

Public competition announcement for admission to the PhD programmes in "Economics and Finance", "Management and Innovation" and "Physical Exercise and Sports Sciences" at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore - XLI cycle - Milan campus

Art. 1

Opening

For each PhD programme, for which an open competition is announced, the coordinator, duration, number of places on the course, number of scholarships and affiliated institutions are indicated.

The number of scholarships may be increased as a result of funding from public and private entities, provided that the relevant agreement is signed by the deadline of the call for applications.

The increase in scholarships will define an increase in the number of places on offer. Any subsequent amendments and/or additions to the call for applications will be publicised on <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi>

The activation of the PhD programme and the related selection procedures are subjected to accreditation and the verification of the maintenance of requirements by the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR).

PhD programme in: ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Coordinator: Prof. Emiliano SANTORO

Duration: 4 years

Places: 5

- Places with scholarship: 4
- Places without scholarship: 1

Information: <http://scuoledidottorato.unicatt.it/defap>

The comparative evaluation for the admission to the PhD programme in Economics and Finance is aimed at determining candidates' suitability and interest in the scientific research areas included in the programme. The Examination Panel may request a telephone or video interview to discuss candidates' research project and objectives.



In the application, applicants must declare to compete for a place on the general list or to compete only for a place without scholarship.

In the application, candidates must enclose:

- only with reference to open thematic fellowship: a research project (max 15,000 characters) indicating the object, hypotheses and research methodology;
- two letters of recommendation by university professors. These letters shall be sent directly by the academics to the email address defap@unicatt.it within the expiration date of this announcement;
- the certification of any further qualification, such as postgraduate and specialisation courses obtained in Italy and/or abroad with the exam transcript; copies of any other document deemed useful for the evaluation;
- a copy of the publications deemed relevant for the evaluation, up to a maximum of four;
- any certificate confirming the candidate's knowledge of English, such as: Anglia Examination England, Bulats, Business English Certificate, Certificate Advance in English, Certificate Proficiency in English, First Certificate in English, IELTS, ISE (I-II-III-IV), PTE Academic, PTE General, Preliminary English Test, TOEFL IBT, TOEIC Listening and Reading, TOEIC Speaking and Writing;
- any result of GMAT or GRE.

Assessment procedure

The evaluation for admission to the PhD Programme consists in the evaluation of the candidate's qualifications and it is based on the following criteria:

Criterion 1: Curriculum Vitae (submitted by the candidate upon application, including qualifications, publications and any further certification);

Criterion 2: Research aptitude (evaluated according to the information contained in the research project submitted by the candidate upon application);

Criterion 3: Further information (contained in the recommendation letters).

Each candidate can be awarded a maximum of 100 points, of which max 60 points can be awarded for Criterion 1, max 25 points for Criterion 2, and max 15 points for Criterion 3.

The final ranking is the result of the sum of the scores obtained in the criteria 1, 2 and 3.

Only the candidates who obtain, during the evaluation procedure, at least 50 points out of 100 are eligible to enter the doctoral programme.



PhD programme in: MANAGEMENT AND INNOVATION

Coordinator: Prof. Eugenio ANESSI PESSINA

Duration: 3 years

Places: 6

- Places with scholarship: 5
- Places without scholarship: 1

Information: <http://dottorati.unicatt.it/management>

Admission to the PhD programme is open, without age or nationality restrictions, to those who hold a graduate degree (or second-level degree or a degree obtained prior to the entry into force of Ministerial Decree 3 November 1999, no. 509 as amended) in economics, business and related subjects or a similar academic qualification obtained abroad and recognised as suitable.

