UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DELL'AQUILA

Amministrazione centrale
Area Ricerca e Trasferimento Tecnologico
Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca

D.R. Rep. n. 1528/2023 - Prot. n. 129623 Attachments 1

of 07/12/2023

Year 2023 Tit. III Cl. 6 Fasc.21

PUBLIC COMPETITION FOR ONE POSITION TO Ph.D. COURSE IN PHYSICAL AND CHIMICAL SCIENCES - OF THE PROJECT

"QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security"

Grant Agreement n. 101120422

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

THE RECTOR
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF L'AQUILA

IN FORCE OF law August 13, 1984 n. 476, establishing rules on university scholarships;

IN FORCE OF law November 30, 1989 n. 398, establishing rules on university scholarships;

IN FORCE OF article n. 4 of the law of July, 3 July 1998 n. 210, which provides that the universities, with their own regulation establish the Ph.D. schools;

IN FORCE OF article 19 of the law of December, 30 2010 n. 240;

HAVING REGARD TO the D.P.C.M. of April 9, 2001 "Disposizioni per l'uniformità del trattamento sul diritto agli studi universitari" according to the article n. 4 of the law of December 2, n. 390;

HAVING REGARD TO the DD. MM. 509/1999 e 270/2004 which provides rules about the didactic autonomy of Universities;

HAVING REGARD TO D.M. n. 226 of 14 december 2021 "*Regolamento recante modalità di accreditamento delle sedi e dei corsi di dottorato e criteri per la istituzione dei corsi di dottorato da parte degli enti accreditati*";

HAVING REGARD TO the rules for the admission of foreign students to the university course pubblished on MUR web site;

HAVING REGARD TO the Regulation of the Ph.D. Schools of the University of L'Aquila;

HAVING REGARD TO Ethical Code of University of L'Aquila issued by D.R. n. 1777/2022 of July 30/12/2022 as amended;

HAVING REGARD TO the D.L. 36/2022, converted with amendments by Law 29 June 2022, n. 79;

CONSIDERED the transitional provisions of Article 14, paragraph 6-quaterdecies of Decree-Law 36/2022, converted with amendments by Law n. 79 of June 29, 2022;

HAVING REGARD TO the Grant Agreement n. 1011120422 of the project "QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security"

HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the Board of Professors of PhD course in Physical and Chemical Sciences of October 26, 2023, acquired as prot. n. 116899 of 27/10/2023,

HAVING REGARD TO the minutes of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Administration meeting of 20/11/2023 and of 21/11/2023;

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HEREBY DECREES

ART. 1

Public competition procedures based on qualifications and examinations for admission to the Ph.D. Course in Physical and Chemical Sciences at the University of L'Aquila.

Ph.D. Course in Physical and chemical sciences	
Positions available	**1**
Financial employment	First stage researcher
Start of business	By April 1^{st,} 2024
Grant Funding	Grant Agreement n. 101120422 of the project "QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security"
Local Project Coordinator	*Prof. Cristian Antonelli* cristian.antonelli@univaq.it
Project Description	The doctoral research network - QuNEST aims to gather diverse industrial and academic partners with strong scientific and technical expertise in quantum key distribution (QKD) technology and optical communications to establish a new, innovative, multi-disciplinary, training network for doctoral researchers (DR). With the high-level objective of training experts to design, develop, and drive the future quantum secure optical infrastructure forward. This doctoral network will train 11 DR fellows, leaning on the expertise of 17 partners: 6 universities, and 11 Industrial partners. (i.e., 1 Simulation software provider, 2 Telecom operators, 2 SMEs and 6 hardware vendors). From 7 European countries, QuNEST provides a unique and timely opportunity to train students in quantum physics and optical communications. The University of L'Aquila will share its unique fiber-optic testbed of INCIPICT with the QuNEST consortium (http://incipict.univaq.it/).
Candidate Profile	The candidates must have a Masters degree in Information Engineering or in Telecommunications or in Physics (or similar subjects) and a good knowledge of basic aspects of optical communications, photonics and quantum cryptography is required. A good knowledge of written and spoken English is required.
Duration	3 years
University Department Responsible for the Ph.D.Course	Department of Physical and chemical sciences
Web-site	*https://dsfc.univaq.it/it/la-ricerca/dottorato.html*
Ph.D. Course Coordinator	*Prof. Massimiliano Aschi* massimiliano.aschi@univaq.it

