



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI BRESCIA

THIS VERSION OF THE CALL FOR ADMISSION, TRANSLATED IN ENGLISH, IS AN UNOFFICIAL COPY OF THE ORIGINAL. THE ONLY COPY OF LEGAL VALUE IS THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENT IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE

CALL FOR ADMISSION TO PHD PROGRAMS RESERVED TO CANDIDATES OF PAKISTANI CITIZENSHIP PURSUANT TO THE CRITERIA SET BY THE MoU UNIBS - THE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION OF GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN (HEC)

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

Art. 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Call for Admission to a maximum of six (6) available posts for the PhD Programs at the University of Brescia, a.y. 2021/2022 (3-year-course), is reserved to candidates under the MoU of The Higher Education Commission, Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (hereinafter HEC Pakistan).

PhD Program Available at UNIBS
Business & Law - Law for Institutions and Businesses: value, rules and social responsibility
Analytics for Economics and Management – AEM
Civil and Environmental Engineering, International Cooperation and Mathematics
Information Engineering
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering
Technology for Health
Artificial Intelligence in Medicine and Innovation in Clinical Research and Methodology
Biomedical Sciences and Translational Medicine
Molecular Genetics, Biotechnology and Experimental Medicine
Precision Medicine

The Call for Admission to the PhD Programs is published while the authorization procedure is still in progress at the Italian Ministry of University and Research, pursuant the Ministerial Decree no. 45 of February 8, 2013. It is understood that the PhD Programs to be activated will be those for which the authorization procedure ends positively. This Call for Admission is complying to the requirements set in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by HEC Pakistan and the University of Brescia on 3rd December 2020 which is published jointly to this Call.



2. PhD Programs last three years starting from **1 November 2021**. If the emergency health conditions related to the spread of the Covid-19 virus should persist or in the case of specific actions to contrast and contain the spread of the virus, as to be defined by the University in compliance with regional and national health provisions, PhD Programs could be implemented and carried out remotely, in presence or through blended type of activities, while preserving the general training objectives.

3. This Call is published on the [University's Online Official Notice Board](#). This publication **serves as notification in all respects**, including for examination purposes, where envisaged. Moreover, the Notice about the Call for Admission to PhD Programs and the additional information or acts concerning this Call are also published on the University online section [Call for Admission to PhD Programs Reserved to HEC Pakistan Candidates](#). Finally, a further Notice about this Call is also published on the HEC Pakistan official website.

4. Any amendments, updates and additions to this Call will be made known through the [University's Online Official Notice Board](#) and [Call for Admission to PhD Programs Reserved to HEC Pakistan Candidates](#).

5. Filing an application for admission through the online procedure entails the applicant's acceptance of the rules contained in this Call and in the current [PhD Rules and Regulations of the University of Brescia](#) (issued on 27 June 2013 by Chancellor's Decree no. 336 and its subsequent amendments). **Whenever detected, failure to comply with the provisions contained in this Call will result in automatic exclusion from the competition.**

6. Except as envisaged in paragraph 4 of this Article, the personal email address provided by candidates, as part of the competition registration and enrolment procedure, will be considered as the official contact address until the end of the procedure. Any personal communications to candidates will therefore be sent only by email to such address. The University of Brescia cannot be responsible for mis-communication due to candidates providing inaccurate personal addresses or failing or being late in notifying amendments thereto, or for postal or telematic errors.

Art. 2 - ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. This Call for Admission is reserved to candidates who, under the requirements of the MoU signed by HEC Pakistan and the University of Brescia on 3rd December 2020, are admitted to the final ranking list of merit for the grants funded by HEC Pakistan, a.y. 2021/2022.

2. Pursuant to art. 6 of the PhD Rules and Regulations of the University of Brescia, **candidates must hold:**

an eligible second level University Degree achieved in Italian or non-Italian universities (i.e.: MA / MSc. / LLM type of Degree), comparable to the Italian University qualification system in terms of length and content and recognised by the PhD Admission Boards as valid for admission, and as specified in the subsequent art. 3 of this Call.
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3. Candidates who will achieve the Italian or foreign eligible University Degree referred to in paragraph 2 **after submitting their candidacy, and in any case no later than 31 October 2021**, will be **conditionally admitted**, when applying by the deadline set in this Call. Conditionally admitted candidates must email to the PhD Office at dottorati@unibs.it or write to UNIBS by certified email (PEC) at ammcentr@cert.unibs.it, **within 3 days from graduation**, the following documents:



- **for those candidates having an eligible University Degree achieved in Italy:** self-declaration of the University Degree achieved, specifying the name of the University issuing the degree, the date of graduation, the type of diploma (Italian University Education system prior to Ministerial Decree 509/1999, advanced/master's, etc.), the final score. Candidates must upload a copy of a valid identification document.
- **for those candidates having an eligible University Degree achieved from non-Italian universities:** a certificate of University Degree achieved, specifying the name of the University issuing the degree, the date of graduation, the type of diploma, the final score. Candidates must upload a copy of a valid identification document; self-declaration is not allowed for this category.

