



Università
degli Studi di
Messina



FSE FONDO SOCIALE EUROPEO
SICILIA 2020
PROGRAMMA OPERATIVO



**SELECTIVE COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE BY QUALIFICATIONS
AND EXAMINATIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT OF NO. 18 RESEARCH GRANTS FOR
CARRYING OUT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

(pursuant to art.22 of Law No.240 of 30th December 2010 and subsequent amendments in the version in force before Law No.79 of 29th June 2022)

THE RECTOR

- IN VIEW OF** the Statute of the University, issued with D.R. No. 1244 of 14th May 2012 (published on G.U. - General Series No. 116 of 19th May 2012) and amended with D.R. No. 3429 of 30th December 2014 (published on G.U. - General Series No. 8 of 12th January 2015);
- IN VIEW OF** Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28th December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions;
- IN VIEW OF** Law No. 240 of 30th December 2010 and in particular art. 22, which regulates the modalities for assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities by the University of Messina as in force until 29th June 2022;
- IN VIEW OF** Ministerial Decree prot. No. 102 of 9th March 2011, which determined the annual gross minimum amount of the research grants in accordance with the above-mentioned law;
- IN VIEW OF** Law No. 79 of 29th June 2022 “Conversion in law, with amendments, of Decree-Law No. 36 of 30th April 2022, containing additional urgent measures for implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR)” and in particular art. 14, paragraph 6 quaterdecies, as amended by art. 6, paragraph 1 of Decree-Law No. 198 of 29th December 2022, converted with amendments by Law No.14 of 24th February 2023, which establishes that “until 31st December 2023, limited to resources already planned or approved by respective governing bodies within the aforementioned deadline, Universities (...) can launch procedures for assignment of research grants pursuant to art. 22 of Law No. 240 of 30th December 2010, as stood before the date of entry into force of Law (...)” No.79/2022;
- IN VIEW OF** the note of the Minister of University and Research No. 8998 of 8th July 2022, University prot. no. 88849/2022, according to which “*even after the same deadline, research grants already in place remain regulated by the provisions in force at the time of their activation, including the provisions of the University regulations relating to the possibility of extension or renewal*”;
- IN VIEW OF** the Regulation for assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities as amended by Rector’s Decree No. 81 of 16th January 2020;
- IN VIEW OF** the resolutions of the Departmental Boards which proposed the initiation of the selection procedures for activation of research grants;
- IN VIEW OF** the resolutions of the Academic Senate and the Academic Board of 24th October 2023, respectively prot. no.136626/2023 and prot. no. 136685/2023, which instructed the Administrative Department Scientific Research and Internationalization to launch a unique selection procedure for assignment of no. 18 research grants, pursuant to article 22 of Law No.240 of 30th December



2010, as stood before the date of entry into force of Law 79/2022, relating to the topics indicated as priority by the Departments;

IN VIEW OF

the Call of the Sicilian Region no. 6/2022, POC Sicilia 2014/2020 – for the Strengthening of the University research system in Sicily by means of temporary recruitment practices (D.D.G No. 560 of 9th March 2022) **and the subsequent** D.D.G. No. 2508/2022 of “Approval of final ranking, access to funding and commitment of the amounts for the proposes presented regarding Public Call No. 6/2022 – POC 2014-2020”, University prot. no. 162181/2022; the C.A. 04.43.08.03 of the University budgets 2023 and 2024 has the necessary financial coverage of € 430.017,00 regarding the budget of the accounting project AVVISIO_6_2022_REG_POC;

GIVEN THAT

DECREES

Art. 1

Announcement

1. A comparative assessment procedure, by qualifications and examinations, aimed at the assignment of no. 18 research grants, pursuant to art. 22, paragraph 4, of Law No. 240 of 30th December 2010 and subsequent amendments as stood in the version in force before Law No.79 of 29th June 2022 and to the *University Regulation for assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities*, is launched.
2. The research topics and the Structures, where the research activity will be carried out, are indicated in attachment A of this call, where in particular for each research grant, the following are indicated:
 - the Department;
 - the area, the competition sector and the scientific field;
 - the topic of the research project and its description;
 - the scientific coordinator;
 - the required foreign language.
3. The research grant has a duration of one year and may be renewed, compatibly with current legislation and available financial resources.

Art. 2

General admission requirements and incompatibilities

1. Those who meet the following requirements can participate in the selection, without age or citizenship restrictions:
 - PhD degree concerning the scientific disciplinary area, obtained in Italy or equivalent qualification obtained abroad, or, for the sectors concerned, degree of medical specialisation accompanied by adequate scientific production.

Knowledge of the foreign language indicated in attachment A is required.

It is also required that candidates have a scientific-professional curriculum suitable for carrying out the research activity.

The suitability of the foreign qualification will be ascertained by the Board, for the sole purposes of this selection, in compliance with current legislation, in Italy and in the country where the qualification was issued, and with international treaties or agreements on the subject of recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.