Admission Pre-requisites	Candidates should hold a Master-level Degrees in Information Engineering or in Telecommunications or in Physics (or similar subjects) or foreign degrees with certified equivalency or recognized as equivalent to the aforementioned qualifications. Candidates should have a strong background in fundamentals of optical communications, photonics and quantum cryptography At the time of recruitment, the candidates must not have resied, or carried out his/her activity in Italy for more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to recruitment date. When starting their contract selected researchers should be within the first four years of their careers. This means being both within a four years window following their most recent graduation and not having been awarded a prior doctoral degree so far.
Admission Procedure	Qualification assessment and oral exam. Candidates can take the oral exam via web (Microsoft Teams, Skype etc.). In the application form, the candidate must indicate a valid contact address. The testing commission will certify the identity of the candidate, to this end the candidate shall be required to show a valid identification document with recent photo, during the oral exam. Foreign applicants may sit the oral exam in English.
How to apply	The application must be submitted only via the online procedure available at: https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott39-sfc-qunest/ The documents must be attached in Italian or in English and in pdf format. The application and the attached documents are submitted automatically by closing the online procedure. So, no hard copy of the application and of the documents must be sent to the office.
Documents to be enclosed in the Application	1. Curriculum Vitae 2. Candidates holding Italian Degrees must provide a self-certification concerning their Bachelor-level Degree and Master-level Degree with a list of exams taken and marks obtained (only for candidates who have obtained their Degree in Italy or a EU country); If the candidate has a foreign Degree (Bachelor-level Degree and Master-level Degree) obtained in a non-EU country, a copy of the Degree certification obtained with a transcript of records of the exams taken and an Italian or English translation provided by the applicant under his/her responsibility; any other documentation deemed useful for the qualification assessment (Diploma Supplement, diploma translated and legalized by the competent Italian Diplomatic Authorities in the country where the degree has been awarded, declaration of value on site if already in possession, etc...). In any case, the examination commission reserves the right to evaluate the foreign Degree presented by the candidate. 3. The candidate must indicate the name of at least two professors with their e-mail address. The referee will receive an e-mail with the instruction to write the recommendation letter directly on line. 4. A summary of their Master Degree thesis (*Max 2 pag.*). 5. Motivational letter that highlights the coherence between the candidate's profile and the positions referred to in this announcement. 6. Any publications deemed appropriate for evaluation; 7. Other qualifications deemed appropriate for evaluation. 8. Photocopy of the candidate's identity card.

Language(s)	**Assessment of foreign language skills** English language skills and competence shall be assessed during the oral exam **Admission** The candidate may take the oral exam in ENGLISH
Exam schedule	*Evaluation of documentation:* **February 5, 2024** *Interview:* **February 14, 2024 ore 10:00** at the Department of Physical and chemical sciences – Classroom Signorelli - Coppito – L'Aquila

Assessment Criteria	The assessment procedure consists in two phases: qualification assessment and an oral exam. Scores are indicated out of a total of 100 points, assigned as follows:
	1. Qualification assessment: Max. 50/100 points attributed through assessment of the candidate's CV, motivational letter, publications and other qualifications. The minimum score required for admission to sit the oral exam is 40/100.
	
	2. Oral exam:
	  Max. 50/100, with a 40/100 passing mark. The oral exam aim is to evaluate the candidate's aptitude and motivation for research.
	
	  The oral exam will be mainly on topics related to basic aspects of optical communications, photonics and quantum cryptography.
	  The exam includes assessment of the candidate's English language skills. Foreign students may sit the oral exam in English.

Title evaluation results publication	Title evaluation results shall be published on the University website https://www.univaq.it/section.php?id=2207 and on Department website: *https://dsfc.univaq.it*

ART. 2
Requirements for Access

Candidates holding a Master-level Degree or other University Degree corresponding to criteria specified in DM – Ministerial Decree – 509/1999, or those holding a foreign Degree with certified equivalency, within the deadline of this selection announcement, may, with no limitations as to age or citizenship, apply to participate in the Ph.D. selection process.

Candidates holding a foreign Degree who have not as yet obtained certified equivalency required for the admission to the Ph.D. course, must include the following documents in their application (necessary for the Examination Commission to evaluate the Degree as conforming to requirements):

- a copy of the Degree certification (Bachelor-level Degree and Master-level Degree) obtained with a transcript of records of the exams taken and an Italian or English translation provided by the applicant under his/her responsibility;

- any other documentation deemed useful for the qualification assessment (Diploma Supplement, diploma translated and legalized by the competent Italian Diplomatic Authorities in the country where the degree has been awarded, declaration of value on site if already in possession, etc..).

