



Politecnico
di Torino

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSIONS TO NATIONAL PhD PROGRAMME IN *ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE* – AREA INDUSTRY 4.0 WITH ADMINISTRATIVE SEAT AT POLITECNICO DI TORINO A.Y. 2021/2022 (37TH CYCLE)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(not legally binding)

Article 1

PHD PROGRAMME IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

1. The PhD programme in Artificial Intelligence is implemented through the establishment of **five doctorates joined together**, with the coordination of the CNR and Università di Pisa. Each of the five doctorates includes a leading university and a wide consortium of participating research institutions. **The five doctorates have a common ground focused on the foundational aspects of the Artificial Intelligence.** In particular, five areas of vertical expertise have been selected for the national PhD programme in Artificial Intelligence, each of which is referred to equal PhD programmes with administrative seats in the following universities:
 - Health and life sciences, *Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma*
 - Agriculture (*agrifood*) and environment, *Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II*
 - Security and cybersecurity, *Sapienza Università di Roma*
 - Industry 4.0, *Politecnico di Torino*
 - Society, *Università di Pisa*.
2. For the Academic Year 2021/2022 (37th cycle), a public competition for the admission to the national PhD programme in Artificial Intelligence area - industry 4.0 with administrative seat in Politecnico di Torino is announced.
3. With reference to the area industry 4.0, the following institutions/universities participate in the PhD programme:
 - Politecnico di Torino (administrative seat)
 - CNR
 - Università di Bologna
 - Politecnico di Milano
 - Università di Milano



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- Università di Padova
- Università Milano Bicocca
- Università Ca' Foscari
- Università di Verona

Article 2

ORGANIZATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF PHD CANDIDATES ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAMME

1. The PhD candidates, as involved in a single, joined and shared didactic-scientific project, may conduct their researches and training activities in the various seats of the universities/institutions involved in the national PhD programme. A real sharing of the structures necessary for the development of the teaching and research activities is granted to these candidates, aimed at the realization of the doctoral project.
2. At the end of the programme, after passing the final exam, each of the administrative seat universities releases the diploma of "National PhD programme in Artificial Intelligence" jointly with the other four administrative seat universities, with their respective logotypes and the National Research Council's logotype (CNR).
3. The PhD candidate's activity starts on 1st November of the first year of the programme and ends on the 31st October of the third year.

Article 3

SCHOLARSHIPS

1. The gross annual amount of a PhD scholarship for the academic year 2021/2022 is € 15,343.28. The awarding of the scholarship is restricted to the lack of incompatibilities laid down in the current regulations. The scholarship will be awarded from 1st November 2021, therefore the absence of incompatibilities must remain from this date (1st November 2021).
2. Each scholarship is theme-bound, that is, there is a requirement for the recipients to focus their doctoral research on a specific topic and conduct their research activity at the host university offering the scholarship, as stated in the Annex 1 of the call and in the table published at http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence. The scholarships will be assigned only to candidates who explicitly applied and are evaluated by the board as eligible to be awarded a scholarship for that specific topic.
3. Candidates must express their choice for at least 3 scholarships up to a maximum of 5 through the specific application form available on the Apply@polito.it procedure (described in Article 4), which has to be attached to the application. This choice is irrevocable.



4. With regards to scholarships financed by an external institution, the enrolment is subject to the subscription of the related convention between Politecnico di Torino and the financing institution.
5. The enrollment to the PhD is only allowed with a scholarship, unless the recipient waives it because holder of a research fellowship on the date 1st November 2021, that is for those who are civil servants on special leave but still receive their salary and social security contributions.
6. Those who have already received a scholarship for a PhD course in Italy cannot benefit from another PhD scholarship.

