



PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT

PhD – XLII CYCLE

ACCADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027

The Scuola Superiore Meridionale (SSM) announces the opening of public competitions for admission to its PhD programs for the 42nd cycle (academic year 2026/2027).

The official announcement will be published on the website <https://www.ssmeridionale.it/> in May/June 2026.

This document is for informational and preliminary announcement purposes only. The final terms, conditions, and procedures will be established in the official announcement.

1. DOCTORAL COURSES

The SSM offers 10 four-year doctoral programs, divided into two interdisciplinary areas. For each program, there are a minimum of 3 places available with scholarships for any subject area.

The SSM reserves the right to increase the number of places available depending on any additional external funding.

Area Interdisciplinare Umanistico-Giuridica

ID	Acronym	Title	Coordinator	Email
01	ACMA	Ancient Mediterranean Archaeology and Cultures. Historical Research, Preservation, Cultural Heritage, Management, and Use	Prof. Carlo Rescigno	acma@ssmeridionale.it
02	GHG	Global History and Governance	Prof.ssa Daniela Luigia Caglioti	ghg@ssmeridionale.it
03	LOSPD	Law and Organizational Studies for the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusion	Prof. Luigi Maria Sicca	lospd@ssmeridionale.it
04	TTCL	Texts, Traditions and Book Cultures. Italian and Romance Studies	Prof. Andrea Mazzucchi	ttcl@ssmeridionale.it

Area Interdisciplinare Scientifico-Tecnologica

Cod.	Acronimo	Denominazione	Coordinatore	Email
05	CTO	Clinical and Translational Oncology	Prof. Michelino De Laurentiis	cto@ssmeridionale.it
06	GEM	Genomic and experimental medicine	Prof.ssa Brunella Franco	gem@ssmeridionale.it
07	MERC	Modeling and engineering risk and complexity	Prof. Mario di Bernardo	merc@ssmeridionale.it
08	MOSES	Molecular Sciences for Earth and Space	Prof.ssa Nadia Rega	moses@ssmeridionale.it
09	MPHS	Mathematical and physical sciences for advanced materials and technologies	Prof. Nicola Fusco	mphs@ssmeridionale.it
10	SPACE	Cosmology, space science & space technology	Prof. Salvatore Capozziello	space@ssmeridionale.it

The research topics, teaching activities, and detailed information for each doctoral program can be found on the respective web pages of the site <https://www.ssmeridionale.it/> and in the attachments to the official announcement.

2. SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING

For each doctoral program, a minimum of three places will be available with scholarships for any subject, lasting four years.

Gross annual scholarship amount: €19,000.00 (including social security contributions payable by the recipient), with a 50% increase for periods spent abroad, for a maximum of 12 months (extendable to 18 months for joint doctoral programs).

Research budget: 10% of the scholarship in the first year, 20% in subsequent years, for research activities in Italy and abroad.

Enrollment does not require university fees or contributions, with the exception of the regional contribution for the right to study.

Note: The scholarship amount indicated refers to the 41st cycle and may be subject to regulatory updates.

3. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The competition is open to all those who, on the closing date of the call for applications, hold a specialist or master's degree (Ministerial Decree 509/1999 and subsequent amendments and additions), a degree under the old system (legal course lasting at least four years), or a suitable academic qualification obtained from a foreign university, with no age or citizenship restrictions.

Those who will obtain the required qualification by the course registration date (October 31, 2026) may also participate. In this case, candidates are admitted with reserve and will lose their admission if they do not obtain the qualification by that date.

4. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Applications must be submitted exclusively via the PICA (CINECA) online platform. The following documents must be attached to the application, under penalty of exclusion:

- Valid identity document
- Curriculum vitae in accordance with the template provided by the School
- Master's thesis (or extended abstract in English, max. 1,000 words, for those who have not yet submitted it)
- Substitute declaration of exams taken and degree grade
- Letter of motivation (max. 1,000 words) on research interests and reasons for applying
- Scientific report (SPACE, GEM, MERC, MPHS, MOSES doctoral programs) or research project (ACMA, GHG, LOSPD, TTCL, CTO doctoral programs), as described in the attachments for each doctoral program
- Any scientific publications (up to a maximum of 3, in a single PDF file)

Applicants may also request letters of reference via the PICA platform.

The absence of letters of reference is not grounds for exclusion.

5. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Selection is based on qualifications, scientific report/research project, and interview. The Selection Committee has a total of 100 points at its disposal, divided as follows:

Evaluation of qualifications and scientific report/research project: up to 60 points. Candidates with a minimum score of 40/60 are admitted to the interview.

Interview: up to 40 points. The interview is considered passed with a minimum score of 20/40.

For GEM, GHG, LOSPD, MERC, MOSES, MPHS, SPACE, and CTO doctorates, knowledge of English is mandatory, and the interview may be conducted entirely in English. Interviews may also be conducted online.

The final ranking will be formulated in descending order of overall score. In the event of a tie, the younger candidate will prevail.

6. INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Phase	Indicative date
Publication of the official call for applications	May/June 2026
Deadline for submitting applications (PICA platform)	August 2026
Outcome of qualification assessment and admission to interviews	September 2026
Interviews	September 2026
Publication of rankings	October 2026



Scuola Superiore Meridionale

Phase	Indicative date
Finalization of enrollment of successful candidates	By October 31, 2026
Start of courses	November 2, 2026

7. INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Website: www.ssmeridionale.it

Certified email address: ssm@pec.ssmeridionale.it

Headquarters: Via Mezzocannone 4, 80134 Naples

For specific information on each doctoral program, please write to the email address of the doctoral program you are interested in (indicated in the table above).

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