2. The admission requirements and any qualifications **must be held** at the deadline for submitting the application form.
3. Those who have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with a professor belonging to the Department or the structure making the call or with the Rector, the General Director or a member of the Academic Board, **cannot participate in the procedure**, pursuant to art. 18, paragraph 1, point c) of Law No. 240 of 30th December 2010.
4. The research grants **cannot be assigned**:
 - a. to the permanent staff of Universities and Institutions and public research and experimentation bodies, of Agenzia Nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile (ENEA) and of Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI), as well as to the staff of institutions whose scientific specialization diploma was recognized as equivalent to the PhD degree, pursuant to art. 74, paragraph 4, of D.P.R. No. 382 of 11th July 1980.
The entitlement of the research grant entails, for employees working in public administrations, different from those indicated above, unpaid leave for the period of duration of the research grant.
 - b. to those who were recipients of research grants pursuant to Law 240/2010 for a period that, added to the duration foreseen by the contract, exceeds a total of 6 years. In the aforementioned period, possible renewals, except for the period in which the research grant was received at the same time as the PhD course, within the maximum limit of the legal duration of the related course, are counted;
 - c. to those who were recipients of research grants and fixed-term contracts as researchers, respectively pursuant to articles 22 and 24 of Law 240/2010 at the University of Messina or in other Italian, state, non-state or online Universities, as well as in the institutions referred to in paragraph 1 of art. 22 of Law 240/2010 for a period that, added to the duration foreseen by the contract, exceeds a total of 12 years, not necessarily continuous.
For the purposes of the duration of the aforementioned relationships, periods spent on maternity leave or for other reasons, according to current legislation, are not relevant.
5. The entitlement of the research grant **is not compatible** with enrollment in bachelor's degree, specialist degree or master's degree courses, in PhD courses with scholarships or in specialization schools in the medical area, in Italy or abroad, as well as with enrollment in another school/course which, by requiring compulsory attendance, prevents the performance of the activities provided for in the contract.
6. The grant **cannot be combined** with other scholarships, assigned for any purpose, except for those granted by Italian or foreign Institutions useful for integrating the research activity of the recipients with stays abroad. The grant **can also not be combined** with the employee paid work and with other grants or collaboration contracts for research activity.
7. University may order at any time **the exclusion** from the procedure due to the lack of the prescribed requirements or the forfeiture of admission and/or any benefits obtained.

Art. 3

How to apply

1. The application for admission to the assessment procedure, as well as the qualifications held, the documents and publications considered useful for the competition, must be **submitted, under penalty of exclusion, electronically**, using only the specific IT procedure made available at the link <https://pica.cineca.it/unime/>.
The IT application will necessarily require an e-mail address in order to be able to self-register on the system.



The candidate must enter all the data required for the submission of the application and attach the documents in PDF format.

No other forms for the submission of applications or documentation useful for the participation in the procedure are permitted.

The system allows saving in draft mode within the deadline set for submitting the application. The date of electronic submission of the application for admission in the selection is certified by the IT system, through a receipt automatically sent by e-mail. Once the deadline for submission has expired, the system will no longer allow the access and the sending of the electronic form.

An identification number which, together with the competition code indicated in the IT application, must be specified for any subsequent communication, will be assigned to each application.

The procedure for completing and submitting the application electronically must be completed no later than **12.00 (Italian time) on the thirtieth day following the date of publication.**

The submission of the application form must be finalized and concluded as follows:

- **by manual signature:** to manually sign the document it is necessary to download the PDF file generated by the system on your computer, and, without modifying it in any way, print it, manually sign the last page of the document, scan it into a PDF file and upload it on the system;
- **by digital signature on the ConFirma server:** to digitally sign the document, hardware (for example smart card or USB device with digital subscription certificate issued by an accredited Certifier) compatible with the ConFirma service is required; after the signature, it will be possible to download the signed PDF;
- **by digital signature on the PC:** to digitally sign the document, both hardware (for example smart card or USB device with digital certificate of subscription issued by an accredited Certifier) and digital signature software are required, from the PDF file of the document downloaded from the website, to generate the signed file in pdf.p7m format to reload on the site itself.

Under penalty of exclusion, the application must contain all the data requested in the IT procedure and must be signed and accompanied by a valid identification document of the candidate.

If the candidate registers for the IT procedure through SPID credentials no signature on the form is required.

For any technical problems, candidates can contact CINECA support through the [link](#) in the footer of the pages of the PICA procedure relating to the call.

2. In the application form the candidate must declare, according to Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28th December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions:
 - a. name and surname;
 - b. date and place of birth;
 - c. citizenship;
 - d. tax code;
 - e. residence and domicile elected for the purposes of participating in the procedure;
 - f. to not have received criminal convictions and to not have any ongoing criminal proceedings (if yes, indicate which);
 - g. the title of the topic he/she intends to develop (only one of those foreseen in the call);
 - h. qualifications held: PhD/specialization diploma, or possession of a similar academic qualification obtained abroad, recognized as equivalent to an Italian qualification by the competent authorities;
 - i. to have knowledge of the foreign language in accordance with what is indicated in attachment A;



j. to not have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with a professor belonging to the Department or the Structure making the call or with the Rector, the General Director or a member of the Academic Board;

k. to not belong to the permanent staff of Universities and Institutions and public research and experimentation bodies, of Agenzia Nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile (ENEA) and of Agenzia Spaziale Italiana (ASI), as well as of institutions whose scientific specialization diploma was recognized as equivalent to the PhD degree, pursuant to art. 74, paragraph 4, of Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11th July 1980;

l. to not carry out employee paid work or to be aware that the entitlement of the research grant entails, for employees working in public administrations different from those referred to in the previous point, unpaid leave for the entire duration of the research grant and to not be beneficiary of other research grants or collaboration contracts for research activity;

m. to not have been a recipient of research grants pursuant to Law 240/2010 for a period that, added to the duration foreseen by the contract, exceeds a total of 6 years. In the aforementioned period, possible renewals, except for the period in which the research grant was received at the same time as the PhD course, within the maximum limit of the legal duration of the related course, are counted.

