



**SELECTIVE COMPARATIVE ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE FOR TITLES AND EXAMINATIONS FOR THE AWARDING OF No. 12 RESEARCH GRANTS TYPE A FOR CARRYING OUT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES**

**THE RECTOR**

**IN VIEW OF** the Statute of the University of Messina, issued with the Decree of the Rector (D.R.) No. 1244 of 14.05.2012 (published on G.U. – Serie Generale No. 116 of 19.05.2012) and modified with D.R. No. 3429 of 30.12.2014 (published on G.U. – Serie Generale No. 8 of 12.01.2015);

**IN VIEW OF** the Decree of the President of the Republic (D.P.R.) No. 445 of 28.12.2000 and subsequent amendments and additions;

**IN VIEW OF** the law No. 240 of 30.12.2010 and particularly article 22, which deals with the modalities for the assignment of research grants for carrying out research activities by University of Messina;

**IN VIEW OF** the Ministerial Decree (D.M.) No. 102 of March 09.03.2011, which determined the *gross* minimum annual amount of the research grants in accordance with the above-mentioned law,

**IN VIEW OF** the Regulations for the awarding of research grants for carrying out research activities, as modified by D.R. No. 81 of 16.01.2020;

**IN VIEW OF** the resolutions of Senato Accademico and of Consiglio di Amministrazione of 30.10.2018, with which the guidelines that the Departments must observe for the formulation of requests for the activation of Type A Research Grants have been approved;

**IN VIEW OF** the resolutions of the Departmental Councils which proposed the initiation of selection procedures for the activation of type A research grants;

**IN VIEW OF** the deliberations of the Senato Accademico and Consiglio di Amministrazione of 17.05.2021, which expressed a favourable opinion and approved the Academic Recruitment Fields/Academic Disciplines for which it is a priority to initiate the procedures for activating Type A Research Grants, pursuant to art. 22 of Law No. 240/2010, as the table attached to the aforementioned resolution;

**GIVEN THAT** the C.A. 04.43.08.03 of Bilancio Unico d'Ateneo di previsione 2021 provides the necessary coverage concerning the project ASSEGNI\_DI\_RICERCA\_2021;

**DECREES**

**Art. 1**

**Announcement**

1. A comparative assessment procedure is launched, for titles and examinations, aimed at the awarding of No. 12 type A research grants, pursuant to article 22 c. 4 lett. a) of the Law No. 240/2010 and the *University Regulations for the awarding of research grants for research activities*.



2. The research topics and the Structure, in which the research activity will be carried out, are indicated in attachment A of this call, where in particular for each research grant, are indicated:
  - the Department;
  - the area, the academic recruitment field and the academic discipline;
  - the topic of the research project and its description;
  - the scientific responsible;
  - the required foreign language.
3. The research grant has a duration of two years and can be renewed.

## **Art. 2**

### ***General admission requirements and incompatibilities***

1. Those who meet the following requirements can participate in the selection, without age or citizenship limits:
  - PhD degree title in the relevant academic disciplinary area, obtained in Italy or equivalent qualification obtained abroad, or, for the sectors concerned, the title of medical specialisation accompanied by adequate scientific production. Knowledge of foreign language indicated in the attachment A is required. It is also required that candidates have a scientific-professional curriculum suitable for carrying out research activities.

**The suitability of the foreign qualification** will be ascertained by the Committee, for the sole purpose 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 recognition of qualifications for 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 Manager or a member of the Board of University Administration, **cannot participate in the procedure**, pursuant to article 18 paragraph 1, point c) of law No. 240/2010.
4. The research grants **cannot be awarded**:
  - a. to the permanent staff of Universities, 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 the diploma was recognized as equivalent to the title of research doctor, pursuant to article 74 paragraph 4 of the D.P.R. No. 382 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 1980.

The entitlement of the research grant entails, for employees in service with public administrations, different from indicated above, the unpaid placement 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 which, added to the duration envisaged by the public announcement, exceeds a total of 6 years. In the aforementioned period, all the renewals are



counted except for the period in which the scholarship was received at the same time as the PhD course, up to the legal duration of the relative course.

