



SCUOLA SUPERIORE MERIDIONALE
Call for Applications

APPLICATIONS DEADLINE
28 September 2026

This document has no legal value and it is
only meant to provide information in
English about the call

ARTICLE 1
(Award)

A public selection procedure, based on qualifications and an interview, is hereby announced for the recruitment of one full-time fixed-term tenure-track researcher (RTT) for a period of six years, pursuant to the amended Article 24 of Law No. 240/2010.

The selection is reserved for holders of a fixed-term researcher contract pursuant to Article 24, paragraph 3(a), of Law No. 240/2010, in the version in force prior to the entry into force of Law No. 79 of 29 June 2022 (RTDA), as provided for by MUR Ministerial Decree No. 193 of 5 March 2026 (Extraordinary Recruitment Plan for RTT Positions Reserved for RTDA Researchers), whose contracts are due to expire in 2025.

The successful candidate shall carry out research and teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities, and services for students at the Scuola Superiore Meridionale:

Within the Scientific and Technological Area:

- 1 tenure-track researcher (RTT) in GSD 06/MEDS-08 Endocrinology, Nephrology, Food and Wellness Sciences and SSD MEDS-08/A Endocrinology and Metabolism;

All detailed information, including requirements and specific aspects related to the profile advertised, is provided in the technical sheets attached to this call, which form an integral part thereof.

Area	GSD	SSD	n. position	n. Annex
Scientific and Technological	06/MEDS-08 Endocrinology, Nephrology, Food and wellness science	MEDS-08/A Endocrinology and Metabolism	1	Annex_1

ARTICLE 2

(Nature of employment and type of contract)

The employment relationship will be established between the Scuola Superiore Meridionale through the stipulation of a fixed-term employment contract, governed by the relevant provisions in force also with regard to tax, welfare, social security and insurance treatment. The contract will be signed no more than

90 days after the conclusion of the relevant selection procedure and shall be for a non-renewable term of six years. The contracts no rights to access any permanent position in any Italian University, but constitutes a preferential title in open competitions for positions in the Italian Civil Service. The fixed-term researcher will carry out research, teaching and student service activities, according to programs set by the competent academic bodies and to the requirement of the relevant academic Structure.

Regarding the research activity, the researcher's work performance is overseen by a scientific supervisor or by the Coordinator of the relevant Academic Structure or by his/her delegate; the teaching commitment is set by the relevant academic bodies.

The fixed-term researcher is required to record, in the dedicated "Teaching Register" and "Diary" available on the U-Web – "InTime" online platform, which constitute self-certification, the teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities, and services for students carried out.

The aforementioned platform also provides access to the research projects section for the purpose of reporting the workload associated with participation in scientific activities funded by national and/or European funds.

The aforementioned Teaching Register and Diary must be digitally signed and submitted to the competent offices of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale.

Failure to submit the aforementioned documents may constitute just cause for termination of the contract pursuant to Article 2119 of the Italian Civil Code.

As per art. 24, paragraph 5, of L. 240/2010, the School might - on the researcher's request and if adequate resources are available – consider the researcher, as long as s/he possess Italy's National Scientific Qualification (Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale) for a permanent position as associate professor, as per the procedures referred to in art. 11 of the School's Regulations for the Recruitment of Researchers on fixed-term contracts.

Article 14, paragraph 6-duodevices, of Decree-Law No. 36/2022, converted into Law No. 79/2022, shall apply.

For all matters not expressly provided for in this call concerning the rights and duties of RTT researchers, Article 24 of Law No. 240/2010 and the relevant provisions of the School's current Regulations shall apply.

ARTICLE 3

(Duties)

The candidate appointed pursuant to Article 19 below shall enter into a contract under the working-time arrangement specified in the information sheet relating to the selection procedure, attached to this Call. For full-time positions, the overall annual commitment to teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities, and services for students shall amount to 350 hours.