n. to not have been a recipient of research grants and fixed-term contracts as researchers, respectively pursuant to articles 22 and 24 of Law 240/2010 at the University of Messina or in other Italian, state, non-state or online Universities, as well as in the institutions referred to in paragraph 1 of art. 22 of Law 240/2010 for a period that, added to the duration foreseen by the contract, exceeds a total of 12 years, not necessarily continuous;

o. to be aware that the entitlement of the research grant **is not compatible or cannot be combined:**

- with enrollment in Bachelor's degree, specialist degree or Master's degree courses, in PhD courses with scholarship or in specialization school in the medical area, in Italy or abroad, as well as with enrollment in another school/course which, by requiring compulsory attendance, prevents the performance of the activities provided for in the contract;
- with scholarships assigned for any purpose, except for those granted by Italian or foreign Institutions useful for integrating the research activity with stays abroad;
- with the employee paid work and with other grants or collaboration contracts for research activity;

p. candidates with a disability must specify, in the application form, the necessary aid concerning his/her disability and any need for additional time, documented by a suitable certificate issued by the Public Health Authority responsible for the area, pursuant to Law No. 104/92, as amended by Law No. 17/99.

q. candidates with a diagnosis of specific learning disorders (SLD) must specify, in the application form, the necessary compensatory tools and any need for additional time, documented by a suitable certification issued no more than three years previously by NHS Structures, or by specialists and structures accredited by the same, pursuant to Law No. 170/2010 and subsequent guidelines (D.M. No. 5669, 12th July 2011).

For any information, the candidate may contact the University's "Disability Services/SLD" Operational Unit, located in Via Consolato del Mare, No. 41, Palazzo Mariani, Messina, e-mail: udisabili@unime.it tel. 090 676 8986/5066.

3. At any time of the procedure, the University may check the veracity of the statements produced. In the event of false declarations, the University may order, at any time, with the Rector's provision, **the exclusion** of candidates from the selective procedure, or **the forfeiture**



of assignment and any benefits acquired, without prejudice to the penal responsibilities arising therefrom.

4. The candidates **must attach** to the application form:

- a. the research project they intend to develop within the chosen topic;
- b. the cv *in Europass format* of their scientific and professional activity, signed and dated;
- c. the list of publications and qualifications;
- d. the publications and/or qualifications for which evaluation is required;
- e. any health certification for disability or SLD;
- f. scanned copy of a valid ID document with a photo.

Candidates, EU and non-EU citizens, in possession of foreign qualification(s) obtained in non-EU countries, must attach the qualification certificate(s) possessed indicating:

- duration of the study Course;
- name of the University that issued the qualification;
- date of graduation and the final grade with an official translation attached in Italian or English language, issued by the University that awarded the degree.

5. For the purposes of this procedure, qualifications held and scientific publications published **by the expiry date of the call** can be evaluated.

6. Candidates can also demonstrate to hold the aforementioned qualifications by a self-certification pursuant to Presidential Decree No.445 of 28th December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions (declarations in lieu of certifications form).

The following people can use self-certifications, according to what is expressly provided for in articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree No.445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions:

- Italian and EU citizens;
- citizens from countries not belonging to the European Union, legally residing in Italy, **limited to** the states, personal qualities and facts certifiable or attestable by Italian public Institutions (in particular: qualification obtained from an Italian University).

7. The attached publications and/or qualifications must be declared compliant with the originals by declaration in lieu of affidavit pursuant to articles 19 and 47 of Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28th December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions (point 4.3 of the application form).

8. The documents listed above must be entered on the platform, in pdf format (**whose maximum size must not exceed 30 MB**) in the appropriate section “**attachments**”.

9. The Administration assumes no responsibility for any misunderstanding attributable to third parties, fortuitous events or force majeure and relating to the submission of the application.

Art. 4

Examination Board

1. For the purposes of evaluating the candidates applications, after the deadline for submitting applications to participate in the selection has expired, the Academic Senate proposes to the Rector the appointment of a single Commission which is composed of the Department Directors as well as two members for each scientific area of interest, indicated by them. It is appointed by Rector's Decree and must complete the work within sixty days from the date of establishment. The Commission appoints the President and the Secretary from within itself. The Commission may make use, without any additional cost to public finances, of highly qualified Italian or foreign auditors external to the University. The Department Directors, acting as Presidents, and the members indicated by them for each scientific area of interest,



constitute the Subcommissions. The Commission will meet in a first session to formalize the establishment and to distribute the activities to the subcommission of each scientific area of interest.

2. The Subcommission, in the first session, establishes the evaluation criteria for the candidates, with regard to the qualifications and the project presented, which will be advertised on the University website at the following link <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi> (category: research grant holders). It then carries out a comparative assessment of the candidates on the basis of the qualifications presented and the proposed project, which will be examined during a specific interview.