- c. to those who were recipients of research grants and fixed-term research contracts, respectively pursuant to articles 22 and 24 of law 240/2010 at the University of Messina or in other Italian, state, non-state or computerized universities, as well as at the bodies referred to in paragraph 1 of art. 22 of the law 240/2010 for a period that, added to the duration foreseen by the announced contract, exceeds a total of 12 years, even if it does not continue.

For the purpose of the duration of the aforementioned relationships, the periods spent on maternity leave or for other reasons, pursuant to current legislation, are not recorded.

5. The entitlement of the research grant **is not compatible** with the enrollment in degree courses, specialist degrees or master's degree courses, PhD courses with scholarships or specialization schools in the medical area, in Italy or abroad, as well as with enrollment to another school/course which, by requiring compulsory attendance, prevents the performance of the activities set forth in the contract.
6. The grant **cannot be combined** with scholarships awarded for any reason whatsoever, except for those awarded by national or foreign Institutions useful for integrating the research activity of the holders with stays abroad. The grant **is also not combined** with the employment and with other grants or collaboration contracts for the research activity.
7. The holder of the research grant **can carry out a limited self-employed activity**, upon written communication and agreement with the responsible professor, provided that such activity is declared compatible by the Structure in which he/she carries out the research activity and does not involve a conflict of interests with the research activity carried out for the University.
8. University may at any time order **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 the admission to the assessment procedure, as well as the title held, the documents and publications deemed useful for the competition, must be **submitted, under penalty of exclusion, electronically, using only the specific IT procedure** made available on the web address <https://pica.cineca.it/unime/>. The IT application will necessarily require possession of 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 production of the application and attach the documents in PDF format.  
**No other forms of sending applications or useful documentation for participation in the procedure are allowed.**  
Within the application deadline, the system allows saving in draft mode. The date of electronic submission of the application for admission in the selection is certified by the IT system, through a receipt sent automatically by e-mail. Once the deadline for



submission expired, the system will no longer allow the access and the sending of the electronic form.

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

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 you have to download the PDF file generated by the system on your computer, and, without modifying it in any way, print it, affix an handwritten signature on 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 you need to have an hardware (for example smart card or USB device with digital subscription certificate issued by an accredited Certifier) compatible with the ConFirma service; after the signature, it will be possible to download the signed PDF;
- **by digital signature on the PC:** to digitally sign the document you need an hardware (for example smart card or USB device with digital certificate of subscription issued by an accredited Certifier) and a digital signature software to generate, from the PDF file of the document downloaded from the website, 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.**

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

2. In the application the candidate must declare, according to the D.P.R. No. 445 of 28<sup>th</sup> December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions:
  - a. name and surname;
  - b. date and place of birth;
  - c. citizenship;
  - d. residence and domicile elected for the purposes of participating in the procedure;
  - e. not having received criminal convictions and not having ongoing criminal proceedings (if not, indicate which);
  - f. the title of the topic he/she intends to develop (*only one of those foreseen in the call*);
  - g. the qualifications in possession: PhD/specialization diploma, or the possession of a similar academic qualification obtained abroad, recognized as equivalent to an Italian qualification by the competent authorities;
  - h. having knowledge of the foreign language in accordance with what is indicated in attachment A;
  - i. not having a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with a professor belonging to the Department or the Structure making call or



with the Rector, the General Director or a member of University Board of Directors;

