



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI ENNA "KORE"

Rector's Decree n. 93 of 29/07/2022

Notice of public competition for the admission to the PhD course in "Intelligent System for Engineering" - XXXVIII cycle

Art. 1

Announcement

1. A public selection, based on qualifications and an interview, for the admission of 8 (eight) positions for the Research Doctorate in " Intelligent System for Engineering ", code DOT14D6833 (hereinafter, in short "Doctorate" or "Course"), Academic Year 2022/2023, XXXVIII cycle, at the University of Enna "Kore" is announced. The Doctorate will last three years. The masculine expressions are simply adopted for the economy of text: they refer indiscriminately both to male and female candidates and, as well as to doctoral students.

2. Those who, upon expiry date of the announcement, regardless of citizenship, are in possession of a Master's degree or qualification. The eligibility of the foreign title will be verified by the admissions committee of the Ph.D program, in compliance with the Italian legislation and the country where the qualification was issued, as well as with treaties or international agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies. Those who obtain the qualification by the date of enrollment in the Ph.D program may also submit an application to participate in the selection, under penalty of the loss of validity of the same application.

3. For anything not specified in this announcement, reference is made to the provisions in the University Regulations on Research Doctorates referred to in D. P. 160/2022, published on www.unikore.it.

4. Communications regarding this selection, if not reported in subsequent articles, will be published, with the value of notification to interested parties, on the official website of the University www.unikore.it.

Art. 2

Scholarships

1. The Doctorate has 6 (six) grants, of which 3 (three) financed with PNRR funds, excluding those possibly financed by the Sicilian Region.

2. The scholarship – whose amount set by the Ministerial Decree n. 247 of 23 February 2022, equal to € 16.243,00 gross of charges to be paid by the fellow - has an annual duration; its amount is disbursed on a monthly deferred basis for a maximum period of three years. Within the maximum period, the scholarship is subject to renewal from year to year provided that the student has completed the all the activities in the syllabus for the previous year and that he has been admitted to the next year of the Doctorate.

3. If the student does not attend the course for more than thirty days, all scholarships will be suspended.

4. The scholarship will be increased to a maximum of 50% in proportion and in relation to the internship periods abroad provided, not before enrollment to the second year, by the internship program and previously authorized; this increase cannot be paid for a period exceeding half of the overall duration of the Doctorate. The periods of activity carried out abroad will normally have a total duration of six months or more.

5. Starting from the second year, each PhD student with a grant is ensured, within the financial resources of the University, a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad for 10% or more of the scholarship value. The budget is made available to the individual PhD student and will be gradually disbursed on the basis of the activities planned and approved by the tutor and effectively paid in whole or in part upon production of a report endorsed by the PhD Coordinator. If the PhD student has not been positively assessed for the renewal of the scholarship will be reinvested by the University in the following Phd cycles.

6. The scholarship is provided exclusively to those who do not have, during the period of entitlement to the scholarship, an annual income which exceeds the annual amount of the same scholarship.

Art. 3

Application for the participation in the selection and attachments

1. The application to participate in the selection procedure must be registered online, under penalty of exclusion, by 31/08/2022 at 12:00 CET, using the appropriate electronic form accessible from the same publication page of this Notice on the University website www.unikore.it >>> Scientific research >>> Research doctorates, and following the instructions.

2. The following must be uploaded to the application form:

- curriculum vitae et studiorum, with any attachments, drawn up according to the ATTACHMENT B model;
- degree diplomas or related replacement certificates with indication of the degree grade point average (in the case of a degree to be achieved by the expiry enrollment date for the Phd program, an appropriate certification from the university certifying the exams taken with an indication of the grades obtained);
- up to a maximum of 3 publications with an ISBN or ISSN code, produced in digital files in pdf format;
- a research project proposal drawn up according to the model ANNEXURE C;
- (where applicable) a document or declaration proving possible achievements of eligibility from a previous admission procedure to a doctorate, indicating the university, the academic year, the date of publication from the eligibility ranking list. Eligibility is taken into consideration only if it has not been used, that is, it has not resulted in enrollment in the doctorate to which it refers.
- proof of payment for the competition fee of € 100,00 (euro one hundred) made by online payment directly on the University website, indicating the reason:

[Surname and Name of the candidate] «Selection for PhD DOT14D6833».