Art. 5

Comparative assessment of candidates

1. The comparative assessment aims to ascertain the candidate's preparation, experience and aptitude for research.
It consists in the evaluation of the qualifications presented and of the project proposed by the candidate which will be examined during a specific interview with in-depth study of the topics of particular scientific relevance connected to the research program presented by the candidate and the verification of the knowledge of the foreign language, indicated in attachment A to this call.
2. The overall score is 100 points, divided as follows:
 - up to a maximum of 75 points attributable to qualifications;
 - up to a maximum of 25 points attributable to the interview.
3. The minimum score that candidates must have achieved in the evaluation of qualifications in order to be admitted to the interview is **40/75 points**.
4. When evaluating the scientific-professional curriculum, the following are taken into account:
 - any specialization diplomas and/or certificates of attendance of post-graduate courses obtained in Italy or abroad;
 - the carrying out of documented experience for research activities already carried out in public and/or private institutions with contracts, fellowships or assignments, both in Italy and abroad;
 - scientific publications.
5. The assessment must be properly justified. The results of the evaluation of the qualifications, as well as the list of candidates admitted to the interview, will be published on the University website at the link <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi> (category: research grant holders) before the date set for the interview.
The publication will be valid as a legal notification pursuant to the digital administration code, Legislative Decree No. 82 of 7th March 2005 integrated and amended by Law 35/2012.
6. The interview will take place in a place accessible to the public. The competition works can also be carried out electronically, adopting means that allow the appropriate recognition of the subjects involved, through the IT platform accessible by accessing the teams.microsoft.com website.
7. The list of locations and dates of interviews, for each individual type of grant, will be published on the University website <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi> (category: research grant holders) at least 20 days before the date of the interview.
Candidates must have a valid identification document. Failure to attend the interview will be considered as a waiver of the selection.
8. The interview is aimed at evaluating the content of the project proposed by the candidate and his/her skills, as well as the knowledge of the required foreign language.



9. At the end of each session dedicated to the interview, the Subcommission draws up the list of the examined candidates, with the indication of the grade reported by each one, which will be published on the University website <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi> (category: research grant holders). If the interview reveals inconsistencies and/or manifest inability to carry out the project presented, the Subcommission proposes to the Commission the exclusion of the candidate, providing an adequate motivation.
10. Once the tests have been completed, the Subcommission sends the minutes to the Commission which formulates the ranking for each of the scientific areas of interest. With equal merit, preference shall be given to the youngest candidate.
11. The results of the evaluation are formalized by Rector's Decree and published on the University website at the link <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi> (category: research grant holders).

Art. 6

Assignment of the research grant

1. The winner of the grant is required to accept the research grant **within 10 days** from the publication of the ranking on the University website, **under penalty of forfeiture**, unless prevented due to health reasons or serious reasons duly and promptly justified and substantiated.
2. If, **within 10 days** from the publication of the ranking on the University website, the candidate has not communicated the acceptance of the research grant, **or he/she renounces it**, the suitable candidates will be called until the ranking is scrolled.
3. The annual amount of the research grant is set at € **19,367.00** to be considered net of charges borne by the University. The research grant is paid in deferred monthly installments.
4. The provisions of art. 4 of Law No. 476 of 13th August 1984 and subsequent amendments and additions in the fiscal matters and in matters of social security, the provisions of art. 2, paragraph 26 and ff. of Law No. 335 of 8th August 1995 and subsequent amendments and additions are applied to the research grant.
5. With regard to the risks from accidents and civil liability, the University provides insurance cover for the holder of the research grant.

Art. 7

Nature and conclusion of the contract

1. The relationships between the winner of the grant and the University will be settled by the conclusion of a contract of private law.
2. The research fellow relationship is established following the stipulation of a contract for the provision of intellectual work with the University of Messina pursuant to articles 2222 ff. of the civil code. The contract must be signed by the winner with a digital signature.
3. The contract does not constitute an employment relationship and it does not give rise to rights of access to the roles of University staff.

Art. 8

Rights and obligations of the research grant holders

1. The research activity, pursuant to art. 9 of the Regulation for assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities, must be carried out continuously, within the limits set by the



- research programs and the indications provided by the responsible professor, who verifies the activity carried out, without constraints of subordination and default working time.
2. The holder of the research grant has the right to make use, for the purposes of carrying out the research activities, of the structures and equipment of the Department in which he/she carries out his/her activity. If the activity must be carried out in external structures, it must be expressly authorized by the responsible professor and communicated to the competent office of the central administration of the University.
 3. The tasks of the research grant holder, determined by the individual contract, are carried out under the direction of the responsible professor, who verifies the activity carried out.
 4. The holder of a research grant is required:
 - to submit to the Board of the reference Structure, at least thirty days before the date of completion of the year of activity, an annual report on the activity carried out, subject to approval by the responsible professor;
 - in the last year of activity, to present the final results of his/her activity in a public seminar or in the forms defined by the reference structure, which approves the scientific validity and communicates it to the competent office of the central administration of the University;
 - to observe all the provisions contained in the Call No.6/2022 of the Sicilian Region, in the Vademecum for the implementation of the PO FSE Sicilia 2014-2020 and in all the provisions relating to financing.
 5. The holder of the research grant can carry out:
 - **a limited independent work activity**, subject to written communication and agreement with the responsible professor, provided that this activity does not lead to a conflict of interest and is declared compatible with the regular carrying out of the research activity by the interested teaching structure. The assessment regarding the verification of compatibility and absence of conflict must be properly motivated;
 - orientation and tutoring activities and assistance with exams as an expert on the subject;
 - a period of in-depth study abroad, obtaining specific certification from the host institution, according to a program to be defined with the responsible professor and approved by the reference structure, as well as with costs borne by the structure, without prejudice to the possibility of accessing targeted incentives.
 6. The holder of the medical area research grant can carry out healthcare activities consistent with the research project, under the supervision of the scientific director and subject to authorization from the host hospital which will promptly notify the competent office of the central administration of the University.
 7. The grant holder is required to observe the provisions of Law No. 240/2010 as stood until 29th June 2022 and in the University Regulation for assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities, in the Call No.6/2022 of the Sicilian Region, in the Vademecum for the implementation of the PO FSE Sicilia 2014-2020 and in all provisions relating to financing. He is also required to comply with the rules of the Regulations for the discipline of patenting activities at the University of Messina (D.R. No. 2773/2020) and the current national legislation, of the Presidential Decree No.62/2013 containing the "Regulations regarding the Code of Conduct for public employees", the "Code of Conduct adopted by the University", as well as the provisions contained in the "Code of Ethics" of the University.