The academic qualification held by the candidate must refer to a course with a duration of at least 4 years and allow the access to a Ph.D. course in the country in which it was awarded.

Eligibility of the qualification will be verified by the Course's Admission Committee and will only be granted for the sole purpose of admission to the chosen Ph.D. course.

The selection procedure is **NOT OPEN** to candidates who have already been awarded by a doctoral degree.

The selection procedure is **NOT OPEN** to candidates that at the time of recruitment, have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Italy for more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to recruitment date. When starting their contract selected researchers should be within the first four years of their careers. This means being both within a four years window following their most recent graduation.

ART. 3
Applications

1.The application form may only be submitted using the dedicated online procedure, available at: https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott39-sfc-qunest **by January 26, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. (CEST) (the expiration date of the notice)**

The application must be signed.
Lack of signature or typed signature is grounds for exclusion from selection.

There are 3 methodologies to sign it and the candidate must select one of them and read carefully they directions.
- By digital signature using smart card, USB token or remote signature which allow the owner to sign general documents by means of a signature software or a Remote Signature web portal made available by the Auditor. Those who have a Digital Signature smart card or USB token shall verify that they are compatible with the Digital Signature system integrated in the system server. If so, the owner may sign the application directly in the system server (e.g. ConFirma);
- Those who do not have compatible digital signature devices and the Remote Digital Signature Owners who may access a web portal for signing general documents shall save in their own PC the .pdf file generated by the system and, without modifying it, digitally sign it in CAdES format. A .p7m file will be generated, which shall be saved and uploaded again in the system. Any editing to the file before signing with the Digital Signature shall interfere with the automatic check of correspondence between the content of such a document and the original, and this will bring to the application exclusion;
- If none of the above-mentioned options can be used candidates shall save in their own PC the .pdf file generated by the system and, without modifying it, print and sign it with full original signature in the last page of the printed document. A scanned .pdf copy of such a document shall be produced and the file thus obtained shall be uploaded to the system.

In case the access to the platform is via SPID, it is not necessary to sign the application with one of the aforementioned methods.

2. When filling the application, candidates must:

- select the PhD course;

- select the type of place;

- attach the qualifications required and indicated in the form attached to the announcement, and a copy of the identity document.

The lack of a copy of the identity document is cause for exclusion from the selection.
All documentation must be attached in Italian or English and in pdf format.

-pay an administration fee of € 10,00. Candidates can make fee payment by clicking on "Paga con Pago PA", selecting form of payment:

➢ Credit/debit card;

➢ Direct payment from bank account;

➢ Other methods of payment and payment systems which allow for PagoPA procedures.

Only for candidates resident abroad: if it is not possible for candidates to pay using the PagoPA system, payment will also be accepted by bank transfer payable to: Università degli Studi dell'Aquila - Piazza Santa Margherita 2 - 67100 L'Aquila, avente le seguenti coordinate bancarie: IBAN: IT18T0538703601000000198036 - Codice SWIFT: BPMOIT22XXX - causale: "Entry in Ph.D. competition in _____". Only candidates making payment in this way are required, before deadline date, to attach a copy of the bank transfer payment and a declaration of failed administration fee payment by Pago PA.

Failure to pay the competition fee is cause for exclusion from the selection.

Under no circumstances can refunds be issued (i.e. exclusion, withdrawal, absence, etc.). The sole fee payment of € 10,00 does not in itself constitute an application in the absence of an online application form, even if payment is made before the deadline.

For all legal purposes, the application is to be considered as a self-certification of the data included therein, in accordance with articles 46 and 47 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments.

3. The candidate must request reference letters. A notification will be sent automatically sent to the selected referee only when the application has been fully submitted. The referee must compile the reference letter scheme and submit it by the deadline of **January 31, 2024, at 1:00** p.m. CEST.

Reference letters attached by the candidate will not be taken into consideration.

4. **The application is automatically sent to the University when the online procedure has finally been completed. Therefore, no paperwork needs to be delivered or sent to the University's offices.**

Candidates are invited to complete applications for the selection process well in advance of the closing date specified in this call. Candidates are responsible for verifying that the procedure is completed correctly. No complaints will be accepted for any malfunctioning of the IT system due to overload experienced by candidates near the closing date.

After the deadline of the call it will no longer be possible to change the application for participation.

In force of Italian Law no. 104/92, as amended by Italian Law no. 17/99, disabled candidates may request an individual examination (with the use of aids, any additional time required, etc.) to complete the required entry examinations.

