Programme will have to request recognition of its eligibility in the application form. To this end, the application shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation to enable the Examination Panel to rule on the request for eligibility.

Art. 3

Application form

Candidates who intend to participate in the competition must submit an application to the Rector of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore by **Friday, September 1st, 2017**.

The application form is available at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-roma> **until 2 pm (local time) on the expiration date of the present public announcement**.

A printed and duly signed copy of the application form must be delivered by registered mail with return receipt to the following address: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Ufficio Dottorati di ricerca - Largo Francesco Vito, 00168, Rome.

Receipt of applications shall be validated by post office date stamp.

In the application form, to be completed in Italian, candidates shall precisely declare under their responsibility:

- personal information: surname, first name, fiscal code (for Italian nationals only), date and place of birth, citizenship, residence and domicile elected for the purposes of the competition;
- should candidates possess dual nationality, one of which is for a EU member state, they may opt for EU citizenship;
- the exact title of the competition being applied for;
- for graduate students: university degree, date it was obtained and name of the conferring university, or foreign degree;
- for undergraduate students: university degree candidates are studying towards, expected date it will be obtained and name of the conferring university (whether in Italy or abroad);
- foreign languages known.

Each application may refer to a single PhD Programme only. Applicants wishing to participate in more PhD Programme competitions must submit a corresponding number of applications, enclosing the necessary documentation, in full awareness of the possibility that exam dates may overlap.

The application form shall be accompanied by:

- *curriculum vitae et studiorum*;

- self-certification indicating degree held, or self-certified proof of enrolment attesting the degree that candidates are studying towards;
- identification document, duly signed;
- fiscal code (for Italian nationals only);
- any further documentation specifically required by the single PhD Programmes.
- receipt of payment of the selection fee (not refundable) of € 100, 00 to be paid by bank transfer to Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore – UNICREDIT BANCA DI ROMA Ag. 60, Largo A. Gemelli, 8 – 00168 Roma - IBAN: IT 70 A 02008 05314 000102942763 – BIC/SWIFT: UNCRITM1B41, with payment description: “Dottorati di ricerca – ciclo XXXIII - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore”.

It is the candidates’ responsibility to notify promptly of any change of residence or domicile elected for the purposes of the competition.

The University Administration assumes no responsibility for misdirected communication due to incorrect residence or domicile information provided by candidates or to absent or late notification of any changes thereof. The University Administration shall bear no responsibility for any postal errors in communication due to circumstances beyond their control.

The University reserves the right to adopt, also after the performance of the competition-related examinations, measures for the exclusion of candidates that do not have the prerequisites required or that did not comply with the indications of the public announcement.

Candidates with disabilities must specify in their application the aid required in relation to their disability, in accordance with Law no. 104 of February 5th, 1992.

Art. 4

Admission examinations

The admission exam consists of two parts, one written and one oral, designed to assess candidates' knowledge, skills and aptitude to scientific research. The oral examination includes a test of the knowledge of the foreign language/s indicated by the applicants.

The examinations may be conducted in a language other than Italian, upon the explicit and motivated resolution by the Admission Panel communicated to all candidates before the beginning of the examinations.

In relation to the qualities ascertained, the Panel assigns each candidate max. 60 points for each of the two examinations.

Only candidates passing the written examination with a minimum score of 40/60 are admitted to the oral examination.

The oral examination is passed with a minimum score of 40/60.

At the end of the examinations, the Panel compiles a merit-based ranking list on the basis of the marks obtained by the candidates in each examination.

In order to be allowed to take the examinations, candidates must show a valid identification document pursuant to Art. 35, second Paragraph, of Presidential Decree no. 445 of December 28th, 2000 (identity card, driving license, passport).

Art. 5

Examination Panels

The Examination Panels for admission to the PhD Programme are appointed by the Rector, upon the proposal of the Teaching Panel. Each will consist of three tenured academics, to whom no more than two (also foreign) experts from institutions and public and private research institutes may be added.

The composition of the Panels will be published, after the expiration date of the present public announcement, at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-roma>.

Art. 6

Admission to PhD Programmes

Candidates are admitted to the Programmes according to the final merit-based ranking list, until coverage of the number of positions opened for the single PhD Programme has been completed. Should successful candidates withdraw before the beginning of the Programme, the positions will be covered by the candidates next in line in the ranking.

Successful candidates in more than one ranking list shall opt for one PhD Programme only.