Art. 9

Suspension, withdrawal and termination of contract

1. The research fellow's activity **is suspended** due to maternity leave (five months).



It may also be **suspended** due to serious illness or in cases of other prolonged, motivated and justified absences which make it objectively impossible to carry out the activity, subject to the opinion of the responsible professor and deliberated by the structure.

2. Periods of suspension, except for the mandatory one for maternity, can be recovered at the end of the natural expiry of the contract, subject to agreement with the responsible professor and in compliance with the limits imposed by the available financing. In the case of maternity, the contract is automatically extended, in accordance with the provisions of current legislation, always respecting the limits imposed by the available financing.
3. An overall period of justified absence not exceeding thirty working days per year does not constitute suspension, and consequently must not be recovered.
4. During the period of maternity leave, grant holders are entitled to the relevant allowance paid by INPS in accordance with the provisions in force on maternity matters and the Decree of the Minister of Labor and Social Security of 12th July 2007 and, in case of sick leave exceeding four days, are entitled to benefit from the daily sickness allowance within the limits established by Law No. 296 of 27th December 2006.
During the period of compulsory maternity leave, the allowance paid by INPS pursuant to art. 5 of the aforementioned decree of 12th July 2007 is integrated by the University up to the entire amount of the research grant.
5. The parties may **withdraw** from the contract at any time. The holder of the research grant who intends to withdraw from the contract is required to **promptly** notify the Rector and the relevant Structure by means of a substitutive declaration indicating the reason; however, withdrawal exercised within two months of signing the contract **requires** the grant holder to repay the sums received.
6. If the grant holder, without any justified reason, does not regularly carry out the research activity, or if it is considered invalid by the Board of the reference Structure or the grant holder is responsible for serious and repeated failures, upon request of the responsible professor approved by the Board of the Structure, a procedure, which may lead, following a resolution of the Academic Board, to **the termination of the contract** pursuant to articles 1453 and ff. of the Civil Code, is initiated. Serious and significant non-compliance pursuant to art. 1460 of the Civil Code constitutes **cause for termination** of the relationship, by the grant holder.
7. The contract **is terminated by law**, without any prior notice, in the event of a breach of the incompatibility regime. In the latter case, the forfeiture and termination of the contract are provided for by Rector's Decree.
8. The contract **is also terminated** in the event of a breach of the obligations deriving from the Code of Conduct for public employees, referred to in Presidential Decree. No. 62 of 16th April 2013, and of the Code of Conduct adopted by the University.

Art. 10

Intellectual property

1. Industrial property rights on the results achieved by the grant holder in the execution of activities carried out on behalf of the University, including but not limited to industrial inventions, models, drawings, plant varieties, as well as intellectual and industrial property rights deriving from the creation of software or databases ("Results"), are regulated by the Regulation for the discipline of patenting activities at the University of Messina (D.R. No. 2773/2020) and by the national legislation in force, without prejudice to what is established in the Call No.6/2022 of the Sicilian Region, in the Vademecum for the implementation of the PO FSE Sicilia 2014-2020 and in all the provisions relating to financing.
2. The grant holder has the right to publish the Results of his/her research activity, unless publication does not prejudice the University's right to protect the results. The grant holder is



therefore obliged to communicate without delay the achievement of the Results to the responsible professor.

Art. 11

Processing of personal data

1. Pursuant to Art. 13 of European Regulation 2016/679, this University is the owner of the processing of personal data provided by the candidate to this selection and the same processing will be carried out in compliance with the aforementioned European Regulation for the purposes of fulfilling the disclosure requirements referred to in Legislative Decree 33/2013. Data may be used and stored exclusively for the legal obligations related to the activity of this selection. Provision of data is required for these purposes. Data will be processed by this University, as Data Controller, in compliance with the provisions of European Regulation 2016/679 in the manner foreseen by the full set of information published on the University website. In accordance with Art.15 ff. of European Regulation 2016/679, personal data collected by the Data Controller, may be checked and rectified, updated or deleted in any case and at any time, by contacting the Data Processing Officer (reachable at the email address: rpd@unime.it) and in the case of non-compliance with European Regulation 2016/679 a complaint may be addressed to the Personal Data Protection Authority. The notice is available in the privacy section of the University, <https://www.unime.it/privacy-e-cookie-policy>, and is an integral part of this Call. The candidate acknowledges having read the aforementioned notice by signing the application form.