Candidates must enclose with their application, under penalty of exclusion:

- a detailed *curriculum vitae*;
- for university graduates, self-certification of the graduate degree, with final mark and list of examinations taken with the relevant marks, or certification of the degree obtained at a foreign university, with final mark and list of examinations taken with the relevant marks;
- for undergraduate students, self-certification of enrolment in a graduate degree programme, indicating the examinations taken and the relevant marks, as well as enrolment certification in a foreign academic programme, indicating the examinations taken and the relevant marks;
- a motivation letter (no longer than 30 lines), in Italian or in English, stating the reasons for the choice, expectations and fields of interest;
- a research project (maximum 2,000 words), in Italian or English, indicating the subject, relevance, hypotheses and research methodology considered most appropriate. Title and content of the project must refer to one of the two areas of study of the PhD programme: Management or Innovation studies. Candidates must therefore specify in the project header which of the two is their chosen research area;
- two reference letters, in Italian or English, issued by university professors or researchers from national or international scientific institutions.



The applicant may also attach to the application:

- the certification of any further qualifications such as Specialising Master's programmes and specialisation programmes obtained in Italy and/or abroad and the list of examinations taken with the relative marks;
- a copy of any other title considered useful for the evaluation;
- a list of publications considered useful for the evaluation as well as a copy of those that the candidate considers useful to make known to the Selection Board;
- the GMAT or GRE result, if any.

Assessment procedure

The admission tests consist of an evaluation of the qualifications submitted and an oral test.

In relation to the qualities ascertained, the Selection Board awards each candidate up to 60 points for each of the two tests. Any candidate who has obtained a score of not less than 40/60 in the assessment of qualifications shall be admitted to the oral test.

The oral test will consist of an evaluation of the candidate's knowledge in the topics of interest as well as is his/her propensity for scientific research. During the oral test, the Selection Board will also ascertain the knowledge of the English language. The interview is only deemed successful if the candidate obtains a mark of no less than 40/60.

At the end of the examination, the Selection Board draws up the final merit list on the basis of the marks obtained by the candidates in the individual assessments.

In order to take the oral test, candidates must present a suitable valid identification document pursuant to Article 35, second paragraph of Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28 December 2000 (identity card, driving licence, passport).

Doctoral programme in: PHYSICAL EXERCISE AND SPORTS SCIENCES

in agreement with the University of Milan

Coordinator: Prof. Caterina GOZZOLI

Duration: 3 years

Places: 5

- Places with scholarship: 4
- Places without scholarship: 1



Information: <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/scienze-esercizio-sport>

Candidates for the PhD programme must attach the following documents in .pdf or .jpg format to their application, under penalty of exclusion:

- a detailed curriculum vitae;
- self-certification attesting to the degree held or self-certification of enrolment attesting to the degree to be obtained;
- a research project divided into its main parts, including an analysis of its feasibility and timing. The research project must be no more than 2000 words (excluding bibliography);
- a motivation letter stating the reasons for the choice, expectations and fields of interest

In accordance with Article 3 of this call for applications, candidates must declare their knowledge of a foreign language, in particular English or Spanish.

Candidates may also supplement their application with the following certificates:

- any certificates of attendance at seminars/courses/training modules of a methodological nature;
- any professional experience (national and international) relevant to the doctoral programme;
- any participation in working/research groups relevant to the doctoral programme;
- any publications of articles in indexed national and/or international journals and/or oral presentations or posters at national and/or international conferences;
- additional documents relating to the doctoral programme.

Assessment procedure

The admission exam, which aims to assess the candidate's preparation, skills and aptitude for scientific research, consists of:

- an evaluation of the qualifications and research project presented;
- an oral exam.

The Board may award each candidate a score of up to 30/100 for their qualifications.

With regard to the research project, the Board may award each candidate a score of up to 20/100.

Candidates who obtain a score of at least 35/100 in the evaluation of qualifications and research project will be admitted to the oral interview.

The interview is aimed at assessing the candidate's knowledge of topics related to the educational and scientific areas of the PhD programme and includes a presentation of the proposed research project, followed by a general discussion aimed at assessing the candidate's skills, scientific qualities and motivations.

The interview is conducted in Italian; however, candidates may request to take the test in English or Spanish. Those who choose to take the interview in Italian will still be assessed on their knowledge of English or Spanish.

A maximum of 50 points are awarded for the interview. The interview is considered passed only if the candidate has obtained a score of at least 35/100.