According to the art. 15 of Law 183/2011 and following the interpretation done by the Directive of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, signed by the Minister of Public Administration and Simplification, n. 61547 of 22/12/2011, the University can't accept certifications issued by other Public Administrations.

Therefore, if the titles declared by candidates and attached to the application for admission to the competition, have been issued by Italian public universities, they must only be self-certified.

Following the rules on self-certification, the University will verify the veracity of the self-certification, pursuant to the Consolidated Law on Finance. 445/2000.

ART. 4
Examinations

1. The examination procedures and the dates of the exams are indicated in art. 1.

This date is to be regarded as official legally-binding call.

Candidates will therefore not receive any other sort of call or summons by the University as to the exams prescribed for the Ph.D. Course they have applied for.

The candidate does not have to be present during qualification assessment procedures.

A candidate who is not present at the time and place indicated for the examination will automatically excluded from the competition.

Any changes in dates and times will be made public on the university web-site

2. To sit the prescribed exams for the course applied for, candidates must be present on the dates and times indicated in the above mentioned scheme indicated in the art. 1 of this notice and provide a valid identification card.
Candidates sit the oral exam via web conference communication systems (Microsoft Teams). The candidate is required to provide contact information in their application and guarantee the use of a web-cam to allow the Examination Committee to verify the candidate's identity.

3. Foreign applicants may sit the oral exam in English.

ART. 5
Examination Committee
Assessment Criteria and Ranking List

The Examination Committee is appointed by the Rector through a specific decree and is composed by a minimum of three to a maximum of five members among professors and assistant professors. At least one of the members must be full Professor.

Having regard to Italian Law about "Equal Opportunities for Men and Women" and specifically to Art. 57 of the Leg. Decree n. 165, 30 March 2001, at least one third of the Examining Board has to be women, except impossibility to be demonstrated when the Board proposal is made. In any case the gender balance must be respected: each gender must be represented at least by one third of components.

Having regard to Art. 35 bis of the Leg. Decree n. 165, 30 March 2001, Individuals condemned for crimes – even if not yet sentenced – in Book II of the Italian Penal Code ("crimes by civil servants against public administration") cannot be nominated as members of the Examining Board.

Teachers who have issued letters of reference to candidates cannot be part of the exam boards.

The Commission can carry out the preliminary meeting and the meeting relating to the evaluation of the candidates' qualifications electronically. Insofar as they are compatible, the rules of the University Regulations on the subject are guided (D.R. n. 319/2020 17/03/2020)

The candidate's scores will be indicated out of a total of 100 points.

The results of the assessment of the qualifications will be published on the web site of the University https://www.univaq.it/section.php?id=2207 and on the web site of the concerned Department.

The interview will focus on the topics indicated in the sheet (art.1).

At the end of the session the Examination Committee draws up the list of the interviewed applicants with the obtained scores.
The lists, signed by the President and by the secretary of the Examination Committee will be published on the site of the Department at which the test was conducted, on the same day of the oral examination. (https://dsfc.univaq.it/phdpc/).

Once the competition have been completed, the Examination Committee draws up two final ranking lists, the University Administration makes this list public by publishing the list on the official notice board of the University and on the University web site provided, the validity of the examination procedure has been checked.

Candidates will be admitted to the course according to the order established in the general merit ranking within the limit of the places specified in the announcement.

In case of equal merit, the Ph.D. position will be conferred to the younger candidate.

This selection is also valid to get the employment position as first stage researcher.

ART. 6
Enrolment in Ph.D. Courses

Successful candidate must submit their enrolment through the University of L'Aquila official website https://www.univaq.it/section.php?id=2207, within 15 days from online publication of selection results.

No information will be sent to the candidate's home. Candidate granted admission to the Courses are responsible for checking enrolment dates and procedures.

Failure to enroll by the deadlines set for each Course will be considered as drop out and the place will subsequently be assigned to the next candidate according to the ranking.

The enrolment forms, available on the University website, duly signed, must be delivered to the "Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca", within the deadline foreseen for the enrolment. The documents can be delivered in one of the following ways:

• by certified e-mail (PEC) addressed to protocollo@pec.univaq.it.
The certified e-mail account used must be the candidate's personal account. The administration shall not accept documents from candidates using certified e-mail accounts belonging to other individuals or to institutions. The University Administration declines all responsibility for any non-deliveries or misdeliveries of the documents sent via PEC or in case the documents attached to it are non-readable or damaged.
The date of submission will be indicated on the receipt sent automatically by the PEC system.