Article 4

ADMISSION PROCEDURE

1. In order to participate in the competition, the candidates must:
 - a) Submit their application form by 1:00 p.m. (CET) of 23rd July 2021, only from the Apply@polito platform which is accessible from the homepage of Politecnico di Torino website <https://www.polito.it/index.php?lang=en>.
Applicants who log into the Apply@polito.it platform for the first time and those students who do not own a student matriculation in Politecnico di Torino are required to register first.
Graduates and graduands from Politecnico di Torino must log into the Apply@polito platform using their credentials (user: S+number – password: date of birth, in the format “ddmmyyyy” or changed password).
 - b) attach the following documents to their application:

a)	A copy of a valid identification document	Both front and back side with picture and signature.
b)	Certificate or self-declaration (see Annex 3) with the information on their academic background: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bachelor’s degree (1st level degree), with final grade, date and place of conferral;- Master’s degree (Laurea Magistrale – 2nd level degree) or equivalent qualification, as specified in art. 5, paragraph 1), with final grade, date and place of conferral, if already awarded;	These documents must be produced in a language of the candidate’s choice among Italian, English, French, Portuguese or Spanish. Graduates and graduands from Politecnico di Torino do not need to attach the above-mentioned certificates/self-declarations.



	- List of the exams taken during the whole academic path, with grades, dates and places of the exams.	
c)	Form for the option of PhD scholarships , with the candidate's expression of interest for a minimum of three up to a maximum of 5 scholarships	The form is available at Apply@poliyo and at the website http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence
d)	Letter of recommendation from a teacher of the reference scientific community in support of the application	In Italian or English
e)	English language certificate or self-declaration to prove their knowledge of the English language.	With score, date and place of examination, if already obtained.
f)	Abstract of Master's thesis	In Italian or English. Max length: 4.000 characters (spaces included).
g)	Short statement of purpose (SOP) on the applicant's research interests and motivations for undertaking the PhD programme , meant to underline their scientific preparation on the research topics carried out by the doctoral programme they are applying at in order to emphasize their ability to engage with one or more topics of research.	In Italian or English. Max length: 4.000 characters (spaces included).
h)	Name and e-mail address of the two referees which can be contacted by the Admissions Committee to get useful information for the evaluation of the application.	
i)	Publications	Fill in the appropriate section with title, place and year of publication



j)	Any other document which applicants deem useful for the purpose of evaluating their application	For instance: other Bachelor's or Master's degrees, Diploma Supplement, prizes and awards, professional experience, any other document useful for the purpose of declaring applicants suitable for admission to a PhD programme, etc.
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In their application form, applicants must declare under their own responsibility:

- that they are aware that the originality of their publications and papers presented for admission to the programme or produced during the PhD programme at Politecnico di Torino may be checked with an anti-plagiarism software;
- that they are not enrolled in any other university programme (except for what is provided for by art. 5)

or,

- that they are enrolled in another university programme (Bachelor degree, Master degree, Specializing Master, Postgraduate School, PhD) but undertake to withdraw from it before enrolling in the PhD programme at Politecnico di Torino:

All the above-mentioned attachments are integral part of the applications for the selection process, which must be written in the form of a lawful self-declaration, in accordance with art. 46 and 46 of DPR no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments. The documents attached to the application for its evaluation must be written in the form of self-certificates or *dichiarazioni sostitutive di atto di notorietà* as provided for by the law. The application made by the candidate must include all the necessary information for the evaluation of the academic qualification and the verification of its truthfulness. Failure to include even a single element entails that the qualification will not be evaluated.

- c) **Applicant are required to pay a non-refundable € 30.00 fee** by the mandatory date of 23rd July 2021, 1:00 p.m. (CET). This amount must be paid by credit card (VISA, MasterCard) at the end of the application process. **The application process is finalized and valid only after the payment of the above-mentioned fee;** afterwards, applicants will no longer be able to modify their application. Applicants who do not pay the fee, or whose payment does not



result performed by the planned mandatory date, will be excluded from the selection process.

2. Politecnico di Torino will not take into consideration any declaration, qualification, publication or request to modify submitted documents after the closing date of this Call. Politecnico di Torino will evaluate exclusively the qualifications already obtained by the applicants by the closing date of the Call and submitted in accordance with the instructions provided in this article. Applications received after the closing date of the Call, or with different modalities from those above-mentioned, will not be valid.
3. Applicants with disabling conditions or with SLD certificate will have to submit an appropriate request within the 23rd July 2021, in order to make use of assistance or additional time during the admission test.