At the end of the exams, the Board will compile a general merit ranking based on the sum of the scores obtained by the candidates in the evaluation of their qualifications, research project and interview. The doctoral admission exam is considered passed if the candidate achieves a minimum score of 70/100.

To take the oral test, candidates must show a suitable valid identification document in compliance with Article 35, second paragraph of Presidential Decree No. 445 of December 28, 2000 (ID card, driver's license, passport).

Art. 2

Admission requirements

PhD programmes are open, without age or nationality restrictions, to those who hold a specialised or graduate degree, or a degree awarded in accordance with the educational regulations prior to the entry into force of Italian Ministerial Decree, of 3 November 1999, No 509, as amended and supplemented, or a suitable foreign qualification.

Applications may also be submitted by those who will obtain the above mention qualification, in Italy or abroad, referred to in the first paragraph by October 31, 2025.

Art. 3

Application form

Those wishing to take part in the competition must submit their application to the Rector of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, by the final deadline of **Monday July 7th, 2025**.

The application form is available at: <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi> until 12 p.m. (local time) on the closing date of this notice.

In the application, to be completed *online* only and available in Italian and English, candidates must declare under their own responsibility:

- their personal details: surname, first name, tax code (only for Italian citizens), date and place of birth, citizenship, elected residence for the purposes of the competition;
- the name of the competition in which they intend to participate;
- the type(s) of scholarship(s) for which they intend to apply;
- for graduates: the qualification held, the date and the university at which it was awarded;
- for undergraduates: the degree to be awarded, the expected date and the university where it will be awarded;
- known foreign languages.



Each application must refer to only one PhD programme. Candidates wishing to take part in more than one competition must submit several applications, enclosing the necessary documentation for each one.

To the application candidates must always attach (*upload*) in *.pdf* or *.jpg* format:

- *curriculum vitae*;
- self-certification attesting to the degree held or self-certification of enrolment attesting to the degree intended to be pursued;
- duly signed identification document;
- tax code (only for Italian citizens);
- passport-size photograph (ID use);
- for students with a qualification obtained or to be obtained abroad in NON-EU countries: translation, legalisation and Declaration of Value required at the offices of the Italian Consulate/Embassy in the country where the qualification was obtained or will be obtained. EU students may submit the *Diploma Supplement* of their home university as an alternative to the Declaration of Value;
- additional documentation specifically required for each individual PhD programme.

The application will only be complete and valid afterwards:

- having uploaded all mandatory documents and any optional documents;
- having paid the selection fee of € 50.00 (non-refundable) to be paid *online*;
- downloading the application file, which will be generated automatically by the system;
- uploading the *.pdf* file of the application itself on the portal.

At each step candidates are asked to confirm what they have entered by clicking on the 'continue' icon visible at the bottom right.

As proof of the validity of the application, the candidate will receive a confirmation *e-mail* from the PhD Office.

In the event of non-receipt of the *e-mail*, the candidate will have to log back into the portal to complete the procedure and finalise the application.

The University reserves the right to adopt, even after the competition tests have been held, measures for the exclusion of candidates who do not meet the requirements or who have not complied with the provisions of the notice of competition.

Candidates with disabilities, for the purposes of the competition, must specify in their application the aid required in relation to their disability, pursuant to the Italian Law No. 104 of 5 February 1992.



Art. 4

Selection Boards

The Rector, on the proposal of the Academic Board, shall issue a decree appointing the Selection Board for admission to the PhD programme, which shall be composed of three tenured professors, to which no more than two experts, including international ones, may be added, chosen from public and private research bodies and structures, ensuring, where possible, a balanced representation of women and men.

The composition of the Selection Boards will be published after the deadline on the following webpage: <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi>

Art. 5

Competition tests modalities

In the current call for applications are indicated the modalities for the competition tests. The calendar will be available on the following webpage: <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi>

The results of the selection process will be published on the following webpage: <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/results>

The Selection Boards reserves the right to conduct the oral test by videoconference, according to the instructions that will be communicated to all admitted candidates.