Art. 12

Responsible for the procedure

1. The person in charge of administrative procedure is Dr. Maria Pia Mangano, Head of the "Research Services Organizational Unit" of the Administrative Department "Scientific Research and Internationalization" of this University. For information, interested parties may contact the Research Services Organizational Unit – Research Grants and Scholarships Unit, telephone numbers: 090 676 8503/8574/8615; e-mail: assegni@unime.it.

Art. 13

Publicity

1. This Decree, written both in Italian and in the English language, will be published on the Online Register of the University and will also be made public electronically on the websites of the University <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi> (category: research grant holders), the MUR <https://bandi.miur.it/> and the European Union <https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs>.

Art. 14

Final rules

1. Although not expressly mentioned in this Call, reference is made to the rules contained in art. 22 of Law No.240/210 as in force until 29th June 2022, in Presidential Decree No.62/2013, as amended by Presidential Decree No. 81 of 13th June 2023, containing the "Regulation regarding the Code of Conduct for public employees" and the "Code of Conduct adopted by the University", as well as the provisions contained in the "Code of Ethics", in the Regulation for assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities (research grants) of the



University of Messina (Rector's Decree No.81 of 16th January 2020), in the "Regulation for the discipline of patenting activities at the University of Messina (Rector's Decree No. 2773/2020) and in the legislation in force, in the Call No.6/2022 of the Sicilian Region, in the Vademecum for the implementation of the PO FSE Sicilia 2014-2020 and in all the provisions relating to financing.

2. The submission of the application for participation in the selection through the online procedure, referred to in art. 3, implies acceptance by the candidate of the rules contained in this Call and in the aforementioned regulations.
3. Participation in the procedure implies, as previously acquired, consent to the release of the documents presented, in the case of a request by the other competitors, pursuant to the legislation on access to documents.

THE RECTOR
Prof. Giovanna Spatari

ID	DEPARTMENT	AREA SC SSD	TITLE OF THE PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE	FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIRED
1	Civiltà antiche e moderne	10 10/D4 L-FIL-LET/05	Latin Galen: tradition, ecdotics and exegesis.	<p>Galen is of central importance in the history of Western scientific thought; his surviving output, consists of some 400 works, which were translated into Latin continuously from the late 11th to the 17th century, when they formed the foundation of the medical curriculum in faculties throughout Europe. Precisely because of the vastness of the corpus, not all of Galen's treatises have been critically edited; above all, the medieval Latin production remains largely unpublished, while it is of great interest in itself from a linguistic and cultural-historical point of view and of great philological value for the constitutio textus of Galen's originals. The research has as its object the all-round study of this corpus of Galen's Latin treatises, with the ultimate goal of producing critical editions.</p>	Anna Maria Urso	English
2	Civiltà antiche e moderne	10 10/M1 L-FIL-LET/15	Germanic languages as a tool of identity politics in the Middle Ages.	<p>From the High Middle Ages, the choice of language is particularly relevant in the Germanic cultures, as the distance with Latin was so great, that almost no hybridization was possible (unlike the Romance languages, and drawing inspiration by the similar situation of Hiberno-Latin).</p> <p>In particular, English politics (partially imitated in Scandinavia) determine the vulgar as the language for many texts which would have been in Latin on the Continent, such as the laws of the land. The English tradition is ancient and presupposes a linguistic awareness which has been largely lost later on, in the traumatic period of the Anglo-Norman domination, when official documents used Latin and French (late 11th-late 14th century).</p> <p>The relation between English, German, Dutch/Plattdeutsch among themselves and with Latin and French may become the occasion for studies in semantics and culture.</p>	L. Lozzi Gallo	English

3	Economia	13 13/A2 SECS-P/02	At the root of the economic and social disparities among the regions of the European Union, considering the effectiveness of the most significant economic policy interventions.	The project aims to delve into the issue of sustainable social and economic development in less developed areas and regions of the European Union. It intends to outline the current situation, assessing the effectiveness of measures implemented over time, including the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP). Within this analysis, efforts will be made to identify the most effective types of interventions and pinpoint persistent constraints to overcoming the social and economic gap. Public policies for sustainable economic growth will be proposed. Infrastructures will be examined, taking into account diverse territorial characteristics and connectivity among areas of the European Union and commercial partners. Institutional factors such as illegality, crime, and corruption will also be scrutinized to understand their impact on economic policy interventions.	Emanuele Millemaci	English
4	Giurisprudenza	12 12/B2 IUS/07	Next generation EU and gender equality.	The research project focuses on the study of the actions of the Italy's Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), funded through Next Generation EU, specifically on Mission 5: Inclusion and Cohesion. This area aims to finance and to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. The focus is on the analysis of the measures implemented to promote women's empowerment and combat gender disparities through the PNRR.	Carmen La Macchia	English
5	Giurisprudenza	12 12/H3 IUS/20	The social function of procedure in society: from the crisis of juridical judgement to the new frontiers of artificial intelligence..	Through a philosophical and sociological-legal perspective, the aim of this work is to examine whether, and to what extent, a 'social function' can still be assigned to the trial in today's context. Taking as its starting point the assumption that the judicial function aims at resolving the internal conflicts of society (with a view to social cohesion), the purpose is to consider, on the one hand, the discrepancy that exists between the demand for resolving social justice claims through the trial, and the practical difficulties (due to economic inequalities and the court backlog) of actually responding to it; for another, to verify from a forward-looking point of view the extent to which algorithmic science and the digitalization of judicial processes can foster the reduction of the backlog and of the time of justice to the benefit of society.	Alessio Lo Giudice, Angela Condello	English