Article 5

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Only candidates **who earned their Master's degree, or old system or a foreign equivalent qualification, no later than 31st October 2021** will be admitted to the selection process.
2. The application from candidates with a foreign qualification will be subject to evaluation of its suitability by the Admissions Committee, for the sole purpose of the admission to the competition. The evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the current legislation applicable in Italy and in the country where the qualification was released, as well as with the international agreements concerning the recognition of qualifications for the pursuit of the studies. The Committee will have to evaluate its comparability to the Italian qualification required to access the PhD programme in terms of level, nature, content and academic rights (access to further courses). Candidates with foreign qualifications are required to submit the documents useful for the purpose to verify their degree (e.g. translation, legislations, declaration of value, Diploma Supplement, certificate of the exams, certificates such as ERIC-NARIC, etc.). The lack of these documents may affect the evaluation of the foreign degree as admission requirement in the event the Committee will not be able to deliberate the above-mentioned necessary comparability.
3. **The foreign degree and eventual supporting documentation will have to be submitted during the online application (through upload procedure exclusively), by the mandatory deadline of the call (1:00 p.m. of 23rd July 2021).**
4. Anytime, the university may exclude candidates without the necessary requirements.



Article 6

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

1. The competition rehearsals consist of the evaluation of the documents attached to the application form and an interview.
2. The Admissions Committee can assign a maximum of 100 points to each applicant, divided as follows:
 - attached documents: maximum 60 points
 - interview: maximum 40 points.
3. **Applicants must score at least 40 points** summing the scores obtained for their qualifications and statement of purpose/recommendation letters **in order to be admitted to the interview**. The list of admitted applicants will be published on http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence.
4. The interview aims to assess the applicant's professional and academic background, scientific and cultural interests, basic academic competencies required to undertake the PhD programme and carry out the research project related to a PhD scholarship with predefined research topic /PhD position offered in apprenticeship format chosen by the applicant on the Apply@polito.it platform. **The interview is to be considered passed with a minimum score of 28 points.**
5. The date, time and interview modalities for each applicant will be published on the webpage http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence on 15th July 2021, at least 5 days before. Applicants are required to check the above-mentioned website without receiving any further personal invitation to the interview. Failure to attend the interview entails the exclusion of the applicant from the selection process.
6. The interviews will take place exclusively in videoconference. Applicants must specify their contact details which are going to be used by the Committee for the video call and they must also ensure that they will make use of a webcam to be identified. Applicants must be available on the day of the interview in accordance with the timetable; the Committee and the applicant may arrange a time for the beginning of the interview. Applicants are required to prove their identity before the interview starts by showing the same identification document they attached to their application form. Applicants will be excluded from the selection process if they do not provide their contact details, do not connect to the video call, are unavailable on the date/time of the interview or do not show their identification document. The Athenaeum is not liable for any technical problems which may hinder the remote interview. Oral interviews, including remote interviews, are public.
7. The Admission Committee is appointed by the Rector and staffed by minimum 3 members and maximum 5, chosen from among tenured faculty members and permanent researchers in Italian universities or other institutions with competencies



in the specific research field for the PhD programme. The Committee may be supplemented by no more than two experts chosen from among members of public or private academic or research institutions and centers, even foreign, if they have a proven responsibility in the disciplinary fields of the training course. The composition of the Admissions Committee is published on the Doctoral School at http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence.

8. The dates of the selection process and the results will be published on the website at http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence. This publication is considered valid for all legal purposes as an official notification, without receiving any further personal notification. Possible further updates regarding the selection process will be sent to the applicants exclusively by e-mail using the e-mail address provided in the application form.

