



Public Competition for Admission to the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research at the University of Milan a.y. 2020/2021.

Public Competition for Admission to the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research at the University of Milan - a.y. 2020/2021.	2
Art. 1 - Institution of the doctoral programme.....	3
Art. 2 - Admission requirements.....	3
Art. 3 - Admission of students completing postgraduate specializations	4
Art. 4 - Application for admission	4
Art. 5 - Disabled applicants	5
Art. 6 - Admission exam	6
Art. 7 - Admission to the programme	7
Art. 8 - Enrolment	7
Art. 9 - Scholarships	8
Art. 10 - Obligations of doctoral students.....	9
Art. 11 - Awarding of qualification.....	9
Art. 12 - Processing of personal data	9
Art. 13 - Relevant regulations.....	9
Art. 14 - Procedure manager and contacts	9
Doctoral programme in Clinical Research	10
Annex A.....	13
Form 1	14
Form 2.....	15



Dir. DF/FTLI

PUBLIC COMPETITION FOR ADMISSION TO THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN CLINICAL RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MILAN - A.Y. 2020/2021.

THE RECTOR

- having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree No. 270, dated 22 October 2004, entitled "Amendments to Regulation No. 509 containing rules governing the educational autonomy of Universities, passed by a Decree of the Ministry for Universities and Scientific and Technological Research on 3 November 1999";
- having regard to Article 4 of Italian Law No. 210, dated 3 July 1998, as amended by art. 19, paragraph 1, of Italian Law No. 240 dated 30 December 2010;
- having regard to Italian Regional Law No. 33, dated 13 December 2004, entitled "Rules governing Regional measures to ensure the right to study at university", which makes provisions for services in favour of students enrolled in doctoral research programmes;
- having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree No. 45 dated 8 February 2013, entitled "Regulations concerning the accreditation methods and of the locations and doctoral programmes and the criteria for the institution of doctoral programmes by accredited bodies";
- having regard to art. 7 of the abovementioned Ministerial Decree 45/2013, which allows students to attend a doctoral programme and medical specialisation programme simultaneously during the last year of specialization, thereby shortening the duration of the doctoral programme to two years;
- having regard to the Statutes of the University of Milan, issued by Rector's Decree dated 15 March 2012, as subsequently amended;
- having regard to the University Regulations regarding research doctorates issued by Rector's decree of 5 June 2015, as amended;
- having regard to art. 24 of the University Regulations concerning attendance, pursuant to the abovesaid art. 7 of Ministerial Decree 45/2013;
- having regard the Ministerial Decree protocol no. 808 of 28 November 2018 whereby the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR), pursuant to Ministerial Decree 45/2013, grants five-year accreditation to the doctoral research programmes presented by the University of Milan and without prejudice to the prescribed requirements;
- having regard to the fact that for the 2020/2021 academic year the University intends to institute the doctoral programme in Clinical Research, with the foremost aim of



implementing the abovementioned articles of Ministerial Decree 45/2013 and of University Regulations governing doctoral programmes;

- having regard to the note of the Ministry of University and Research (MUR) protocol No. 7757 of 11 March 2020;
- having regard to the decisions of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Directors in the session of 31 March 2020, concerning the institution of the 36th doctoral cycle;

HEREBY DECREES

Art. 1 - Institution of the doctoral programme

The doctoral programme in Clinical Research is instituted at the University of Milan for academic year 2020/2021 (36th cycle), subject to accreditation by the MUR, and ongoing compliance with accreditation requirements. It is primarily designed for medical specialization students who have a strong vocation for research on the causes and the clinical-therapeutic management of diseases.

A public competition, based on qualifications and exams, for admission to the abovesaid doctoral research programme is hereby announced by the University of Milan; the table annexed to this decree, which is an integral part of this document, contains a brief description of the programme, the examination window and references to the university website where the research topics identified by the academic board of each programme, in line with the objectives of the programme, its research and educational focus, can be found. The criteria on which the selection of research topics is based are set out in art. 21 of the University Regulations on doctoral programmes.

The number of scholarships may be increased should external funding become available before the deadline of the call for submission of applications.

Foreign candidates who are in receipt of scholarships issued by their country of origin may be admitted to the doctoral programme over and above the prescribed number, provided that they pass the admission exam set out in this decree.