Candidates who do not notify the achievement of the University Degree within the deadlines set forth in the preceding paragraph 3, or who convey incomplete and/or incorrect documentation, or who use different means or addresses from those envisaged in the previous paragraph will be excluded from this selection.

4. All candidates are admitted to the selection subject to verification of self-certified declarations pursuant to the Italian Presidential Decree 445/2000 and subsequent amendments and additions. The University of Brescia may carry out checks on the truthfulness of the declarations produced at any time during the procedure, even after the start of the PhD Programs. In case of false declarations, the University may exclude candidates from the selection procedure or from the PhD Program with a motivated provision at any time, without prejudice to the consequent criminal liability.

Art. 3 – ELIGIBILITY OF UNIVERSITY DEGREE ACHIEVED in NON-ITALIAN UNIVERSITIES

1. The eligibility of **University Degrees achieved in non-Italian universities** is established by the PhD Admission Board of this Call, for the sole purpose of admission to PhD Programs, in compliance with the regulations in force in Italy and international treaties or agreements on the matter of recognition of University Degrees for the pursuance of studies.

2. Filling-in the online application form of the Call for Admission to PhD Programs Reserved to HEC Pakistan Candidates entails the simultaneous explicit request of recognition of the University Degree achieved from non-Italian universities, necessary to be admitted to the PhD Program. **To this end, candidates must upload the following documents to the online application:**

- a) A certificate pertaining to the University Degree (degree) achieved in non-Italian universities, including the list of the exams taken and the marks granted.
- b) Any other document considered useful (including a valid University Diploma Supplement) to assess the eligibility of the University Degree.

If not written in Italian or English, the above documents must be accompanied by a translation into English.

If the eligible University Degree has already been recognised with the corresponding Italian university qualification for academic purposes, candidates must provide the Italian University document / act that has provided for such recognition and the details of the relevant provision.

3. By 31 October 2021, following the publication of the Final Ranking List of Merit, candidates who result eligible for a post and have a **University Degree achieved from non-Italian universities** must submit to the PhD Office,



the Declaration of Value of their degree. The Declaration of Value of a University Degree is a document issued by the Italian diplomatic authorities in the country where the University Degree was achieved. Under penalty of losing the right of admission to the PhD Programs (starting 1 November 2021), the Declaration of Value should prove, among other things, that the University Degree is recognised to enrol in a university course at PhD level in the country where it was achieved.

The Declaration of Value must be emailed to the PhD Office at dottorati@unibs.it or at the University certified email (PEC) ammcentr@cert.unibs.it.

4. To those candidates pending to achieve their eligible University Degree (degree) in non-Italian universities no later than 31 October 2021, the PhD Office will communicate by e-mail the deadline by which to submit the Declaration of Value of their University Degree.

5. Candidates deemed eligible for a post will be excluded if, upon verification of their Declaration of Value it turns out that their University Degree does not comply with the requirements of this Call, which therefore does not allow them to enrol at a PhD Program.

Art. 4 - DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO APPLY

1. Under penalty of exclusion from the competitive exam candidates are required to upload to the online registration system of UNIBS, called **PICA**, the following documents:

a) **Identification document** (identity card or passport with clearly visible document number, issuing authority, place and date of issue, photograph, personal data and expiry date) exclusively in .pdf format.

b) **Curriculum vitae et studiorum**, in Italian or English language or translated into English language, complete with the applicant's signature and exclusively in .pdf format.

c) **A Research Project**, exclusively in .pdf format. **The research project must be presented as a written proposal, in either Italian or English, with a maximum length of 25,000 characters (excluding spaces), and should be organized as follows:**

- 1. Author;**
- 2. Title;**
- 3. Short literature review;**
- 4. Research questions and objectives;**
- 5. Methodology;**
- 6. References.**

d) A Letter of Expression of Scientific Interests, exclusively in .pdf format. The letter of expression of scientific interests must be presented as a written proposal, in either Italian or English, with a maximum length of 4,000 characters (excluding spaces).

e) Any other mandatory and/or optional documents and academic / professional qualifications.

f) **Only for those candidates pending to achieve their eligible University Degree (either in a non-Italian or in an Italian University) by 31st October 2021**, a copy of the proof of registration to sit the degree exam, exclusively in .pdf format, comprehensive of the list of the exams taken and the necessary grades/marks achieved.