- a valid identification document.
- the list of all assessable qualifications presented.

3. The application may contain up to a maximum of two letters of recommendation. Only letters written and signed by full professors, including retired professors of Italian or foreign universities other than the Kore University of Enna, and by any means are not members of the Doctoral Board of Professors, will be

taken into consideration. to, who among other things expressly declare that they know or have known the candidate.

4. When submitting the participation application for the admission procedure, the candidate must declare whether he / she is in possession of a disability certification, specifying, if so, which aids or organizational measures are needed for the interview preparation by the University.

5. Admission to the selection must be considered subject to all candidates. In fact, the University reserves the right to ascertain the authenticity of the documentation produced and may, at any time, by reasoned provision of the Rector, exclude the candidate from selection procedure or from the same Doctorate due to the lack of the prescribed requirements, the presence of false declarations or for other impeding reasons. Any exclusion measure will be sent to the interested party at the e-mail address indicated in the application.

6. In compliance with the operational and qualitative standards of the University and the Regulations (EU) 2016/679, the candidates who submit their application form, according to the procedures described in this article, will receive, at the email address indicated by them in the application, a unique alphanumeric identification code. In the documents made public by the Kore University of Enna, relating to this selection procedure, the identification of each candidate will take place solely through this code, with the exception of the general merit eligibility ranking list.

Art. 4

Selection of nominations

1. The admission procedure is handled by a jury appointed by the Rector and set up in accordance with the provisions of the University Regulations.

2. The selection for admission to the PhD course is based on qualifications and interview. Its aim is to verify the candidates' preparation, ability and aptitude.

3. The qualifications evaluation is the preliminary step to be called upon for the interview. Only the following are considered qualifications that can be evaluated - provided, however, that they have been presented at the same time as the application form and do not comply with the requirements contained in the previous article 3, paragraphs 2 and 3 – are exclusively the following:

a. qualifications for admission, relative only to the grade obtained in the master's degree or equivalent (or, if there are more degrees, to the degree with the highest grade). In the event of a degree to be achieved by October 31, 2021, the weighted average of the marks out of thirty obtained in the exams passed is evaluated, recalculated in one hundred and ten;

b. the curriculum vitae et studiorum;

c. publications;

d. letters of recommendation from full professors;

e. previous eligibility not used for admission to research doctorates;

f. the proposal of a research project

4. The Commission may attribute a maximum of 100 points to each candidate, which can also be used in fractions of 0.50 each, of which 65 are intended for qualifications that can be assessed, according to the following distribution referring to the corresponding letters of the previous paragraph :

a. up to 15 points for a Master's degree (or corresponding title), according to the table ATTACHMENT D;

- b. up to 5 points attributed to the curriculum vitae et studiorum: the maximum score corresponds to the simultaneous presence of any additional degrees to the admission qualification, post-graduate qualifications subsequent to Master's or equivalent degrees, post-graduate State qualifications, documented activities of collaboration in research projects at public or private bodies and in other activities and competences deemed significant by the Commission;
- c. up to 5 points for publications, provided they are additional to the degree thesis, with a limit of 2.5 points for a single publication, according to the evaluation of the Commission;
- d. up to 5 points for letters of recommendation, with a limit of 3 points for a single letter, based on the Commission's assessment;
- e. 5 one-time points for eligibility for previous selections for admission to PhD courses at the Kore University of Enna or in other Italian or foreign universities, regardless where the candidate falls on the ranking eligibility list and the cycle to which they refer, provided that they are not used for attending the relative doctorate;
- f. up to 30 points for the proposal of a research project according to the Commission's assessment.