Art. 2 - Admission requirements

The doctoral programme in Clinical Research, pursuant to art. 7 of Ministerial Decree 45/2013 (*Links between doctoral programmes and postgraduate specializations in the field of medicine*), is mainly tailored for those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in class LM-41 - Medicine and surgery, who in academic year 2020/2021, the year in which the doctoral programme is instituted, will begin their last year of their postgraduate specialization in the area of medicine at the University of Milan.



Those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in class LM-41 - Medicine and surgery - as well as a specialization diploma in the field of medicine can nevertheless apply, without prejudice to the fact that scholarships and places on the doctoral programme are preferentially assigned to suitable candidates completing an undergraduate specialization.

Considering that there are places and doctoral scholarships reserved for graduates in Dentistry and Dental Prosthetics, those who have completed or will complete by 31 October 2020, on pain of exclusion from the programme, a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in Dentistry and Dental Prosthetics (LM-46) can also apply for the programme.

Students with equivalent qualification (including Postgraduate specialization, where required) from a foreign University may also apply for a place on the programme. The suitability of the foreign academic qualification in terms of content is appraised by the Examining Committee of the doctoral programme, in compliance with the regulations in force in Italy and in the country in which the academic qualification was issued, and the international treaties or agreements pertaining to the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.

Art. 3 - Admission of students completing postgraduate specializations

Postgraduate specialization students admitted to the doctoral programme must receive authorization from the academic board to simultaneously attend the school of specialisation and the doctoral programme. Authorization for joint attendance is given on having received permission from the Board of the postgraduate specialization programme, which must declare the compatibility of doctoral programme attendance with specialization activities and certify research activities undertaken during the postgraduate specialization. These activities are assessed by the academic board with the aim of reducing the duration of the doctoral programme. After a year of attending both programmes, the student will attend only the doctoral programme for its official duration.

During the period of joint attendance, specialization students cannot be in receipt of a scholarship for doctoral studies. These students are subject to the regulations and contract for medical specialization studies.

Art. 4 - Application for admission

Applications must be submitted by no later than **2 pm on 14 September 2020** through the following procedure:

1. Register online on [the University portal](#). This operation is not required of those already registered on the portal or in possession of University login credentials (final year students or those who graduated from the University of Milan less than a year ago);
2. Login and submit an application for admission to the Doctoral programme admission services - [Servizio di ammissione dottorati di ricerca](#);



3. Pay the non-refundable fee of €50 covering selection costs.

The following **documents** (no larger than 10 MB) must be **uploaded** as pdf .rtf or .jpg files to complete the online admissions procedure:

- A. Diploma Supplement, issued by the University in accordance with the standards set by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES; alternatively, a degree certificate in Italian or English from the candidate's home university showing exams taken, respective grades and credits. This documentation is not required of graduates/final year students of the University of Milan, as it will be obtained as a matter of course;
- B. CV, describing any professional experience and other qualifications held by the applicant;
- C. Research project (using Form 1 attached hereto);
- D. Copy of passport (foreign applicants only);
- E. Any publications;
- F. Annex A.

The online application cannot be modified or supplemented with further documentation once it has been confirmed.

Self-certification is accepted in the cases provided for and pursuant to current legislation.

Failure to submit any one of the above-mentioned documents (A to C) will lead to exclusion from the competition.

Qualifications and scientific publications may be submitted in Italian or English.

In addition to the documentation listed above, at the request of the academic board and as specified in the table, applicants must provide two reference letters, drafted according to Form 2 attached hereto, from qualified persons who have had a role in their education. The reference letters in .pdf must be e-mailed directly by said persons to the email address indicated in the doctoral programme table by the competition deadline. In any case candidates may include reference letters written as indicated above with their application. Reference letters are considered part of the candidate's curriculum and will not be awarded any points.

Art. 5 - Disabled applicants

In compliance with article 20 of Italian Law no. 104 dated 5 February 1992, if they deem it necessary, disabled applicants may request special aids and/or additional time for the competition exams. To this end, they must submit a declaration of physical impairment or of Learning Disability (form available at the University webpage *Modulistica generale* - general forms) along with a medical certificate attesting to the validity of the request.

Scanned copies of the form and documentation must be uploaded during the online application procedure.



Art. 6 - Admission exam

Admission to doctoral programme is through a public selection procedure involving the evaluation of qualifications and tests for the comparative assessment of candidates. An Examining Committee set up and appointed in compliance with current regulations will carry out the procedure.