Article 7 RANKING LISTS

1. At the end of the selection process, the Admissions Committee will draft the final merit ranking list of the applicants based on their individual scores. Only the applicants who score a minimum of 28/40 points will be considered eligible for admission to a PhD programme. On an equal footing, the younger candidate will prevail.
2. A conditional offer of admission will be made to eligible applicants who have not earned their Master's degree yet (and/or are currently enrolled in an academic programme at another Italian/international university or research center).
3. The Admissions Committee gives the offered PhD scholarships taking into consideration the ranking list, the number of scholarships available, the applicants' cultural-scientific interests and their eligibility to receive a scholarship with predefined research topic. In order to do so, the Committee follows the order in the ranking list and the availability of scholarships, with the exception of the evaluation of eligibility expressed by the Admissions Committee concerning the adequacy of the applicant's educational profile.
4. If the Admissions Committee does not offer any PhD scholarship with predefined research topic to any applicant, the number of PhD positions provided for in this Call will be reduced. The documents of the selection process and the final merit ranking lists for admissions to each PhD programme (which include the final scores, positions on the ranking list, possible scholarship allocation to eligible applicants) must be approved by the Rector
5. The final merit ranking lists with the names of the applicants who have been admitted to the PhD programme will be published at the webpage http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence. No personal messages will be sent



to successful applicants. The publication of the ranking lists and their subsequent updates must be considered as the official notification of the results.

6. Applicants who have been admitted to the PhD programme must enrol within the deadlines referred to in Article 8. The modalities and the list of applicants who are eligible to replace possible PhD candidates who declined their offer of admission or lost their right to enrol will be published at the http://dottorato.polito.it/en/artificial_intelligence, following the order in the ranking list. Ranking lists will scroll only in case of available positions resulting from lack of enrolment or waiver. Eligible candidates who are offered a PhD position (replacement) but do not accept the PhD offer within the deadlines will be considered to have implicitly renounced their offer of admission. In case of waiver of the scholarship or lack of enrolment, the scholarship will be assigned following the scrolling of the ranking list and the modalities referred to in article 3.

Article 8 **ENROLLMENT**

1. Applicants who have been admitted to a PhD programme must enroll **by 12th November 2021, under penalty of exclusion from the programme.**
2. The enrollment to the PhD is only allowed with a scholarship, unless the recipient waives it because holder of a research fellowship (on the date 1st November 2021) or civil servant with a salary.
3. The enrollment procedure is divided into two phases and is to be considered completed following the completion of both phases.

First phase: online enrollment to be completed strictly by 31st October 2021:

Candidates enroll online through the Apply@polito procedure, simultaneously paying the contributions referred to in Article 9.

Candidates admitted "**with condition**" can proceed with their online enrollment within the deadlines set out only after verifying the condition, in particular:

Candidates who have achieved the II level qualification after the deadlines for submitting the application must enter the data related to this title, clearly indicating the grade, date and place of obtaining.

Candidates who were enrolled in another PhD course, first or second level degree course, first or second level university masters, specialization school at Italian universities and/or foreign research institutes must declare the termination or suspension of this career.

Second phase: enrollment at the Doctoral School of Politecnico di Torino by 8th November 2021:



At the end of the online enrollment procedure, the date and time at which the candidates must present themselves at the offices of the Doctoral School for the second phase of enrollment, including identification, is indicated by presenting a photocopy of the identity card or passport.

Candidates who have obtained the II level qualification abroad must also submit Master Degree certificate and certificate of related exams in original, written in one of the languages indicated in art. 4.

The enrollment procedure ends with the delivery to the PhD student of the Politecnico di Torino Smart Card.

In the event that, for proven reasons, the PhD student cannot be in Turin by 8th November to complete the second phase of enrollment in attendance by the deadline indicated above, **the completion of the second phase of enrollment is exceptionally allowed remotely, from 10th to 15th November 2021**, by appointment at the **Virtual Desk** of the offices of the Doctoral School. This procedure does not allow the Smart Card to be released.