ARTICLE 4

(Remuneration)

The researcher appointed to the position shall receive an all-inclusive gross annual remuneration equal to the initial salary payable to a confirmed full-time researcher, increased by 20%.

The gross annual remuneration shall be subject to the adjustment provided for by the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers (D.P.C.M.) of 13 July 2026.

ARTICLE 5

(Participation Requirements)

To participate in the competitive selection, the following prerequisites are required under penalty of exclusion:

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- enjoyment of civil and political rights: those deprived of the right to vote are not eligible for employment;
- not having been convicted for criminal offences incompatible with the status of state employee; any such conviction would lead either to disqualification from employment by the Scuola Superiore Meridionale, as per Article 127, first paragraph, letter d) of the Consolidated Text of the provisions

concerning the status of civilian state employee, issued by Presidential Decree no. 3 of 10/01/1957, or to dismissal;

- not to have been dismissed or discharged from employment by Public Administration for recurrent inadequate performance, nor to have been declared disqualified from a State job, as per Article 127, first paragraph, letter d) of the Consolidated Text of the provisions concerning the status of civil employees of the State, issued by Presidential Decree no. 3 of 10/01/1957; finally, not to have been dismissed for just cause or justified subjective reason, nor for having obtained employment by producing false documents or by fraudulent means;

- not to be employed permanently as a full professor, associate professor, or researcher, nor to have ceased to hold one of the aforementioned qualifications;

- not to have already benefited, for a period of at least three years, from contracts of the type covered by this call (RTT).

Foreign candidates need to possess the following general requirements:

- (a) enjoy civil and political rights also in the States of which they are citizens;

- (b) possess all the other requirements, as set out above for Italian nationals;

- (c) have adequate knowledge of the Italian language.

Candidates having kinship or affinity ties, within the fourth degree included, with the members of the SSM Steering Committee and with the General Director of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale are not allowed to participate

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

Possession, by the deadline for applications under this call, of the following specific eligibility requirements:

- a PhD degree or equivalent qualification or, for the relevant academic fields, a medical specialization diploma;

Where the qualification required for admission was obtained abroad, applicants must attach either the academic recognition decision establishing its equivalence to a PhD degree under the Italian university system, issued by an Italian university, or the decision recognizing the foreign qualification as equivalent to the corresponding Italian qualification for the specific purpose of participation in the selection procedure, issued by the Department of Public Administration (Dipartimento della Funzione Pubblica). Pending issuance of the decision recognizing a qualification obtained abroad, and in order to ensure the broadest possible participation, applicants may apply for admission to the selection procedure by indicating the foreign qualification in its original language and attaching a copy of the application for recognition submitted to the competent authority, together with a copy of the receipt confirming its submission.

In any event, the decision certifying the academic recognition or the recognition of the foreign qualification as equivalent to the corresponding Italian qualification must be submitted to this Administration no later than 180 days from the date on which the employment contract is signed, failing which the employment relationship shall be terminated.

- applicants must have held a fixed-term researcher contract pursuant to Article 24, paragraph 3(a), of Law No. 240/2010 (RTDA), in the version in force prior to the entry into force of Law No. 79 of 29 June 2022, with a contract due to expire in 2025.

More specifically, as clarified by MUR Circular No. 313 of 14 April 2026, contracts deemed to expire in 2025 include both three-year RTDA contracts commencing in 2022 (with the original three-year term naturally expiring during 2025) and contracts that were granted two-year extensions commencing during 2023 (with the two-year extension expiring during 2025).

In other words, where an RTDA researcher has already been granted an extension of the original three-year term that would otherwise have expired during 2025 (i.e. a contract commencing during 2022), such extension does not preclude eligibility to participate in selection procedures under the Extraordinary Recruitment Plan.

It is further specified that, as established by the MUR Circular referred to in the recitals, any early termination of contracts with an expiry date later than 2025 shall not be taken into account.

All applicants shall be admitted to the selection procedure subject to verification of their eligibility requirements.