Selection is intended to ascertain the qualifications, capacity and aptitudes of candidates for scientific research and their personal motivations. It is based on assessment of the **CV**, a **research project**, which may be inspired by the work of the second cycle degree thesis, and an **online interview**. The research project, which should be drafted using a standard model ([Form 1 attached hereto](#)), is only for selection purposes and does not limit the choice of doctoral thesis in the case of admission.

The candidate's CV and research project will be evaluated prior to the interview, and candidates will be able to see the result of the evaluation on the University portal.

The CV is evaluated on the basis of the candidate's entire university career, publications, professional experience and other qualifications, if any. A **maximum score of 20 points** can be assigned to the **CV**. In assigning the points the Committee will consider the statistical distribution of the exam marks for their respective study course, as well as the conditions and the period over which the candidate has obtained his qualifications.

A maximum of 10 points can be assigned to the **research project**.

Candidates who obtain a score of at least 50% of the maximum points obtainable for the CV and the research project can be called for interview.

The interview will take place in an open session and is aimed at ascertaining the candidate's knowledge of topics relating to the educational and scientific fields of the doctoral programme. The interview stage includes a seminar-style presentation of the applicant's proposed research project, followed by a general discussion aimed at verifying their skills, scientific knowledge and personal motivations. A **maximum of 70 points** can be awarded for the **interview**.

The interview is conducted in English.

To sit for the tests, candidates must show one of the following identity documents: identity card; passport; driving licence (Italian).

At the end of each interview session, the Committee makes a list of the candidates examined and their point scores. The interview outcome will be notified by the Committee at the end of each day.

At the end of the examination, the Committee draws up a general ranking list according to the total score assigned to the candidates for their CV, research project and interview. **Candidates must obtain a minimum score of 70/100 to pass the admission exam.**

The ranking is published online on the page at *Graduatorie ammissioni post laurea* - [Postgraduate admission rankings page](#) in the days following the examinations.



The Committee must conclude its work no later than **1 October 2020**.

Art. 7 - Admission to the programme

Applicants are admitted to the programme in accordance with the ranking order until all available places are filled. Where applicants achieve the same score, preference will be given to the younger applicant, without prejudice to the right of priority criterion for doctoral study scholarships set forth in art. 9 of this call for applications. The ranking of eligible applicants will be published in the days following the interviews on the University website *Graduatorie ammissioni post laurea* - [Postgraduate admission rankings page](#).

The ranking list posted to the University website is equivalent to notice, and eligible applicants will not receive any written notice.

Applicants admitted to the programme lose their entitlement if they fail to enrol by the deadline. Their place is then given to the next applicant in the ranking list. This also applies if an admitted applicant withdraws within three months of the beginning of the programme. If the withdrawing student has already received any monthly scholarship payments, he/she is required to return them. Takeover applicants will be contacted personally by email by the Doctoral Students Administration Office (*Segreteria Dottorati*), which will provide instructions and deadlines for enrolment.

Once the final rankings are published, non-EU citizens resident abroad who have been admitted to the doctoral programme will receive an e-mail (from international.students@unimi.it) with the admissions letter for obtaining a student visa.

Art. 8 - Enrolment

Applicants admitted to the doctoral programme can enrol online **from 12 October 2020 to 2pm on 16 October 2020** using [SIFA enrolment service](#) and following the procedures published on the [University website](#).

Candidates are admitted conditionally and may be excluded from the programme if they do not meet the requirements.

The annual tuition fee for the doctoral programme is € 980.

Beneficiaries of doctoral scholarships granted by the University are exempted from payment of the fee for accessing and attending doctoral programmes.

Those without a scholarship, beneficiaries of scholarships from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or from the regional education incentive programme (*Diritto allo Studio*), and applicants with invalidity greater than 66% and/or with recognised handicap according to Law 104/92, are exempted from payment of the doctoral programme admission and attendance fee and are only required to pay the sum of €156.00 covering the regional study tax, the accident insurance premium and stamp duty.



Students who withdraw from the doctoral programme are not entitled to reimbursement of enrolment fees already paid.

Applicants who hold a foreign academic qualification must also show the originals (and provide a copy) of the following documents to the International Students office (Via Santa Sofia no. 9/1 - 20122 Milan) **by the enrolment deadline:**

- a) University qualification;
- b) Italian translation of the qualification, done by an official translator and certified in accordance with existing regulations;
- c) "*Dichiarazione di valore in loco*" (Statement of Validity) to be requested from the Italian diplomatic office in the country in which the qualification was awarded;
- d) Italian tax identification number (*codice fiscale*);
- e) stay permit (non-EU applicants only).