Provided that they are successful in the admission examinations, holders of research grants may be admitted to a PhD Programme as supernumerary in the fee-based positions and retaining their grant, upon condition that the PhD Programme refers to the same scientific area of research for which they are enjoying research grants.

Art. 7

Enrolment

Competition winners must hand or send Ufficio Dottorati di ricerca dell'Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore - Largo Francesco Vito 1, 00168 Rome, within 7 (seven) days from the day after receipt of request via registered mail with return receipt, the following documentation:

- application form to enrol in the PhD Programme available online;
- declaration of enrolment in a non-medical Specialisation school, in a year between the first and the second last of a medical Specialisation school, or in a postgraduate course or other university programme; in this case, the declaration must be accompanied by the written commitment to suspend attendance thereof;
- no. 1 card-size photograph;
- Personal and Tax Data form;
- receipt of payment of the admission fee to the PhD Programme.

Art. 8

Incompatibility

Attendance of the PhD Programme is not compatible with enrolment in other study programmes, postgraduate schools (except for medical specialisation schools), other PhD Programmes (except in the case of joint dissertation supervision agreements) and with attendance of TFA.

Art. 9

Joint attendance of a medical specialisation school

Under the current rules, specialist training doctors who, upon winning the Doctoral competition, are attending the last year of a medical specialisation school at Università Cattolica, are allowed joint attendance of a PhD course offered by Università Cattolica. During the one-year joint attendance period the specialist training doctor shall not enjoy any studentship.

Art. 10

Aid and studentships

Tuition fees for the Programme at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore are set out annually by the Board of Directors.

PhD students enrolled at 33rd Cycle are required to pay annually the PhD Programme tuition fees amounting to € 1.500,00, to be paid in two instalments, the first upon matriculation or renewal of enrolment, the second on June 30th each year.

The enjoyment of a studentship to attend the PhD Programme is compatible with other income earned, also on a regular basis, in the calendar year of the studentship, provided that such income does not exceed the amount of the studentship itself. Should these income limits be surpassed, the studentship shall be revoked for the year in question. For the verification of the income limits, studentship assignees shall annually declare the income earned and notify exceeding of the prescribed limit.

The studentships are annual and are renewed provided that the PhD students have completed the programme of activities set for the previous year.

The amount of the studentship, paid in monthly instalments, is € 13,638.47 per year, before social security charges. The studentship is subject to the payment of social security contributions (INPS separate management) pursuant to Art. 2, Paragraph 26, of Law 335 dated of August 8th, 1995, and subsequent amendments. The studentship is exempt from local income tax and personal income tax (IRPEF).

The studentship amount shall be increased by max. 50 percent, for a period not over 18 months, if the PhD student is authorised by the Teaching Panel to conduct research abroad.

Starting from the second year, to each PhD student, with or without a studentship, is granted a sum covering research activities in Italy and abroad amounting to 10 percent of the annual gross amount of the studentship, equal to € 1,363.85.

Candidates previously in receipt of studentships (even if partially) may not receive PhD studentships.

Art. 11

Public employee

To public employees admitted to the PhD Programme applies current legislation on leave of absence or special leave.

Art. 12

Certificates and documents in foreign language

Certificates and documents in a foreign language must be translated and legalised by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular offices abroad, and must comply with the national regulation.

Art. 13

Rights and Obligations of PhD students

PhD students are required to regularly participate in the activities set out in their curricula, and to commit to individual and guided study programmes and to carrying out the research activities assigned by the Teaching Panel.

PhD students are also required to consult the Code of Conduct of Università Cattolica and to comply with its principles and aims.

Art. 14

Public disclosure

This public announcement is published on the website of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-roma>, on the *Euraxess* European website and on the MIUR website.

Art. 15

Final provisions

This public announcement was originally written in Italian and has been translated into English for easy reference only. The Italian version will be considered definitive for any questions of interpretation.

For any matter not expressly contemplated in this public announcement, the provisions indicated in "Regulatory Norms of the PhD Programmes and PhD Schools of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore" and regulation in force shall apply.

Further information can be obtained from the Ufficio Dottorati di Ricerca Largo Francesco Vito, 1 - 00168 Rome (**office hours**: Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm), phone no. 063015.4958, mail: dottoratiric@rm.unicatt.it or at <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi-roma>

Head of the procedure of the present selection is Dr. Rosa BAUSOLA, Head of PhD Programmes, Largo F. Vito 1, 00168 Rome.