- j. not belonging to the permanent staff of Universities, 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 title of research doctor, pursuant to article 74 paragraph 4 of the D.P.R. No. 382 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 1980;
- k. not carrying out employee work or being aware that the ownership of the research grant entails, for employees working in public administrations other than those referred to in point j, the placement on unpaid leave for the entire duration of the research grant and not being the beneficiary of other research grants or collaborations;
- l. not having been a recipient of research grants pursuant to Law 240/2010 for a period which, added to the duration envisaged by the contract announced, exceeds a total of 6 years. In the aforementioned period, any renewals are calculated with the exception of the time period in which the grant was received at the same time as the PhD course, up to the legal duration of the relative course;
- m. not having been a recipient of research grants and fixed-term researcher contracts, respectively pursuant to articles 22 and 24 of Law 240/2010 at the University of Messina or at other Italian, state, non-state or computerized Universities, as well as at the bodies referred to in paragraph 1 of art. 22 of Law 240/2010 for a period which, added to the duration provided by the contract announced, exceeds a total of 12 years, even if not continuous;
- n. being aware that the entitlement of the research grant **is not compatible or combined**:
  - with enrollment in Bachelor's degree course, Master's degree course, PhD course with scholarship or specialized school in the medical area, in Italy or abroad, as well as with enrollment in another school/course which, providing for mandatory attendance, prevents to perform the activities provided by the contract;
  - with the use of scholarships awarded for any purpose, with the exception of those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for integrating research activities with stays abroad;
  - with the employee work and other grants or collaboration contracts for research activities;
- o. The candidate with a disability must specify, in the application form, the necessary aid in relation to his/her own handicap and the possible need for additional time, documented by a suitable certificate issued by the public health authority responsible for the territory, in accordance with Law No. 104/92, as amended by Law No. 17/99.
- p. The candidate with a diagnosis of specific learning disabilities (SLD) must specify, in the application form, the necessary compensatory tools and the possible need for additional time, documented by a suitable certification issued by the NHS structures for no more than three years, or by specialists and





facilities accredited by the same, pursuant to Law No. 170/2010 and subsequent D.M. guidelines No. 5669 of 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

For any information, the candidate may contact "Disability Services/SLD" Operating Unit, located in via Consolato del Mare, No. 41, Palazzo Mariani, Messina – e-mail [udisabili@unime.it](mailto:udisabili@unime.it), tel. 090 676 8996/5066.

3. At any time during the procedure, the University can carry out checks on the truthfulness of the declarations produced. In the event of false declarations, the University may dispose at any time, by order of the Rector, **the exclusion** of candidates from the selective procedure, or **the forfeiture** from the assignment and any benefits acquired, without prejudice to any criminal liability 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 *Europass* curriculum of the scientific and professional activity signed and dated;
  - c. the list of publications and titles;
  - d. the publications and/or titles for which evaluation is required;
  - e. any health certification for disability or SLD;
  - f. scanned copy of a valid photo ID

Candidates, EU and non-EU citizens, who hold a foreign qualification(s) obtained in EU and non-EU countries must attach the certificate of the qualification(s) possessed (PhD) from which it is deduced:

- the duration of the course;
- the indication of the University that issued the degree;
- the date of achievement and the final grade;

with attached an official translation in Italian or English, **released by the University that issued 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. The attached publications and/or qualifications must be declared compliant with the originals by substitutive declaration of the deed of notoriety pursuant to Articles 19 and 47 of Presidential Decree No. 445 of 28<sup>th</sup> December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions (point 4.3 of the application form).
7. Candidates can also demonstrate possession of the above qualifications by self-declaration pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000 and subsequent amendments and additions (self-certification form).

Candidates can make use of 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 of countries outside the European Union, legally residing in Italy, limited to status, personal qualities and facts certifiable or attested by Italian public bodies (in particular: qualification obtained at an Italian University).

8. The documents listed above must be inserted on the platform, in pdf format (**the maximum size of which must not exceed 30 MB**).
9. The Administration assumes no responsibility for any errors attributable to third parties, fortuitous events or force majeure relating to the forwarding of the application.