The documents in points b) and c) may be replaced by a Diploma Supplement issued by the University in accordance with European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES standards or by any other statement of validity issued by ENIC_NARIC centres or by diplomatic offices in Italy. The University reserves the right to request the "*dichiarazione di valore in loco*" where any doubt arises regarding the validity of the qualification.

Verification of the validity of foreign qualifications is made on submission of the official documents.

Art. 9 - Scholarships

The scholarship is granted, in accordance with and by the methods established by existing regulations, in line with the ranking list and consists of an annual gross sum of **€16,350.00**. The amount of the scholarship is exempt from IRPEF income tax in accordance with art. 4 of Italian Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984 but subject to social security contributions pursuant to article 2, paragraph 26 et seq., of Italian Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995 and subsequent amendments.

In the event of equal merit, the scholarships are assigned on the basis of the candidates' economic situation, as expressed by the indicator of equivalent economic situation (ISEE).

The regional study tax and an expenses charge will be deducted from the scholarship for a total sum of €156.00.

Scholarships have a yearly duration and are renewed if the academic board promotes the doctoral student to the following year on the basis of yearly performance.

Starting from the second year, in addition to the scholarship and depending on the University's budgeted financial resources, each doctoral student is given an amount for research in Italy and



abroad suited to the type of programme and in any case not less than 10% of the amount of the scholarship itself.

Art. 10 - Obligations of doctoral students

The doctoral research programme entails 1,500 hours of training-education and research activities per year. The duties and rights of students are set out in art. 22 of the University Regulations on doctoral research.

Art. 11 - Awarding of qualification

The qualification of Doctor of Philosophy, abbreviated as "Dott. Ric" or "PhD", is awarded under the conditions indicated in art. 23 of the University Regulations on Doctoral Research

Art. 12 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101 of 10 August 2018, as well as EU Regulation no. 679/2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR), the University undertakes to safeguard the confidential nature of the information provided by applicants; all data provided is processed solely for purposes related to the competition and possibly for managing the applicant's relationship with the University, in compliance with current legislation.

Art. 13 - Relevant regulations

Any items for which no specific provision has been made in this call for applications shall be regulated in accordance with legislation and regulations governing doctoral research programmes.

Art. 14 - Procedure manager and contacts

Pursuant to Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, the manager of the procedure related to this announcement is Ms. Monica Delù (Head of the Doctoral Students Administration Office).

For further information please use the [Infostudenti](#) service, selecting the category: Postgraduates/Doctoral research students.

Milan, 14 July 2020

THE RECTOR
(Elio Franzini)



Doctoral programme in Clinical Research

Learning objectives

Students will learn a correct research approach for studying the causes and the clinical-therapeutic management of diseases.

Specific objectives:

- identify clinical issues and uncertainties in pathogenesis, diagnosis, prognosis and in therapeutic approaches in various diseases;
- correctly apply different research methodologies (randomized trials, longitudinal, cross-sectional or transversal studies and case control studies);
- identify and use biological and genetic markers for studying clinical syndromes, guiding diagnosis and assessing the clinical outcome of different pathologies;
- develop critical skills to analyse and comment clinical research results published or presented at national and international conferences;
- introduce students to independent clinical research methods and to the issues and critical points relating to ethics in clinical research.

Academic disciplines

02/D (Applied physics, teaching and history of physics)

05/E (Experimental and Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)

05/H (Human anatomy and histology)

06/A (Pathology and Laboratory Diagnostics)

06/B (General Clinical Medicine)

06/D (Specialised Clinical Medicine)

06/E (Specialised Clinical Surgery)

06/F (Integrated Clinical Surgery)

06/G (Clinical Paediatrics)

06/I (Clinical radiology)

06/M (Public Healthcare)

06/N (Healthcare, applied medical technology, physical exercise and sports science professions)



Research topics

Research topics may be viewed on the [University website](#)

Duration

3 years

Places available

10, of which 8 with and 2 without scholarship

Scholarships

6 reserved in the first instance to those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in LM-41 - Medicine and surgery - who in academic year 2020/2021 will begin their last year of postgraduate specialization in a medical discipline at the University of Milan and, in the second instance, to those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in LM-41 - Medicine and surgery who have a specialization diploma in a field of medicine.