5. The evaluation of the qualifications referred to in letters b), c), d), f) is carried out by the Commission who is specialized in specific research topics of the Doctorate, indicated in ATTACHMENT A. The scores relating to the qualifications referred to in letters a) and e) is instead determined ex officio and subsequently validated by the Commission, except for non-Italian qualifications, for which the assessment is carried out exclusively by the Commission on the basis of specific correspondence scales it identifies to. The evaluation of the research project proposal neither binds the candidate nor the University for the purposes of the subsequent project to be followed during the PhD course in case of admission.

6. Candidates who have obtained no less than 21/30 in the evaluation of the research project proposal are admitted to the interview. Candidates admitted to the interview are required to present themselves to support it - with a suitable identification document - on 16 September 2022 at 10:00 at the office that will be announced on the University website together with the list of admitted .

7. The interview focuses on the research topics of the Doctorate, listed in ANNEXURE A and on the qualifications produced by the candidate. For the evaluation of the interview, the Commission has 35 points.

8. During the interview, regardless of whether any language certificates are produced, the Commission verifies the appropriate level of competence in the Italian language for candidates whose mother tongue is different from Italian, and in English for candidates whose mother tongue is Italian, with reference to the scientific elements covered by the interview in both cases. The Commission takes into account the outcome of these specific skills when assigning the overall score referred to the interview.

9. Once the candidates' competencies have been evaluated, the Commission draws up a general ranking list of merit which will only include the candidates who have obtained a score of 24 thirty-fifths or more on the interview.

10. Following the verification that the procedures have been done in accordance to the regulations by the President of the University, the eligibility ranking list of the candidates will be approved by the Rector with his own decree, which has the value of a definitive provision. The list will be posted exclusively on the University website. Complaints are allowed within 5 days for the sole purpose of rectifying any material errors. Ineligible candidates will be notified by email, as their names will not be made public.

11. Candidates placed within the eighth place in the final eligibility ranking list will access the PhD program as winners of the admission procedure. In the case that candidates obtain the same scores, the youngest

candidate precedes. The rights of the less well-off for the purpose of awarding scholarships are reserved. In the event of any renunciation by those entitled, the same number of candidates will take over before the start of the Course if they follow the order of the eligibility ranking list. The scrolling of the eligibility ranking list after the start of the course, however by the end of the first quarter, is subject to the favorable opinion of the College of Doctors.

Art. 5

Tuition and contributions

1. The annual tuition for access to and attendance at the Doctoral Course is Euro 4,500.00, distributed in two installments:

- first installment of € 2,500.00: to be paid by the deadline for enrollment; in subsequent academic years by 30 October of each year.

- second installment of € 2,000.00: by 22 December of each year.

2. The amount due must be paid to account no. IT97W0503616800CC0551777711. The annual contribution is due by all members, including scholarship winners, except in cases where the total or partial exemption is expressly provided for.

Art. 6

Registration application

1. Successful candidates must register for the Doctorate by term that will be announced on the University website, under penalty of forfeiture of the acquired right.

2. Enrollment must be formalized by:

a. the payment of the first registration installment of 2,500 Euros by the deadline for enrollment;

b. the compilation of the enrollment application in the Doctorate and the mandatory declarations, according to the model that will be made available on the University website;

c. a photocopy of the candidate's fiscal code and a valid identification document.

3. Each scholarship recipient must also declare:

a) to have not previously benefited from another scholarship (even for a single year or fraction thereof) in a PhD course;

b) not to combine the scholarship itself with any other scholarship awarded for any reason except with those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for integrating research activities abroad;

c) to be aware that the scholarship is provided exclusively to those who do not possess, during the scholarship period, an annual income exceeding the amount of the annual scholarship, and to promptly communicate if they have exceeded the aforementioned scholarship income limit;

d) to repay the monthly scholarship received in the year in which the income limit was exceeded;

e) to be available to study and research abroad, for the period provided for by the PhD program and to be aware that failure to carry out the activities abroad will result in the revocation of the entire scholarship.

4. Winners who are non-Italian citizens must possess the following requisites by the expiry date of the enrollment application:

(a) enjoy civil and political rights also in the States of belonging or origin, unless otherwise stated;

(b) to be in possession, with the exception of the having Italian citizenship, of all the other requisites envisaged for Italian citizens.