The application procedure will be complete once the online registration system [PICA](#) issues a final summary document called "Application / Receipt of registration in the admission test", which shall be uploaded on PICA duly signed and to be uploaded exclusively in .pdf format, as per the instructions that the PICA system releases.

Art. 5 – APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION FEE

1. Admission applications, according to Article 4 of this Call, may be submitted **from the day of publication of this Call on the [University's Online Official Notice Board](#)** on the online registration system [PICA](#) and, without exception, **by 23.59 p.m (Italian Time) on 29th May 2021.**
2. Candidates wishing to participate in the competition for more than one PhD program must submit an online application for each course, uploading for each PhD program the complete documentation required by article 4.
3. UNIBS envisages a registration fee amounting to **€ 50,00** for each PhD application presented. The payment must be made within the deadline set for the submission of applications through the Italian system of PAGOPA procedure, available at the web link [PAGOPA](#) (the fee can be paid through credit card, PayPal, international bank transfer, etc.). The proof of payment of the registration fee must be uploaded on the online registration system [PICA](#).
4. The sole compilation of the online application does not complete the registration procedure to be admitted to UNIBS PhD Programs. It is mandatory to make the payment of € 50.00 for each application submitted **by 23:59 pm (Italian Time) on May 29, 2021.** The payment must be made within the deadline set for submitting applications through the [PAGOPA](#) procedure.
5. Being an integral part of the application form, no publications or other document submitted in the original paper and/or relevant IT supports will be returned, including upon request.
6. Applications that are incomplete, irregular or that are not conveyed according to the methods and procedures of paragraph 1 of this Article will not be considered valid.
7. The University administration assumes no responsibility in case the documentation submitted in electronic format is not accessible due to damaged files or folders.
8. The University administration assumes no responsibility for any online admission system malfunctions due to technical issues and/or overload of the communication line and/or application systems and/or possible postal errors.

Art. 6 - ADMISSION TO ENTRY INTERVIEW

1. Admission exams include firstly the evaluation of qualifications and subsequently oral interviews.
2. The dates of the oral interviews will be published online on the [University's Online Official Notice Board](#) **at least 10 days** in advance of the same interviews. Any amendments or integrations to the schedule envisaged for the oral



interviews will be published at the same web address, as well as on the University online section [Call for Admission to PhD Programs Reserved to HEC Pakistan Candidates](#).

These publications serve as notifications in all respect; therefore, candidates should attend the oral interview without expecting any further notice at the University on the day and time planned, bringing along / presenting copy of a valid identification document.

Candidates who do not attend the oral interview, for whatever cause, will be considered to have forfeited the competition.

3. The oral interviews may be undertaken in English language, as well as in Italian language.
4. Candidates both residing in Italy or abroad may undertake the oral entry interview remotely, via web/teleconference on the date / time set (e.g. via Skype, Google Meet, etc ...).
5. The PhD Admission Board will verify that the conditions necessary to guarantee the regularity of the test are met (ascertaining the applicant's identity and web connection correctness for exam purposes). The University assumes no responsibility in the event of technical issues that do not guarantee the correct conduct of the oral examination.

Art. 7 – PHD ADMISSION BOARD FOR COURSE ADMISSION

1. The PhD Admission Board is appointed by UNIBS Rector subsequently to the deadline of the Call.
2. The PhD Admission Board will evaluate the first 30 candidates having obtained the highest HAT score assigned by HEC Pakistan in its own pre-evaluation short-list. Before oral interviews are carried out, the PhD Admission Board will assign scores to candidates' mandatory documents and to any other optional record of academic or professional qualifications. Following the oral interviews, a final ranking List of Merit will be issued by the PhD Admission Board.
3. The results of the PhD Admission Board are sent to the PhD Office to be published on the [University's Online Official Notice Board](#) and on UNIBS online section of the [Call for Admission to PhD Programs Reserved to HEC Pakistan Candidates](#).