6	Ingegneria	09 09/A3 ING-IND/14	Mechanical design of lattice structures for applications in advanced prosthetics.	<p>The necessity to design prosthetic devices aimed at protecting the bone heritage and improving the quality of life of those who are subjected to bone replacement, requires research that can highlight the potentiality of the structures produced by additive manufacturing.</p> <p>The research is aimed at the study of lattice structures and involves the definition of predictive theoretical models for the mechanical properties. The research also aims to study functionally graded structures.</p> <p>The approach will be both numerical and experimental and involves the development of finite element analysis with explicit solver. The experimental part is intended for the validation of the numerical models and for the characterization of the material and the device subjected to different mechanical loads.</p>	Gabriella Epasto	English
7	Ingegneria	08 08/B2 ICAR/08	Innovative anti-seismic design techniques.	<p>The vulnerability of building constructions and civil infrastructures in seismic areas constitutes a problem that involves not only the protection of human lives, but often has important implications because of the damage caused by the occurrence of an earthquake and for the economic commitment required for the reconstruction. Modern seismic protection techniques based on the use of new materials and particular mechanical devices are the subject of numerous studies by researchers, characterized by the notable quantity of solutions that have recently been proposed in numerous articles in the most accredited international journals. These new techniques allow not only to save human lives but also to guarantee the integrity of buildings and infrastructures after the earthquake, in particular for those of strategic interest (hospitals, barracks, prefectures, chemical plants, ...).</p>	Giuseppe Ricciardi	English

8	Medicina Clinica e Sperimentale	06 06/D6 MED/26	Hereditary and acquired neurological disorders with cognitive impairment: identification of biomarkers for diagnosis and progression.	<p>Neurodegenerative diseases are pathologies with a large social and economic impact as they are chronic, highly disabling pathologies.</p> <p>The objective of the proposal aims to improve the diagnosis of these pathologies and to better understand the pathological bases in order to identify new therapies and improve the management of these patients</p> <p>One of the aspects of recent interest is the identification of biomarkers for diagnostics but also as markers of severity and progression of the disease. These biomarkers could be use in evaluating the effectiveness of innovative therapies.</p> <p>The fields of interest are represented by dementias, Parkinson's disease and atypical parkinsonisms with idiopathic etiology but also genetically determined forms whose genetic background allows us to have disease models to study at the cellular and molecular level.</p>	Olimpia Musumeci	English
9	Medicina Clinica e Sperimentale	06 06/D6 MED/26	Identification of cerebrovascular disorders that can cause ischemic stroke at a young age and creation of a database for data sharing with other national and multidisciplinary centers and research of new disease markers.	<p>The prevalence of stroke in young adults, defined as age < 50 years, is estimated to be about 10–14% of all strokes. Unlike stroke in older adults, the incidence of ischemic stroke among young adults is rising globally. The mechanisms causing stroke in young adults are unique and include cervical dissection, cardioembolic phenomenon, vasculitis and vasculopathy, connective tissue disease, patent foramen ovale and cerebral venous thrombosis. The diagnosis of stroke in the young population can be challenging given its myriad clinical presentations. The aim of this project is the identification of cerebrovascular disorders that can cause ischemic stroke at a young age and the subsequent creation of a database for data sharing with other national and multidisciplinary centers, in order to identify new disease markers.</p>	Antonio Toscano	English

10	Patologia Umana dell'Adulto e dell'Età Evolutiva "G. Barresi"	06 06/D4 MED/17	Surveillance systems for the identification of lifestyles and health promotion in the control, prevention and early detection of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs).	Sexually Transmitted Infections (STDs) are a large group of infectious diseases that are widespread throughout the world which can cause acute symptoms, chronic infections, and serious long-term complications for millions of people every year and whose care absorbs considerable economic resources. Young people between the ages of 15 and 24 represent the age group is much more exposed to the development of these pathologies. Famously, STIs they are closely associated with HIV infection through an epidemiological synergy that reinforces its mutual spread; people with STIs are a population at high risk of acquiring or transmitting HIV through genital injury. The incidence of STIs in the world is continuously increasing due to sexual practices which expose the subject to greater related risks and an increased tendency to promiscuity.	Giovanni Francesco Pellicanò	English
11	Scienze Biomediche, Odontoiatriche e delle Immagini Morfologiche e Funzionali	06 06/D6 MED/26	To evaluate the efficacy and safety of serial treatments with botulinum neurotoxin, BoNT among patients with neurological disorders.	Numerous open studies have evaluated the efficacy and safety of botulinum toxin type A (with or without ultrasound guidance), however all studies are different making extremely difficult any comparison. All studies published to date have reported a benefit of the treatment, with a good safety profile. The side effects of 'mild' severity associated with this type of treatment are thickening of saliva and dry mouth. The primary objective is to evaluate the safety of serial treatments with botulinum toxin (botulinum neurotoxin, BoNT) in a sample of patients with sialorrhoea associated with neurological diseases. The secondary objectives will be to evaluate the efficacy of the treatment assessed in descriptive terms and by comparing patients according to the use or non-use of ultrasound guidance.	Angelo Labate	English