Art 7.

Attendance, rights and obligations of doctoral students

1. Admission to the Doctorate involves an exclusive full-time commitment. For details relating to attendance, rights, prohibitions, and obligations of doctoral students, please refer to the relevant University Regulations.

2. Doctoral students are required to observe the provisions of the Code of Ethics of the University of Enna "Kore" available on the website: www.unikore.it

Art. 8

Final exam and graduation

1. The PhD thesis, written in Italian or English, or in another language which will be authorized by the Academic Board, must be accompanied by an abstract in Italian if the thesis is produced in English or in another foreign language, in English if the thesis is produced in Italian. The thesis, after evaluation, is publicly discussed before a Commission appointed by the Rector on proposal of the Dean of the Faculty.

2. There is a final exam fee of € 400, including legal taxes.

3. The title of research doctor (abbreviated to "Dott. Ric." Or "Ph.D.") is obtained only if the candidate receives a positive evaluation for his/her research thesis, upon passing the final exam in conclusion of the legal duration of the course, and is conferred by the Rector.

Art. 9

Treatment of personal data and person in charge of the procedure

1. The requested data are necessary for management purposes of this selection and for any registration, according to the principle of minimization imposed by the R.G.P.D. 679/2016.

2. Pursuant to Law no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions, the person responsible for the procedure referred to in this announcement is the Director General of the Free University of Enna "Kore", dr. Salvatore Berrittella.

Art. 10

Final regulations

1. The consigning of the application for admission to the selection referred to in art. 3 implies the acceptance by the candidates of the rules contained in this announcement and of the University Regulations to which it refers. Failure to comply with the regulations will result in exclusion from the admission competition or exclusion from the Doctorate.

2. For anything not explicitly specified in this announcement and in the University Regulations, reference should be made to the laws and regulations in force on the subject of research doctorates, within the limits of applicability to non-state universities.

3. An edition in English is produced of the essential contents of this Announcement. In the event of any disputes, this text in Italian will only be valid.

4. The following attachments cited in the text constitute integral parts of this announcement:

ATTACHMENT A - Summary sheet of the PhD course;

ATTACHMENT B - The curriculum vitae et studiorum drafting template;

ATTACHMENT C - Indications for the preparation of the proposal of the research project;

ATTACHMENT D - Evaluation table for the Master's or equivalent degree.

THE RECTOR

Prof. Giovanni Puglisi

ANNEX A

PHD IN

INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS FOR ENGINEERING

Requirements for admission

All master's degrees

Other requirements

Knowledge of English is required.

Objectives of the course

The doctorate represents the natural completion of the course of study in the fields of engineering and architecture. The objectives are oriented to an advancement of knowledge in the field of intelligent systems declined in the fields of Computer Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, and Civil Engineering and Architecture. The aim is to create cultural profiles in the following fields: 1) Artificial Intelligence; 2) Speech and Image Processing 3) AI for Health, 4) Human-centric AI, 5) Smart mobility, 5) Infrastructure Networks and Transport Infrastructures, 5) Intelligent themes in Aerospace Structures and Systems, 7) Intelligent systems for the architectural design of sustainable structures (green). The training courses are thus aimed at transferring knowledge on specific topics of engineering, computer science, aerospace engineering, and civil engineering and architecture, to train highly specialized figures who can deal with complex research and / or application issues. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of the themes, the doctorate is organized in distinct training courses (curriculum) with general courses during the 1st year and characterizing the 2nd and 3rd year. Training is complemented by conducting experiments at the university's laboratories; there is skilled staff and tools capable of supporting PhD students, from the participation in seminars and tutorials offered by research institutions, universities or during international conferences, as well as with periods of research at Italian and foreign universities and research centers.