#### **Art. 4**

#### ***Evaluation Committee***

1. For the purposes of evaluating the candidates' applications, after expiry of the deadline for submitting applications to participate in the selection, the Academic Senate proposes to the Rector the appointment of a single Committee 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 Committee appoints the President and the Secretary from among its members. The Committee may make use, at no additional cost to public finance, of highly qualified Italian or foreign auditors from outside the University. The Department Directors, with the functions of President, and the members indicated by them for each scientific area of interest, constitute the Subcommittees. The Commission will meet in a first session to formalize the establishment and to distribute the activities to the sub-committees of each scientific area of interest.
2. The Subcommittee, in the first session, establishes the criteria for evaluating the candidates, with regard to the qualifications and the project presented, which will be advertised on the University website. <https://www.unime.it/it/ricerca/assegni-di-ricerca>.  
Subsequently it carries out a comparative evaluation 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 tends 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 importance connected to the research program presented by the candidate and the verification of the knowledge of the foreign language, indicated in the attachment A to this call.
2. The overall score is 100 points, divided into as follows:
  - up to a maximum of 75 points attributable to titles;
  - 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. The assessment of the scientific-disciplinary curriculum shall take into account:
  - any specialization diplomas and/or attendance certificates for post-graduate courses obtained in Italy or abroad;
  - carrying out documented experience for research activities in public and/or private institutions with contracts, scholarships, fellowships or assignments, both in Italy and abroad;
  - scientific publications;



5. The assessment shall be duly justified. The results of the evaluation of the titles, as well as the list of candidates admitted to the interview, will be published on the University website <https://www.unime.it/it/ricerca/assegni-di-ricerca> before the established date for the interview.  
The publication will be valid as legal notification, according to the regulations of the digital administration D. Lgs. No. 82 of 07/03/2005 supplemented 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 site;
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/it/ricerca/assegni-di-ricerca> **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 contents 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 Subcommittee draws up the list of candidates examined, with the indication of the grade reported by each, which will be published on the University website.  
If the interview reveals inconsistencies and/or manifest inability to carry out the project presented, the Subcommittee proposes to the Commission the exclusion of the candidate, providing adequate motivation.
10. Once the tests have been completed, the Subcommittee transmits the minutes to the Commission which formulates the ranking for each of the scientific areas of interest.  
With the same merit and qualifications, the youngest candidate is preferred.
11. The results of the evaluation are formalized by decree of the Rector and published on the University website.

#### **Art.6**

#### ***Awarding of the research grant***

1. The winner of the research grant is obliged to accept the research grant **within 20 days** of the publication of the ranking on the University's website, **penalty forfeiture**, unless prevented by reasons of health or serious reasons duly and in a timely manner justified and substantiated.
2. If, within **20 days** of the publication of the ranking on the University's website, the candidate has not communicated the acceptance of the research grant, or **he/she renounces it**, the suitable candidates are summoned until the ranking is exhausted.
3. The research grants are renewable according to the verification of the economic coverage by the University of Messina, with the modalities provided by art. 11 of the current "Rules for the award of research grants for carrying out research activity".
4. The gross annual amount of the research grant is determined at € 19,367.00 to be considered net of the charges borne by the University. The research grant is paid in deferred monthly installments.





5. The provisions of art. 4 of Law No. 476 of August 13<sup>th</sup> 1984 and subsequent amendments and additions in the fiscal matters; and furthermore in matters of social security, the provisions of art. 2, paragraph 26 and subsequent of the Law No. 335 of August 8<sup>th</sup> 1995 and subsequent amendments and additions are applied to the research grant.
6. As regards the risks from accidents and civil liability are concerned, the University provides insurance cover for the holder of the research grant.

#### **Art. 7**

##### ***Nature and conclusion of the contract***

1. The relations between the holder of the research grant and the University will be settled by the conclusion of a contract of private law.
2. 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 duties of holders of research grants***

1. The research activity, according to article 9 of the Regulation for the award of research grants for carrying out research activity must be carried out continuously, within the limits laid down in the research programmes and in the instructions given by the responsible professor, who verifies the activity performed, without constraints of subordination and predefined working hours.
2. The holder of the research grant, for the purpose of carrying out research activities, shall be entitled to avail himself/herself of the facilities and equipment of the Department in which he/she carries out his/her work. If the activity is to 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 duties of the grant holder, as determined by the individual contract, are carried out under the direction of the responsible professor, who verifies the work performed.
4. The research grant holder is required to:
  - submit to the Board of the Reference Structure, at least 30 days before the date of completion of the year of activity, an annual report on the work carried out, subject to the approval of the responsible professor;
  - present in the last year of his/her activity, the final results of his/her work in a public seminar or in the form defined by the reference structure, approving the scientific validity and notifying the competent Office of the University's Central Administration.
5. The research grant holder can carry out:
  - orientation and mentoring activities and examination assistance as a subject's practitioner;
  - a period of in-depth study abroad, obtaining specific attestation from the host body, according to a programme to be defined with the responsible professor and approved by the reference structure, and with costs borne by the structure, without prejudice to the possibility of access to targeted incentives.