2 reserved for those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in Dentistry and dental prosthetics (LM-46).

Places available without scholarship

1 reserved in the first instance to those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in LM-41 - Medicine and surgery - who in academic year 2020/2021 will begin their last year of postgraduate specialization in a medical discipline at the University of Milan and, in the second instance, to those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in LM-41 - Medicine and surgery - who have a specialization diploma in a field of medicine.

1 reserved for those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in Dentistry and dental prosthetics (LM-46).

Doctoral programme coordinator

Prof. Emilio Berti, full professor in scientific-disciplinary sector MED/35 emilio.berti@unimi.it

Curricula

1. Stomatology
2. Specialized medical sciences

Admission requirements

Those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in LM-41 - Medicine and surgery - who in academic year 2020/2021 will begin their last year of postgraduate specialization in a medical



discipline at the University of Milan and those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in LM-41 - Medicine and surgery - who have a specialization diploma in a field of medicine can apply for admission to the doctoral programme.

Those holding a Master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in Dentistry and dental prosthetics (LM-46) can apply for admission.

Letters of reference

The academic board requires two letters of reference, drafted according to Form 2 attached hereto, to be sent by e-mail to the coordinator.

Doctoral programme selection phases

Qualification assessment date

The assessment will take place on 21 September 2020.

The assessment outcome will be posted to the University website by the interview start date.

Interviews

Online interviews will be held from 24 to 30 September 2020.

The interview will be in English.

Exam procedures, the calendar with interview dates and times, and the title of the candidate's project will be posted to the University website.

Online posting is equivalent to a notice to the persons concerned.

Annex A

DICHIARAZIONE SOSTITUTIVA DI ATTO NOTORIO

Self-drafted affidavit
(art. 47 del DPR n° 445/2000)
(art. 47 Presidential Decree no. 445/2000)

Il sottoscritto/The undersigned

cognome/surname _____ nome/name _____

nato a/born in _____ il/on _____

consapevole delle sanzioni penali richiamate dall'articolo 76 del Dpr 445/2000 in caso di dichiarazioni non veritiere e falsità in atti
aware that making false statements and submitting false documents are crimes punishable by law (article 76 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000)

**dichiara sotto la propria personale responsabilità
declares under his/her own responsibility**

Per i possessori di laurea magistrale LM-41 Medicina e chirurgia

- che, nell'anno accademico 2020/2021, risulterà iscritto all'ultimo anno della scuola di specializzazione di area medica dell'Università degli Studi di Milano in
- di essere in possesso di un diploma di specializzazione di area medica in conseguito nell'anno accademico presso l'Università.....

For those holding a second-cycle degree (Master's degree) in the area of LM-41 Medicine

- that in a. y. 2020/2021 he/she will be enrolled in the last year of a Specialisation School in medical area of the University of Milan;
- that he/she has obtained in a. y. a Specialisation Diploma in the medical area, at the University of.....

che le pubblicazioni/ i titoli sotto elencati, prodotti in copia tramite upload, sono conformi all'originale:

that the publications and the qualifications listed below, produced as copies, comply with the originals:

Milano, _____

Data/date _____

Firma/Signature _____

Ai sensi dell'art. 3 del DPR 445/2000 l'autocertificazione può essere utilizzata solo dai cittadini appartenenti all'Unione Europea. I cittadini non europei devono produrre documenti originali o in copia autenticata secondo la normativa vigente.

Pursuant to art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, only EU citizens are entitled to use this form. Non-EU citizens must submit the original documentation or photocopies authenticated in compliance with the laws in force.

Form 1

RESEARCH PROJECT

Applicant's Full Name

Doctoral programme

1) Project title

2) Abstract

3) Project aims and their relevance in the context of the state of the art

4) Project description

5) References

The project should count at least 2,000 and no more than 4,000 words, excluding references.

Form 2

REFEREE FORM

Applicant's Name		PhD	
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To be completed in all areas

Referee's name		Position/Title	
Institution/Company			
Address		City	
Zip code		Country	
Phone contact		Email	
Date			

On the following scale, please rank the applicant against other students in comparable fields and indicate the comparison group used.

Bottom 50%	Top 50%	Top 25%	Top 10%	Top 5%	Top 2%

Please rate this applicant in overall promise for the doctorate (check one)

Unable to evaluate	Below Average	Average	Good	Outstanding	Exceptional

Give your comments here
Your personal evaluation of the candidate