The Head of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale may, at any time and by means of a reasoned decision, exclude an applicant from the selection procedure for failure to meet the prescribed eligibility requirements.

The eligibility requirements must continue to be met throughout the entire selection procedure and at the time the employment contract is signed. Applicants must promptly notify any change affecting their eligibility requirements by certified email (PEC) to uptad@pec.ssmeridionale.it.

ARTICLE 6

(Submitting an application)

Applications are to be submitted, together with any attachment (if required) only electronically by using the dedicated application available at the following web address:

<https://pica.cineca.it/ssm/rtt-ps-ssm-2026>

no later than 28 September 2026.

Failure to submit by this deadline will imply exclusion from the procedure.

To access the PICA computer application, the candidate is required to register and authenticate exclusively via a PICA account and to adhere to the following instructions.

After authentication, the candidate is required to complete the application, entering all the required data and attaching any necessary documents in electronic PDF format as indicated.

Attachments of up to 30 MB are allowed. (In the case of image copies of analogue original documents, attachments are required to be in PDF/A format and preferably scanned in black and white, with a resolution not exceeding 200 DPI).

Applicants self-certify the truthfulness of their statements and, as per Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree 445 of 28 December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions, declare to be aware of the penalties provided for by Articles 75 and 76 of the same Presidential Decree in the event of untrue declarations or should they create or use false documents.

Applicants are also required to attach the following documents to their application and enter them into the above-mentioned PICA website:

A) CURRICULUM VITAE, complete with a LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE;

B) the scientific publications submitted for analytical evaluation, within the upper limit set out in the procedure reference form, numbered in the progressive order reported in the "CURRICULUM VITAE, LIST OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS". If texts accepted for publication are submitted, the publisher's acceptance document is also required to be attached;

C) a photocopy of a valid identification document; this applies, under penalty of exclusion, only if the applicant completes the application with a handwritten signature.

Publications are required to be submitted in their original language if they are published in Italian, French, English, German or Spanish language. Otherwise, the publications are required to be translated into Italian or English; translated texts can be submitted in typewritten copies together with the text in the original language.

Scientific publications will not be taken into consideration by the Commission for the purposes of the analytical evaluation of scientific production even if they are within the upper limit set by the reference forms attached to this call for proposals, if they are mentioned in the "CURRICULUM VITAE, LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE ", but not uploaded in the PICA website. Likewise, publications uploaded in the PICA website but not mentioned in the " CURRICULUM VITAE, LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE " will not be taken into consideration by the Commission for the purposes of the analytical evaluation of scientific production. Furthermore, texts accepted for publication without the

publisher's letter of acceptance are not evaluated, nor are publications whose acceptance by the publisher is supported solely by a self-declaration of the candidate.

ARTICLE 7

(Establishment of Selection Committees)

Following the deadline for the submission of applications, the Selection Committee shall be appointed by decree of the Head of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale. The Committee shall assess the applicants on the basis of their qualifications, curriculum vitae and scientific output, which shall be publicly discussed with the Committee.

The selection procedure governed by this Call shall also include an oral examination aimed at assessing adequate knowledge of the foreign language specified in the information sheet attached to this Call or, in the case of applicants who are foreign nationals, adequate knowledge of the Italian language.

At its first meeting, the Committee shall establish the criteria for assessing the applicants' qualifications, curriculum vitae and scientific output, as well as the assessment criteria for the aforementioned oral examination aimed at ascertaining adequate knowledge of the foreign language specified in the information sheet attached to this Call or, in the case of applicants who are foreign nationals, of the Italian language.

The Selection Committee shall communicate the criteria thus established to the person responsible for the procedure referred to in Article 18 of this Call, who shall ensure that they are published in the Public Selection Procedures section of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale website.

The Selection Committee may conduct its proceedings using electronic means enabling its members to work collectively at a distance.