6. The holder of the medical area research grant may carry out care activities consistent with the research project, under the supervision of the scientific responsible and subject to authorization of the host hospital facility who will notify the relevant office of the central administration of the University in a timely manner.
7. The holder of the research grant is obliged to observe the provisions of law No. 240/2010 and the University Regulations for the award of grants for the performance of research activities. He/she is also obliged to respect the rules of the “Regulation on industrial property of the University of Messina”, D.P.R. No. 62/2013 containing the “Regulation on the Code of Conduct for Public Employees”, of “Code of Conduct adopted by the University”, as well as the provisions contained in the “Ethical Code” of the University.

### Art. 9

#### *Suspension, withdrawal and termination of contract*

1. The assignee’s activity **is suspended** for maternity (five months).  
It may also be **suspended** on grounds of serious illness or in cases of other prolonged, justified and justified absences which make it objectively impossible to carry out the activity, subject to the opinion of the responsible professor and deliberate of the structure.
2. The periods of suspension, with the exception of compulsory maternity leave, may be recovered at the end of the natural expiry of the contract, by agreement with the responsible professor and within the limits imposed by the funding available. In the case of maternity, the contract is automatically extended, in accordance with the rules in force, while respecting the limits imposed by the funding available.
3. A total period of justified absence of not more than 30 working days per year shall not constitute suspension and shall not be recovered.
4. During the maternity leave, the research holders are entitled to the relevant allowance paid by the INPS in accordance with the applicable maternity regulations and the Decree of the Minister of Labour and Social Security of 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007 and in the case of sick leave of more than four days, they are entitled to the daily sickness allowance within the limits provided for in Law No. 296 of 27<sup>th</sup> December 2006.  
In the period of compulsory abstention for maternity, the allowance paid by the INPS under art. Decree 5 of 12 July 2007 is supplemented by the University up to the full amount of the research grant.
5. The parties may **withdraw** from the contract at any time. Reasons must be given for the withdrawal. The holder of the research grant who intends to withdraw from the contract is required to **promptly** notify the Rector and the relevant Structure.
6. The ranking is also scrolled in the event of the winner withdrawing from the contract as long as the remaining period is at least one year.
7. If the holder of the research grant, without a justified reason, does not regularly carry out the research activity, or if it is considered invalid by the Council of the reference Structure or the grant holder is responsible for serious and repeated failures, upon request of the responsible professor approved by the Council of the Structure, a procedure is initiated which can lead, following a resolution of the Board of Directors, to the **termination of the contract** pursuant to articles 1453 and following of the Civil



Code. The **cause of termination** of the relationship is the serious and significant breach pursuant to art. 1460 cc, by the grant holder.

8. 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 revocation and termination of the contract are ordered by Decree of the Rector
9. The contract **is also terminated** in case of violation of the obligations deriving from the Code of Conduct of employees, referred to in the D.P.R. of 16.04.2013, No. 62, and the Code of Conduct adopted by the University.

#### **Art. 10**

##### ***Intellectual property***

1. Industrial property rights on the results achieved by the research fellow 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 Regulations for the discipline of Patenting activities at the University of Messina (DR No. 2773/2020).
2. The grant holder has the right to publish the Results of his/her research activity, unless the publication does not prejudice the right of the University to protect the results. The grant holder is therefore obliged to communicate the achievement of the Results to the responsible professor without delay.

#### **Art. 11**

##### ***Processing of personal data***

1. The processing of personal data connected to this insolvency procedure is carried out by the University in accordance with the European General Regulation No. 679/2016 for the protection of personal data and of the Code regarding the protection of personal data, Legislative Decree 196/2003 and subsequent amendments and additions.
2. The information is available in the privacy section of the University, <https://www.unime.it/it/ateneo/privacy>, and is an integral part of this announcement.