Disciplinary and interdisciplinary teaching activity

Ad hoc courses foreseen in the training process:

N.ro courses: 17 of which final examination foreseen is: 17

Courses borrowed from master's degree programs NO

Courses borrowed from degree courses (first level) NO

Other educational activities YES

Seminar cycles YES

Research stays YES

ITALY - outside the institutions involved average period: 3 months

ABROAD - within the institutions involved average period: 3 months

ABROAD – outside the institutions involved average period: 6 months

ATTACHMENT B

Curriculum vitae et studiorum drafting template

The recommended curriculum model is the Europass model of the European Union. The accepted languages are Italian and English.

To draw up the curriculum in a suitable way free of charge, it is advisable to avoid models present on the web and to:

1) go directly to the Europass website at this address:

<https://europa.eu/europass/eportfolio/screen/cv-editor?lang=it>

2) select the language in which the curriculum is compiled on the top left;

3) insert the photo by uploading it from your computer;

4) fill in the mandatory sections and those deemed necessary (click on the “i” symbol - when present - to obtain clarifications);

5) record the data entered at the end of each page by clicking on "Save" (PLEASE NOTE: by clicking on "Next" the curriculum will already be generated. In case of error, you can always go back);

6) add the sections you want to fill in one by one, selecting them from the drop-down list that appears after saving each page. For example, add the "Publications" section if you have one, add the "Language skills" section to indicate those you have, etc;

7) when you believe you no longer need to add sections, click on “Next”, check that the texts entered are the ones you want;

8) choose one of the available models indicated on the left of the page;

9) then download the resulting curriculum in PDF format onto your computer

10) upload the PDF file from your computer to the University website on the page dedicated to the admission application to the PhD at the time of drafting the same.

ATTACHMENT C

Indications for drafting the research project proposal

Candidate (Surname, Name) _____

Doctoral Code _____ Optional Curriculum _____

(Check in ATTACHMENT A if the Doctorate includes curricula and possibly indicate one)

TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Key words (indicate at least 3) _____

PROJECT ABSTRACT (from a minimum of 500 to a maximum of 1000 characters including spaces *)

Within the widest freedom of articulation of the text within the limits of space indicated, clearly identify the problem and indicate its significance within the topic or curriculum of the Doctorate; briefly describe the state of the art of research on the issue, with reference to what appears to be consolidated in existing studies and to what is currently worthy of further investigation; declare on what, among what has not yet been investigated or resolved, you want to orient the research project, briefly indicating the expected results.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (from a minimum of 4,500 to a maximum of 6,500 characters including spaces *)

Within the widest freedom of articulation of the text within the space limits indicated, the following elements must be present:

- A detailed description of the state of the art on the problem, with an indication of the main authors (or major scientific schools) who have so far been reported in the research and the most relevant results they have achieved.
- Indication of the fundamental bibliography of reference (volumes and / or scientific articles).
- Explanatory study of the research project, including the specific objectives to be pursued and highlight reasons of the aspects relating to the usefulness, originality, scientific relevance, feasibility of the project.

- Plan of the research path, with an indication of the approach to be adopted and the methodologies on which it will rely, as well as the general timeframe needed during the three years of the Doctorate.
- Clear definition of the expected results (evidently not yet guaranteed by the state of the art of the research) and their relevance both in the disciplinary areas concerned by the Doctorate and possibly in areas external to them, with relative indication of their contribution to scientific research in terms of cognitive, methodological and interpretative innovation.

** Any failure to comply with the limits indicated will be considered among the negative evaluation factors and may result in non-admission to the next stage of the selection.*

Evaluation table of the master's degree or equivalent

Graduation mark	POINTS
Up to 89/110	0
90	0.5
91	1
92	1.5
93	2
94	2.5
95	3
96	3.5
97	4
98	4.5
99	5
100	5.5
101	6
102	6.5
103	7
104	7.5
105	8
106	9
107	10
108	11
109	12
110	13
110 with honors	15

In the absence of a degree, the value of the weighted average of the marks in relation to one hundred and thirty points is taken into consideration, considering each "30 with honors" equal to 30.33. Any decimal values present in the final result must be rounded to the nearest integer (conventionally, up to 0.49 = 0; from 0.50 = 1).