4. Enrollment must be completed no later than **15th November 2021**, under penalty of exclusion from the admission procedure to the doctorate.
5. PhD students who have completed the second phase of enrollment through the Virtual Desk, are enrolled **with reserve and must present themselves** for the delivery of documents to the Doctoral School **by 31st January 2022**. **Failure of the student to arrive in Turin and failure to deliver the documentation by the deadline will be considered as renunciation of the doctorate.**
6. The start of the scholarship is subject to the full completion of the enrollment procedure and, as a rule, to the actual presence at the Politecnico di Torino. In any case, payment can only take place after the student has communicated a personal current account or one of which he is a joint holder through the Didactics Portal.
7. Candidates who are currently working must submit to the Doctoral School, **by 15th November 2021**, the declaration on the work activity using the form available at the addresses http://dottorato.polito.it/en/scholarships_ai. These candidates are enrolled with reserve.
8. The Administration reserves the right to verify at any time the veracity of the documents and self-certifications submitted and to proceed to take the consequent measures if they are found to be untrue, without prejudice to the resulting criminal liability.
9. The PhD candidates are not required to pay the university fee but must pay a fee, which includes the premium for accident insurance, revenue stamp and Regional tax for the Right to University Education – EDISU fee. This fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.



Article 9

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PHD CANDIDATES

1. Admission to the PhD programme requires exclusive and full-time commitment. PhD candidates are required to attend classes full-time and conduct their study and research activities in the place of research and in compliance with the Call for application, the Regulations for PhD Programme and the terms established by the Academic Board of the programme.
2. The Academic Board may authorise PhD candidates to undertake limited remunerated jobs after having verified that these jobs are compatible with their academic performance (training and research). Fully-funded PhD candidates (who receive a scholarship) can undertake paid jobs only if these are relevant to the acquisition of the skills related to their PhD programme.
3. Enrolment in the PhD programme is not compatible with enrolment in any other PhD programme at another Italian/international university or research centre (with the exception of co-tutelle agreements), nor with enrolment in any Bachelor's and Master's degree programme, 1st and 2nd level Specializing Master's programme and/or Graduate School, except for Medical Graduate School, in accordance with art. 7 of DM 45/2013.
4. Civil servants admitted to a PhD programme are placed on unpaid special leave for study purposes from the beginning of the PhD programme and for its entire duration, if this is compatible with the needs of the employer (Public Administration). During this period, they may receive a scholarship. In the event that civil servants are admitted to a PhD programme without any scholarship – or if they renounce it – they are placed on special leave but keep their salary and social security contributions from the employer. In this case, if they resign from office within two years from the date of PhD degree conferral, they must refund their salaries (received during the entire duration of the PhD programme) to their employer. Civil servants who already hold a PhD degree or have been enrolled in a PhD programme with special leave from work for at least one academic year, nor civile servants who have already enrolled in a PhD programme for at least one academic year, do not have the right to be placed on paid or unpaid special leave.
5. Non-EU citizens are required to comply with the norms on entry visa and residence permit.

Article 10

RESPONSIBLE FOR PROCEDURE AND THE PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

1. The responsible for the administrative procedure is the Responsible of the higher Education of Politecnico di Torino.
2. In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) n.2016 n.679 - and the "Code regarding the protection of personal data" (Legislative Decree No. 196



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of 30th June 2003 and further amendments), personal data will be processed by Politecnico di Torino in pursuit of its institutional aims and in accordance with the transparency purposes imposed by the law. The processing of personal data is based on the principles of correctness, lawfulness and relevance of purposes. More information on the processing of personal data is available at: https://didattica.polito.it/privacy/index_en.html.

3. Access to all documents is allowed in the forms provided for by current legislation.

Article 10 Call Advertisement

1. The present call will be advertised on the European website Euraxess, on the MIUR and on the Doctoral School website http://dottorato.polito.it/en/scholarships_ai. Any variation will be disclosed on this website.
2. The present call and the ranking lists will be published on the official list of Politecnico di Torino.

THE CHANCELLOR
f.to Prof. Guido Saracco

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Document digitally signed in accordance with the Digital Administration Code and related legislations.