ARTICLE 8

(Evaluation of qualifications and Curriculum Vitae)

During the preliminary evaluation of the candidates, the Selection Committee conducts a reasoned assessment followed by a comparative evaluation, referring to the specific scientific-disciplinary group and any profile defined exclusively through the indication of one or more scientific-disciplinary sectors listed in the form attached to this call. The Committee evaluates the candidates' curriculum vitae and the following duly documented qualifications:

- a) a PhD degree or equivalent qualification obtained in Italy or abroad, or a medical specialization diploma. In particular, the assessment shall take into account the type of PhD programme or medical specialization programme attended, with regard to its relevance and affinity to the required scientific profile;
 - b) university-level teaching activity in Italy or abroad;
 - c) documented training or research activity at qualified Italian or foreign academic or scientific institutes;
 - d) documented clinical activities (if relevant for the field in which the position is open);
 - e) project activities (if relevant for the field in which the position is open);
 - f) organization, leadership, and coordination of national and international research groups, or participation to them;
 - g) patents (if relevant for the field in which the position is open);
 - h) participation at national and international symposia, workshops and conferences;
 - i) national and international awards and recognitions for research activities;
 - j) internationally recognized European specialization diploma (if applicable).
- The evaluation of the above qualifications is carried out by considering the significance it assumes in relation to the quality and quantity of the research activity carried out by the individual candidate.

ARTICLE 9

(Evaluation of publications)

The Selection committee assesses the publications submitted by the candidates according to the following criteria:

- a) originality, innovation, methodological rigor, and relevance of each scientific publication;

- b) publication's relevance and coherence for the field in which the position is open;
 - c) scientific relevance of each publication's outlet, as well as publication's dissemination within the scientific community;
 - d) analytical determination of the candidate's individual contribution in case of collaborative work.
- The Selection Committee is also required to assess the overall consistency of the candidate's scientific production, as well as its intensity and temporal continuity.
- The Selection Committee may also, if appropriate, use the following indicators (if relevant for the field in which the position is open):
- a) total number of citations;
 - b) average number of citations per publication;
 - c) total "impact factor";
 - d) average "impact factor" per publication;
 - e) combinations of the previous parameters aimed at enhancing the impact of the candidate's scientific production (Hirsch index or similar).

ARTICLE 10

(Interviews)

After the preliminary evaluation, only the top candidates, between 10% and 20% of all applicants, and in any case no fewer than six, are admitted to the next stage. If six or fewer applications are received, all candidates are admitted.

The selection process includes:

- a public discussion of the candidates' qualifications and scientific output;
- an oral examination aimed at assessing knowledge of the foreign language specified in the information sheet or, in the case of applicants who are foreign nationals, knowledge of the Italian language.

Both the public discussion and the oral exam take place in a public session, either in person or online, ensuring participant identification, communication security, and traceability. In the same session, foreign candidates must also demonstrate adequate knowledge of Italian.

The schedule for the public discussion and oral exam will be announced at least 20 days in advance on the official noticeboard and website of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale. The list of admitted candidates, shown only by application ID number, will be posted at least 3 days before the exam.

Publication on the official online noticeboard constitutes legal notification, and absence from the session is considered a withdrawal from the selection.

After the session, the Committee assigns a score (max 100 points) to the qualifications, the individual publications, and the overall scientific output, based on criteria set in the first meeting.

The selection is not passed if:

- the candidate scores below 75/100 in the public discussion of qualifications and scientific output, or;
- the oral exam shows insufficient knowledge of the required foreign language.

ARTICLE 11

(Merit ranking and preferential qualifications)

At the conclusion of its work, the Committee draws up the merit ranking based on the score assigned to each candidate.

In the event of equal overall scores, the following qualifications constitute preferential titles, in order of priority:

- a) a specialization diploma in addition to the one required under Art. 5 of this call as an admission requirement;
- b) having taught a university course through a contract concluded in accordance with applicable regulations;
- c) previous employment under a fixed-term private-law contract of the same type.