#### **Art. 12**

##### ***Responsible for the procedure***

1. The person in charge of the procedure is Dr. Maria Pia Mangano, Head of the Org. U. Research Services of the Administrative Department "Research and internationalization" of this University. For information, interested parties may contact the Research Services Organizational Unit – Research grants and Scholarships Research Unit of the Administrative Department "Research and internationalization" of this University (telephone numbers: 0906768503/8574/8615; e-mail: [assegni@unime.it](mailto:assegni@unime.it)).



**Art. 13**  
***Publicity***

1. The present decree, written in English and Italian, will be published by posting on the Online Register of the University of Messina, it will also be made public also via the University websites (<https://www.unime.it/it/ricerca/assegni-di-ricerca>), MUR (<http://bandi.miur.it/>) and the European Union (<https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs>).

**Art. 14**  
***Final Rules***

1. Although not explicitly mentioned in this call, reference is made to the standards contained in art. 22 of the law No. 240/2010, in the DPR No. 62/2013 containing the “Regulations on the Code of Conduct of civil employees” and of the “Code of Conduct adopted by the University” as well as the provisions contained in the “Code of Ethics”, in the Regulations for the awarding of grants for the carrying out of research activities (research grants) of the University of Messina (D.R. No. 81 of 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020), in the Regulation on industrial property of the University of Messina, (D.R. No. 2773/2020) as well as other provisions in force.
2. The submission of the application form for participation in the selections through the online procedure, as per art. 3, implies acceptance by the candidate of the rules contained in this announcement and in the aforementioned regulations.
3. Participation in the procedure implies, as has been acquired in advance, consent to the issue of the documents submitted, in the case of a request by the other competitors, in accordance with the rules on access to documents.

THE RECTOR  
Professor Salvatore Cuzzocrea

ID	DEPARTMENT	AREA SC SSD	TITLE OF THE PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE	FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIRED
1	Civiltà antiche e moderne	10 10/E1 L-FIL-LET/09	The thirteenth-century oitanic novel and prose	From the thirteenth century, as a result of the spread of a new way of understanding and declining the romance genre, in the Oitanic domain we begin to see the use of prose in the production of chivalric novels. The phenomenon is expressed through the prosification of pre-existing works in verse or the writing of novels directly conceived in prose. The research intends to focus on the crucial point of junction between the use of prose as a consecutive and secondary instrument compared to verse, of which it had represented to all effects a transposition, and its use as an original expressive means aimed at the creation of new products; it also aims to deepen the dynamics of composition, between debt towards the tradition in verse and introduction of innovative elements in terms of form and content.	Fortunata Latella	English
2	Economia	07 07/A1 AGR/01	Smart agriculture, Green economy and innovation: strategic and operational analysis and indications in the post Covid-19 era	The research project aims to analyse the degree of innovation present in the agricultural sector. The nominated researcher will carry out his research activity in the field of primary sector economics, and will develop, implement and evaluate economic models relating to the production choices of farmers, with particular reference to policies that encourage more sustainable technological choices, as well as models relating to risk management by the agricultural producers themselves and to the operating mechanisms of the agri-food chain. The nominated researcher will apply methodologies of experimental economics and modelling of EU agricultural markets and policies, as well as advanced econometric techniques applied to large databases, to the results of experiments and to the results of sample surveys.	Maurizio Lanfranchi	English
3	Giurisprudenza	12 12/A1 IUS/01	Electronic communication services and personal data protection	The research project is aimed at investigating the subject of personal data and the protection tools placed over them, with particular reference to electronic communication services. The interest is aroused not only by the need to reflect on the impact that Regulation 679/2016 / EU has on the digital economy, by the recent issue of several directives by the European Union, which refer to the existence connection between personal data, electronic communication services and digital services (Dir. 2018/1972/UE, Dir. 2019/771/UE, Dir. 2019/770/UE). The goal is to reconstruct the rights of users of electronic communications and digital services, also taking into account the contributions from the European Court of Justice, Italian jurisprudence, and the provisions of the Authorities.	Maria Annunziata Astone	English
4	Ingegneria	09 09/E4 ING-INF/07	Development and metrological evaluation of resonant sensors for monitoring, diagnostics and health-care applications	Resonant sensors are used in many industrial applications, operating in a wide range of frequencies ranging from a few kHz up to a few GHz. This research project aims to develop and characterize sensors capable of operating in fluids (gas or liquids) for various application areas with operating frequencies falling within the aforementioned range. Therefore, different types of resonant sensors will be developed such as BAW/SAW (Bulk/Surface Acoustic Wave), and microwave sensors/resonators by optimizing the design and manufacturing parameters. For each device, the two main output parameters, the resonance frequency value and the quality factor, will be evaluated by means of ad hoc measurement systems and procedures, when exposed to variations in the physical/chemical quantity to be transduced.	Nicola Donato	English