Art. 8 – CANDIDATES IN DISABILITY CONDITION OR HAVING A SPECIFIC LEARNING DISORDER

1. In respect to art. 11 of the Ministerial Decree 337/2018 and pursuant to art. 16 of Law no. 104 of 05/02/1992 (Framework Law for assistance, social integration and the rights of disabled people) and of art. 5 of the Law n. 170 of 8/10/2010 (Rules on specific learning disabilities in Education), candidates having a disability or being affected by Specific Learning Disorders, upon documented request that shall be specified in the online registration procedure envisaged in the Call for Admission, may avail himself/herself of particular supporting facilities that may be adopted in compliance with the Laws referred to and according to the principle of equal treatment of candidates during the admission tests.
2. During the online registration procedure with [PICA](#), it is necessary to upload the valid certified documentation proving the disability status within the admission deadline set for this Call.



3. The procedure referred to above must be completed within seven (7) days before the date scheduled for the oral exams, under penalty of the impossibility of applying the supporting facilities envisaged.
4. In case of candidates being affected by Specific Learning Disorders, as established by Law n. 170 of 2010 (Art. 3) and the subsequent State-Regions Agreement of 25/7/2012, it is necessary to produce suitable updated certified diagnostic documents, inclusive of neurological examination and neuropsychological tests issued no longer than 3 years by NHS structures or by institutions and specialists approved by the NHS system.
5. For further information on eligible supporting facilities and about the required documentation contact the Office for Inclusion and Participation of the University of Brescia, at the e-mail address capd@unibs.it
6. Following the evaluation of the competent academic offices, the confirmation of the admissibility of the request and detail about the supporting facilities granted will be communicated in due time directly to the candidate by the Office for Inclusion and Participation only by e-mail to the address e-mail provided during the online registration phase.

Art. 9 – RANKINGS

1. The PhD Admission Board issues the final ranking for each course by adding the scores obtained by eligible candidates in the evaluation of the academic and professional qualifications, as well in the oral interviews. For conditionally admitted candidates pursuant to Art. 2, paragraph 3 of this Call, the evaluation of the University Degree is replaced with the evaluation of the average score of the exams taken within their Undergraduate University career.
2. Those eligible candidates who ranked within the number of a maximum of six (6) available posts for the PhD Programs at UNIBS are admitted to the PhD Programme and will receive an **Admission Offer** to enrol, pursuant to art. 5.5 of the MoU signed by HEC Pakistan and the University of Brescia on 3rd December 2020.
3. **The final ranking list of merit will be published online** on the [University's Online Official Notice Board](#) and online section [Call for Admission to PhD Programs Reserved to HEC Pakistan Candidates](#) . The publication of the final ranking list of merit will contain both the enrolment procedures and its deadlines.
4. **This publication serves as an official communication to the interested parties; therefore, no written communication will be sent to candidates.**
5. Entitled candidates who abandon PhD Programs before the beginning date will be replaced by as many eligible candidates going down the ranking list. The eligible candidates thus admitted will be notified solely by email to the email address they provided when they registered for the competition. In this latter communication UNIBS will inform about the enrolment deadline, according to the procedures set in Art. 14 of this Call.
6. **Candidates who are deemed to be eligible for a post** in more than one ranking must opt for just one PhD Programs.
7. The PhD Program is chosen at the time of enrolment; the choice **is final** and cannot be modified in any way.



Art. 10– FEES TO ACCESS AND ATTENDANCE

1. Below are the fees charged to eligible PhD students in the a.y 2021/2022:

Total € 156.00

Out of which € 16.00 for revenue stamp duty and
€ 140,00 for the Regional Right to Education Fee (Regione Lombardia)

Art. 11 – LIVING ALLOWANCE

1. **The monthly living allowance** will be assigned to those PhD candidates eligible to a post. These candidates, having received the Admission Offer, will be short-listed for the HEC Living Allowance once the latter confirms them the granting of funding.

2. HEC Pakistan monthly allowance amounts to **€ 12.000,00 (equal to € 1.000 net monthly)**, as amended by **Chancellor’s Decree dated 08 June 2021, Rep. n. 534/2021, prot. n. 77340.**

3. PhD living allowances are benefitted for one year and are renewed on condition that the student PhD programme scheduled for the previous year has been completed, as verified by the PhD Board of Professors.

Art. 12 – UNIVERSITY OF BRESCIA STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS

1. By means of a specific Call for Admission, the University of Brescia assigns accommodations to students of the PhD Programs of the XXXVII cycle, A.Y 2021/2022, regularly enrolled according to the procedures and deadlines set by the following Art. 13.