If preferential qualifications are also equal, the younger candidate is given precedence.
Failure to include in the application the declarations regarding possession of the above-mentioned preferential qualifications results in the inability to apply for the corresponding benefits.

ARTICLE 12

(Incompatibilities and conflicts)

Without prejudice to current legal provisions and to the Regulations of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale, the contract covered by this call is incompatible:

- a) with holding research fellowships or postdoctoral scholarships, or in general any scholarship or fellowship, whether granted by Italian or foreign institutions, except for those aimed at supporting research activities with travel periods, internships, stays at other national or international institutions, or collaborative research activities that are functional to the needs and/or research programs specified in the contract;
- b) with holding any other subordinate employment relationship, including part-time or fixed-term positions, with Italian or foreign public or private entities; exceptions apply where the regulations of public administrations referred to in Art. 1, paragraph 2, of Legislative Decree No. 165/2001 allow the individual to be placed on unpaid leave without social security contributions, or on secondment or an equivalent status, for a period corresponding to the entire duration of the contract;
- c) exclusively for full-time researchers, with performing freelance professional activities;
- d) with engagement in commercial or industrial activities, without prejudice to the possibility of establishing university spin-off or start-up companies;
- e) with any contracts concluded in any capacity with the Scuola Superiore Meridionale.

The following individuals are excluded from participating in this procedure: persons already employed on a permanent basis as full or associate university professors, permanent researchers (including those no longer in service), as well as individuals who have already held RTT contracts for at least three years. The contract under this call may not be concluded with individuals who have a kinship or affinity up to and including the fourth degree with any member of the Organizing Committee or with the Director General of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale.

ARTICLE 13

(Referral to the unabridged official version)

For all matters not expressly provided for in this call, the provisions of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010, as amended, and the Regulations of the Scuola Superiore Meridionale concerning the recruitment of fixed-term researchers pursuant to Article 24 of Law No. 240 of 30 December 2010, governing the relevant employment relationship, shall apply.

This document is an abstract of the original Italian-language call of SSM “selezione pubblica, per titoli e colloquio, per il reclutamento di n.1 ricercatore a tempo determinato in tenure track (RTT) per la durata di anni sei, ai sensi del novellato art. 24, della Legge n. 240/2010, in regime di tempo pieno, riservata ai titolari di contratto da ricercatore ex art. 24 comma 3 lett. a) della legge 240/2010 nel testo vigente prima della data di entrata in vigore della Legge 29 giugno 2022 n. 79 (RTDA), di cui al D.M. MUR n. 193 del 05.03.2026 (Piano straordinario di reclutamento RTT riservata a RTDA) con contratto in scadenza nel 2025 per lo svolgimento di attività di ricerca e di didattica, di didattica integrativa e di servizio agli studenti presso la Scuola Superiore Meridionale

Area Scientifico-Tecnologica:

•GSD 06/MEDS-08 Endocrinologia, Nefrologia e Scienze dell’Alimentazione e del Benessere SSD MEDS-08/A Endocrinologia.

For details please refer to the unabridged official version in Italian, available at the following link: [Selezione pubblica, per titoli e colloquio, per il reclutamento di n.1 ricercatore a tempo determinato in tenure track \(RTT\) per la durata di anni sei, ai sensi del novellato art. 24, della Legge n. 240/2010, in regime di tempo pieno, riservata ai titolari di contratto da ricercatore ex art. 24 comma 3 lett. a\) della legge 240/2010 nel testo vigente prima della data di entrata in vigore della Legge 29 giugno 2022 n. 79 \(RTDA\), di cui al D.M. MUR n. 193 del 05.03.2026 \(Piano straordinario di reclutamento RTT riservata a RTDA\) con contratto in](#)

[scadenza nel 2025 per lo svolgimento di attività di ricerca e di didattica, di didattica integrativa e di servizio agli studenti presso la Scuola Superiore Meridionale – Scuola Superiore Meridionale](#)

In case of discrepancies between the English version and the Italian document, the Italian version shall prevail.