12	Scienze Chimiche, Biologiche, Farmaceutiche ed Ambientali	03 03/A1 CHIM/01	Development of nanohybrid materials for the selective determination of organic and inorganic components of environmental and/or biological interest.	The project aims to develop highly performing and selective electrochemical sensors towards organic and/or inorganic components in matrices of biological and environmental interest. The starting point will be the speciation study of specific systems to select the molecules having greater affinity and selectivity towards an analyte or classes of analytes. Multifunctional carbon-based materials will therefore be developed with which to modify the electrode surface, capable of amplifying the electrochemical response and at the same time, exploiting the coordination abilities of specific molecules, facilitating the attachment of the recognition element to the surface of the electrode. Voltammetric techniques will be used to evaluate the performance of the new sensor.	Claudia Foti	English
13	Scienze Chimiche, Biologiche, Farmaceutiche ed Ambientali	05 05/C1 BIO/07	Strait of Messina: Biodiversity and trophic dynamics of deep biocenoses.	The study of deep marine environments represents the new frontier of the marine environment exploration, inhabited by animal species that deserve attention in terms of distribution and evolutionary adaptations. The scientific activities will concern the study of the deep marine environments of the Strait of Messina and surrounding areas, with particular interest in the exploration and sustainable exploitation of deep habitats and biodiversity, with special attention paid to fish communities. Preliminary research activities will be planned to select sites of interest for the subsequent studies. The study of the fauna and its distribution also aims to identify possible areas of high ecological and conservation interest for their valorization.	Nunziacarla Spanò	English
14	Scienze Cognitive, Psicologiche, Pedagogiche e Studi Culturali	11 11/B1 M-GGR/02	Post-modern tourism and Smart Land: a cognitive approach for the development of a shared storytelling in the Etna area.	The place-based vision of the European Union's territorial cohesion policy, associated with the sustainability requirement and outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, confirmed the need to rethink the territory as well as the Destination Image, supporting a new and smart vision of tourism. The Smart Land notion applied to rural contexts requires a relationship with cultural and, in general, experiential tourism. So, the Stakeholders co-participation in sustainable storytelling development is recommended, in line with the post-modern tourist's communication.	Carmelo M. Porto, Enrico Nicosia, Sonia Gambino	English

15	Scienze Cognitive, Psicologiche, Pedagogiche e Studi Culturali	11 11/E1 M-PSI/01	The emotional reasoning as maintainer factor in mood disorders.	Emotions can be used as salient information (emotional reasoning) to formulate judgments on the world, reinforcing the beliefs underlying the emotion itself (i.e. Schwarz and Clore, 1996). Information that becomes particularly influential in people who chronically experience that emotion, as demonstrated in studies with anxious patients (Arntz et al., 1995; Gangemi et al., 2006). This research wants to verify if and how, a negative emotion like sadness can be used by depressed patients who experience it chronically, as a relevant information to formulate negative judgments about the self and the world, thus powering the beliefs underlying the mood disorders. The relationship between emotional reasoning and depression, although hypothesized, has not yet been experimentally studied in clinical groups.	Amelia Gangemi	English
16	Scienze Matematiche e Informatiche, Scienze Fisiche e Scienze della Terra	01 01/A4 MAT/07	Study of formation and stability of patterns in reaction-advection-diffusion systems.	<p>This grant tackles the study of the formation and stability of pattern-type solutions in reaction-advection-diffusion systems, in parabolic and hyperbolic frameworks. Emphasis will be given to the development of mathematical models and qualitative analyses to extract emergent properties of the solutions (stationary or not). The analyses will exploit analytical techniques to characterize the behavior of the solution close and far from the threshold, as well as numerical tools, to validate the analytical results and extract additional information on the underlying phenomenon.</p> <p>The Extended Thermodynamics theory will be used to build up hyperbolic models that allow to account for inertial effects. Results of investigations will be applied to describe phenomena of current interest, such as climate changes, desertification processes and ecosystem resilience.</p>	Giancarlo Consolo , Carmela Currò , Giovanna Valenti	English

17	Scienze Politiche e Giuridiche	12 12/A1 IUS/01	Ecological contracts and environmental sustainability objectives.	<p>Research must develop the theme of sustainable development in relation to business activities. Companies, in fact, have an important role in achieving the objective of sustainable development which has direct consequences in both European and national law on business contracts.</p> <p>The researcher will have to investigate the opportunity to reconstruct business contracts as ecological contracts. In particular, it will have to clarify whether sustainable development becomes an internal limit to business activity (article 41, paragraph 2, Constitution). The researcher will also have to verify whether the principle of sustainable development can modify the business contracts widespread in practice and what the consequent effects are.</p>	Maria F. Tommasini	English
18	Scienze Veterinarie	07 07/H5 VET/10	Metabolomics, fertility, and biodiversity. An innovative approach for the protection and enhancement of autochthonous breeds.	<p>The project aims to evaluate the differences in metabolites present in seminal plasma and sperm between fresh and cryopreserved semen through a metabolomic approach. It intends to compare seminal plasma and sperm metabolomas of high-fertility and low-fertility animals, evaluated in vitro, to identify new reliable fertility markers. This test would make it possible to add an important selection factor in the constitution of biobanks, avoiding the storage of morphologically and genetically normal embryo gametes, but in fact not very fertile. It is therefore a question of applying a highly innovative technique to increase fertility which, due to genetic contraction and inbreeding, often represents the real limiting factor of endangered species and breeds.</p>	Gabriele Marino	English