2. Students must apply to compete for the allocation of accommodations; the opening of the competition will be announced on the **website of the** Right to Education Unit of the University of Brescia available on https://permalink.unibs.it/hec/call_2021/dirittostudio. This particular Call, managed by the Right to Education Unit of the University of Brescia, will provide the ranking criteria to access to said accommodations. Further information can be requested by writing to the email address: phdaccomodation@unibs.it

3. Interested candidates are exclusively responsible for verifying the opening of the Call and the terms to access.

Art. 13 - COURSES ENROLMENT

1. Under penalty of forfeiture, the enrolment must be completed **according to the procedures and by the deadline set following the publication of the ranking list or, in the case of entitled persons being replaced, the deadline specified in writing and directly via email to the eligible applicant** by UNIBS PhD Office.

Candidates deemed eligible for a post who do not meet the deadline set to enrol will be considered forfeit and the vacant posts will be made available to eligible candidates according to the order of the final ranking of merit.

2. If it is verified that false declarations were made in the documentation submitted, the applicant will be declared out of the competition, without prejudice to the penalties provided for by the Italian Penal Code and the special laws on the subject (Articles 75 and 76 of Presidential Decree 445/2000). The university administration will provide for



the recovery of any benefits granted (such as living allowances or student fee reductions) and will not proceed with any kind of reimbursement of paid fees.

Art. 14 – INCOMPATIBILITIES

1. Enrolment in the PhD Programs is incompatible with simultaneous enrolment in Undergraduate courses, Specialization courses (except what envisaged under Article 5 of the University's PhD Rules and Regulations) and Master's Degree courses or other PhD Programs in Italy or abroad, without prejudice to the cases of International PhD Programs and Joint PhD Programs.

Art. 15 - DUTIES OF PHD STUDENTS

1. PhD students are required to comply with the obligations set forth in the current [PhD Rules and Regulations of the University of Brescia](#).

2. PhD students are required to pursue the activities planned for in their educational curriculum, and to commit exclusively and full-time to the individual and guided study programmes and the carrying out of assigned research activities.

Art. 16 - AWARDING THE DEGREE

1. According to Art. 14 PhD Rules and Regulations of the University of Brescia, upon passing the final exam, the PhD Degree shall be awarded to PhD students who have obtained results of significant scientific value by the end of the PhD program, documented by a final written dissertation.

Art. 17 - PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING

1. The processing of personal data provided by candidates and collected for the purposes identified in this Call takes place in compliance with the provisions of EU Regulation 27.04.2016 n. 679 (General Data Protection Regulation, following: GDPR). For the purposes of processing personal data, the University of Brescia is the data controller pursuant to Art. 26 of the GDPR.

The University of Brescia is required to implement appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure that the treatment is compliant with the GDPR, verifying and periodically updating the data protection policies pursuant to the GDPR, Arts. 24-25. It is also subject to all the obligations of the data controllers, in particular that of the release of specific information to the interested parties, pursuant to the GDPR, Arts. 13-14.

The provision and collection of data is mandatory for the selection process and, in the case of sensitive data, it is carried out pursuant to Law 68/1999, and Law 104/1992. The provision of the data envisaged in the Call is mandatory and necessary for the purposes of assessing the admission requirements and the formulation of the rankings, under penalty of exclusion from the selection process.

2. For the purposes of processing personal data, CINECA, the Inter-university Consortium, is appointed by the University of Brescia to oversee the treatment, as pursuant to Art. 28 of the GDPR. CINECA therefore undertakes to provide, upon request by the university, suitable guarantees that it has put in place suitable technical and organizational measures to ensure that the processing of the data conferred to meets the requirements of the GDPR in respect to the protection of the rights of the interested parties.



3. CINECA will not communicate or disseminate to third parties the data processed, as it acts as data controller as expressly appointed by the University. CINECA personnel units, designated by the Director of the Consortium, are responsible for processing the data. The data collected will be kept for a period of time not exceeding the achievement of the purposes for which they are processed (Art.5 "*conservation restriction principle*" of the GDPR) or on the basis of the deadlines established by law. The verification of the obsolescence of the data stored in relation to the purposes for which they were collected is carried out periodically.

Art. 18 – ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE OFFICER IN CHARGE

1. Administrative Procedure Officer in Charge: Ms. Fabiana Farro, Officer in Charge of the PhD Office (U.O.C. Dottorati).
2. The contact Office at the University of Brescia is the PhD Office (U.O.C.) in via S. Faustino, 74/b-25121 Brescia, Italy. At the date of publication of this Call for Admission, our Offices are closed due to the Coronavirus health emergency. Contact email: dottorati@unibs.it

Art. 19 - STANDARD RULES

1. For anything not provided for in this Call, please refer to the current Italian legislation in force on the subject and to the University's PhD Rules and Regulations.

Brescia, Registration date/no.

The Chancellor
Prof Maurizio Tira
(signed electronically ex art.24 D.Lgs. 82/05)