ID	DEPARTMENT	AREA SC SSD	TITLE OF THE PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE	FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIRED
5	Medicina Clinica e Sperimentale	06 06/B1 MED/09	Microvascular complications and non alcoholic fatty liver disease in type 2 diabetes: role of gender-differences and new drugs	<p>NAFLD (Non alcoholic fatty liver disease) is a common disease in type 2 diabetes (T2DM) subjects. Its prevalence and its evolution into fibrosis seem to be influenced by gender, being more frequent in men than in pre-menopausal women. NAFLD confers an increased risk of cardiovascular disease and probably of developing microvascular complications. Recent evidences suggest a beneficial effect of GLP-1RAs and SGLT2-i on NAFLD; however it is not clear if this is similar in both sexes.</p> <p>In this study, involving T2DM outpatients observed for 2 years, we will evaluate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The association of NAFLD with microvascular complications and the influence of gender on this association;</li> <li>- The effectiveness of GLP-1RAs and SGLT2-i on various markers of liver disease and their impact on microvascular complications.</li> </ul>	Giuseppina Russo	English
6	Medicina Clinica e Sperimentale	05 05/E1 BIO/10	Application of nanotechnology in medicine for the development of highly effective targeted therapies (personalized nanomedicine), through the use of nanoparticles capable of delivering therapeutic loads to target sites and targeting therapy on identified molecular pathways	The study aims to explore the survival mechanisms of astroglial cancer cells, progression through the identification of pathways that regulate proliferation, invasion, drug resistance, apoptosis and autophagy, using RNAi (siRNA and microRNA), oligonucleotides (antisense). To understand the complex biochemical network and identify new molecular targets in astroglial tumors, a) new biochemical approaches for the study of metabolites in the tumor microenvironment b) drug delivery systems including nanoliposomes and / or polymers for the delivery of agents will be developed to tumor cells and to the microenvironment to optimize the therapeutic efficacy of anticancer agents and reduce their possible side effects. In addition, a slow-releasing ncRNA double-assembled nanoparticle will be developed.	M'hammed Aguenouz	English
7	Patologia umana dell'adulto e dell'età evolutiva "G. Barresi"	06 06/A2 MED/04	Hepatitis B virus (HBV)-related hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC): development of molecular bio-markers and personalized-therapy by the use of different next-generation sequencing approaches	HBV is a main risk factor for HCC development worldwide. HBV DNA integration into the host's genome is one of the most important etiological events in HBV-induced HCC. Integrated HBV DNA has been found in 85%-90% of HBV-related HCCs. The main aim of the study is the molecular characterization of viral integration sites in a large number of tumor and non-tumor liver tissues from patients with HBV-related HCC. In particular, we will analyze: (1) HBV integration hot-spots in cellular DNA, (2) any possible correlation between viral integration sites and activation of oncogenic signaling pathway, (3) production of short HBV RNA and of "virus-host" chimeric transcripts containing new epitopes (potential targets for personalized therapy), (4) the presence in blood of truncated forms of viral RNA and of "virus-host" chimeric RNA that might be used as new bio-markers for early detection of HCC.	Teresa Pollicino	English
8	Scienze Biomediche, Odontoiatriche e delle Immagini Morfologiche e Funzionali	05 05/E2 BIO/11	Extracellular matrix molecules in human tumors: role of proteoglycans, glycosaminoglycans and of the regulatory non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs)	The extracellular matrix (ECM) is a set of macromolecules involved in maintaining the structural and functional integrity of tissues. Epigenetic mechanisms and the altered expression of non-coding regulatory RNAs determine changes in the expression of proteoglycans and glycosaminoglycans of the ECM with particular implications in the process of cell growth, inflammation, angiogenesis, invasion and metastasis of tumor cells. Therefore, the project aims to study the epigenetic modifications and expression of microRNAs and other non-coding RNAs involved in the control of hyaluronic acid (HA) and proteoglycans metabolism in vitro models of human tumors.	Salvatore Campo	English