Identification Code: RTT_PS_SSM_2026

Public selection procedure, based on qualifications and an interview, for the recruitment of one fixed-term tenure-track researcher (RTT) for a period of six years, to carry out research and teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities, and services for students at the Scuola Superiore Meridionale, under the Extraordinary Recruitment Plan referred to in Ministerial Decree No. 193/2026

Work commitment regime: full-time

Maximum number of publications: 12

A knowledge of the English language adequate to research needs and purposes is required. The required scientific profile shall refer to **GSD 06/MEDS-08 Endocrinology, Nephrology, Food and Wellness Sciences and SSD MEDS-08/A Endocrinology and Metabolism**

Research-related Requirements

The researcher shall carry out research activities in the following field: Academic Discipline (SSD) MEDS-08/A – Endocrinology, with particular reference to the study of the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying endocrine and metabolic disorders and, in particular, obesity, its complications, and the main diseases associated with it. The research activities shall focus on the development of innovative models for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of metabolic diseases, promoting a multidisciplinary approach integrating endocrinology, clinical nutrition, and precision medicine.

The research activities shall include the assessment of the efficacy and safety of pharmacological therapeutic strategies for the treatment of obesity, with particular attention to the most recent incretin-based therapies and other innovative treatments, as well as the investigation of evidence-based medical and nutritional therapies, including the Mediterranean Diet, ketogenic diets, and other personalized dietary approaches for the management of obesity and endocrine and metabolic disorders.

Particular attention shall be devoted to investigating the effects of therapeutic interventions on energy metabolism, body composition, endocrine function, cardiometabolic risk, and patients' quality of life, including through the identification of clinical, metabolic, and nutritional biomarkers useful for tailoring therapeutic strategies to individual patients. The research activities shall also include the investigation of interactions between diet, circadian rhythms, the gut microbiota, and metabolism, as well as the development of innovative personalized medicine approaches supported by advanced methods for the analysis of clinical data and artificial intelligence tools.

The researcher shall demonstrate experience in the design, conduct, and coordination of observational and interventional clinical studies, including multicentre studies; participation in competitive national and international research programmes; and the publication of scientific research in high-impact international journals, thereby contributing to the development of strategic research lines in the fields of clinical endocrinology and nutrition.

Teaching, Supplementary Teaching, and Student Service Requirements

The fixed-term researcher shall carry out teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities, and services for students, within the framework of the teaching programme established by the competent

academic bodies and in accordance with the needs of the academic unit to which the researcher is assigned. The researcher's teaching commitment shall be determined by the competent academic bodies.

For a full-time position, the overall annual commitment to teaching activities, supplementary teaching activities, and services for students shall amount to 350 hours.

Duties

The duties assigned to the researcher shall include carrying out research, teaching, and third mission activities consistent with the Department's scientific and educational objectives, contributing to the development of research lines in the fields of clinical endocrinology, obesity, and nutrition.

The researcher shall also be responsible for promoting and developing translational and clinical studies aimed at understanding the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying endocrine and metabolic diseases and assessing the effectiveness of integrated therapeutic strategies, with particular emphasis on the use of novel pharmacological therapies for obesity, medical and nutritional therapies, and personalized medicine approaches. The researcher shall also contribute to the development of innovative clinical protocols integrating pharmacological, nutritional, and behavioural interventions, thereby facilitating the translation of scientific evidence into clinical practice.

The activities shall include participation in and coordination of national and international research projects, the design and conduct of multicentre studies, the publication of scientific findings in international peer-reviewed journals, and their dissemination within the scientific community.

The researcher shall also be expected to contribute to institutional activities, participate in research and teaching quality assessment processes, and contribute to the training of students, PhD candidates, and early-career researchers, fostering a multidisciplinary and innovation-oriented research environment.