Art. 6

Admission to PhD programmes

The candidates will be admitted to the PhD programmes, unless otherwise specified, in order of ranking up to the number of places advertised. In the event of any eligible candidates dropping out before the start of the PhD programme, they will be replaced in accordance with the order of the ranking list.

In the event of successful placement in several rankings, the candidate must exercise the option for only one PhD programme.

Research scholarship holders, unless otherwise specified, may be admitted to the PhD programme in supernumerary numbers, without holding a scholarship, while retaining their research scholarship, subject to passing the admission tests and provided that the PhD programme they are attending relates to the same scientific area of research for which they are scholarship recipients.



Art. 7

Enrolment

The winners of the competition must register within 3 days from the day after they receive the relevant invitation by e-mail, by accessing the web page <https://iscrizioni.unicatt.it/iscrizioni/>

In order to obtain a visa, candidates, after completing their registration, must register on the portal www.universitaly.it and follow the indicated procedure.

Art. 8

Scholarships and contributions

The amount of the fees required for access and attendance of PhD programmes activated at Università Cattolica is determined annually by the University Board of Directors.

Research doctorate students enrolled in the XLI cycle are required to pay annual fees for access to doctoral programmes in the amount of €836.00, payable in two instalments, the first of €536.00 at the time of enrolment or renewal of enrolment and the second of €300.00 by April 30 of each year.

According to the Agreement stipulated with the Università degli studi di Milano on date July 14th, 2021 pursuant to art. 3, co. 2 of m.d. 226/21 and the economic conditions established by the same Università degli studi di Milano, students who will enroll in XL cycle are required to pay an annual fee of € 171.50, to be paid at the time of enrolment or renewal of enrolment.

Receipt of a scholarship for attending a PhD programme is compatible with other income, including income received continuously in the calendar year in which the scholarship is granted, provided that it does not exceed the amount established for the scholarship. If the (gross) income limit is exceeded, the scholarship is cancelled for the entire year in question. In order to verify the limit set, the person concerned is obliged to report any exceeding of the prescribed limit.

Scholarships are awarded for one year and are renewed on condition that the PhD student has completed the programme of activities planned for the previous year.

The amount of the scholarship, paid in monthly instalments, is € 16,243.00 per year, gross of social security charges. The scholarship is subjected to the payment of INPS social security contributions under separate management pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 26 of the Italian Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995, as amended. The scholarship is exempt from paying local income tax and personal income tax (IRPEF).

This amount is increased by a maximum of 50% for a total period not exceeding 12 months if the PhD student is authorised by the Board of Professors to carry out research activities abroad. The period may be extended up to a maximum of 18 months pursuant to Art. 9, para. 3 of Italian Ministerial Decree 226/21.

As of the first year, each PhD student, with and without scholarship, is guaranteed a



budget of 10% of the gross annual amount of the scholarship, i.e. € 1,624.30, for research activities in Italy and abroad.

A PhD scholarship may not be awarded to anyone who has previously received one, even partially, for another PhD programme.

Art. 9

Public employees

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

Art. 10

Rights and duties of PhD students

PhD students are required to regularly follow the activities envisaged for their training and to devote themselves with full commitment to individual and guided study programmes and to carrying out the research activities assigned by the Board of Professors. PhD students are also required to read the Code of Ethics of Università Cattolica and to respect its principles and aims.

Art. 11

Public disclosure

This public announcement is published on the website of Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore at <https://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi> on the Euraxess European website and on the Ministry of Universities and Research website.

Art. 12

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 all matters not expressly provided for in this notice, the provisions of Rector's Decree No. 1098 of February 26th, 2025 shall apply: "Regulations for PhD programmes at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore" and current regulations.

Further information can be obtained from the PhD Office, telephone +39 027234.5633,

e-mail: dottorati.ricerca-mi@unicatt.it or on the website:

<https://dottorati.unicatt.it/concorsi>.

The person in charge of the procedure for this call for applications is Dr Roberto BRAMBILLA, Director of Postgraduate Education and Research Partnership, Via Carducci 28/30, Milan (Italy).