ID	DEPARTMENT	AREA SC SSD	TITLE OF THE PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE	FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIRED
9	Scienze Chimiche, Biologiche, Farmaceutiche e Ambientali	05 05/C1 BIO/07	Exploration of microbial diversity and exploitation of novel biomolecules from extremophiles	In the field of Microbial Ecology and Blue Biotechnologies, the research is aimed at exploring the diversity of microorganisms in extreme environments, such as the hydrothermal vents of the Aeolian Islands, and particularly referred to thermophiles, and the exploitation of new biomolecules of biotechnological interest in the medical, pharmaceutical and environmental sectors. The studies will be carried out using classical and molecular methods already consolidated in our laboratories. Bacterial polymers (exo- and intracellular) will be tested for their biological activities (antimicrobial, antibiofilm, antiviral and immunostimulating) and characterized for their physical and chemical properties (biosurfactants and bioplastics) useful in biotechnologies. Finally, we will proceed with the optimization of protocols for the production of low-cost and scalable products of industrial interest.	Concetta Gugliandolo	English
10	Scienze Cognitive, Psicologiche, Pedagogiche e Studi Culturali	11 11/C1 M-FIL/01	Subject, Mind, World: Contemporary Theoretical Perspectives	The ideal candidate should have high-profile philosophical skills to investigate the following topic: "Subject, Mind and the World: Contemporary Theoretical Perspectives". The framework will be the contemporary debate starting from the post-Kantian philosophies, from both philosophical and scientific side. The profiles of the candidates and their research projects must be compatible with the declaratory of the SSD: "Theoretical Philosophy". In particular, they must be compatible with the following theoretical lines of research: Theories of consciousness; Models of the Self; Epistemological and ontological foundations of the realism and idealism debate.	Paolo Giuspoli	English
11	Scienze Matematiche e Informatiche, Scienze Fisiche e Scienze della Terra	01 01/A2 MAT/02	Numerical semigroups, generalized numerical semigroups and affine semigroups: theoretical and computational aspects	The project aims to: 1. identify new approaches to Wilf's conjecture on numerical semigroups $S \subseteq \mathbb{N}^d$ , $d \geq 1$ , introducing and characterizing at the same time new classes of numerical semigroups that can satisfy it; 2. develop and implement procedures and algorithms relating to generalized numerical semigroups, useful for producing examples, verifying properties and testing the conjecture. The research requires tools of commutative algebra, algebraic combinatorics and computational methods.	Rosanna Utano	English
12	Scienze Veterinarie	07 07/H4 VET/08	Strategies for improving animal welfare kept for farming purposes through refinement or replacement of traditional surgical practices (mutilations)	Zootechnical mutilations take place systematically in almost all of the intensive farms in our country. The project aims to develop innovative strategies to guarantee the welfare of animals of zootechnical interest through the reduction and/or replacement of the application of some managerial surgical techniques (mutilations) with the use of good breeding practices, adequate surgical techniques, optimal use of perioperative analgesia, with specific regards to pig breeding (castrations, caudectomies, amputations of teeth) and ruminants (castrations, caudectomies, dehorning). The final aim is, therefore, to design an integrated innovation process for the development of innovative techniques concerning the methodologies and practices followed routinely.	Annamaria Passantino	English