• by mail addressed to concorso.dottorati@univaq.it. All documentation must be attached in pdf format.

The documents to submit compulsory are the followings:
a) Enrolment form;
b) Self-Declaration in substitution of certification and Self-Declaration in substitution of attested affidavit in accordance with articles 46 and 47 of the Presidential Decree – 28th December, 2000, n.-445 (using the forms available on the University website https://www.univaq.it/section.php?id=684);
c) a copy of an identity document;
d) a copy of the candidate's fiscal-code number;
e) a copy of the candidate's "Italian-residency permit" (permesso di soggiorno) – only for non-EU citizens.

Foreign citizens must declare possessing the following requisites:
1) that they benefit from civil rights and right to vote in their country;
2) that, aside from Italian citizenship, they possess all other requisites required for citizens of the Italian Republic.

Applicants holding a university Degree awarded abroad must enclose, also, the following documents, translated and certified by competent Italian Diplomatic Authorities:
- copy of their university degree indicating their final mark;
- degree transcripts indicating the exams taken during their course and marks awarded.

Alternatively, the winner may present the certificate of comparability issued by CIMEA as part of the agreement stipulated with the University of L'Aquila (https://www.cimea.it/EN/pagina-attestati-di-comparabilita-e-verifica-dei-titoli).

For the registration, please enter the service Diplome, via the following link https://cimea.diplo-me.eu/univaq/#/auth/login.

If the above documentation is not available at the time of enrolment, the candidate's enrolment shall be deemed "subject to verification". In this case all above mentioned compulsory documentation must be consigned by and no later than the June 30, 2024; failure to do so will result in expulsion from the course.

Within 15 days from the start of the Ph.D. Course, successful candidate must send by mail at dsfc.sac@strutture.univaq.it, (Accounting Office of Department of Physical and Chemical Sciences) a photocopy of a receipt from the INPS (national social security service), certifying that they have been registered in "posizione contributiva alla gestione separate" (for information visit the INPS web-site at www.inps.it).

False declarations shall lead to the candidate's expulsion from the Ph.D. course and to prescribed sanctions for such offenses, vacant positions will be assigned to other candidates according to the ranking list.

Successful candidates who do not want to enroll in the course they have been selected for, must immediately send a signed letter of renouncement enclosing a photocopy (front-back) of their identity card.

Candidates selected as replacements must write a letter of acceptance within three days of notification that they have been accepted. All other necessary documents indicated in this announcement must be consigned within, and no later than, ten days after receiving notification.

ART. 7
Salary amount

The Research employment contract, indicated in the Ph.D. chart (art. 1) is assigned according to the ranking list drawn up by the Examination Committee as established in the previous art. 5.

The successful candidate will receive a gross living allowance per year of € 39.739,20 (including income tax and retirement pension contribution). This amount is subject to INPS (Social Security Service) contributions amounting to 35,03 % for the year 2023 of which 11,677 % is to be paid by the grant beneficiary.

The successful candidate will receive a mobility allowance of € 7.200,00 per year and a family allowance (depending on family status at the date of recruitment) of € 5.940,00 per year.

The above salary cannot be accumulated with other grants except for those provided by national or foreign institutions which are aimed at integrating the Ph.D. student's research activity with periods abroad.

The total of the living allowance will be paid monthly.

ART. 8
Lessons Abroad

During the three years of the PhD course, the Ph.D. student will to spend time in other participating institutions, according to the Local Project Coordinator advise.
The Ph.D. student <u>before going abroad,</u> must sent to the Ph.D. office, *Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca,* the following documents*:*
- signed authorization by the course Coordinator for training/study periods abroad of less than 6 months or
- board resolution allowing a period of over 6 months.

<u>Upon returning to Italy</u> the Ph.D. student shall present to the course Coordinator the certification from the foreign institution stating the Ph.D. student's attendance, to be transmitted to *Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca.*

ART. 9
Tuition Fees

All Ph.D. students are exempted from tuition payments. All Ph.D. students must only pay € 156,00; the Regional tax (€ 140,00) and aduty stamp "marca da bollo" (€ 16,00).
Late payment will result in a € 52.00 fine.

ART. 10
Rights and Duties

1. Ph.D. students are obliged to attend lessons and carry out all prescribed activities regularly in accordance with the programs and schedules set by the Board of Professors and according to the Local Project Coordinator of the project "QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security".

2. He/She will have to partecipate to the activities of the project "QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security" o as specified by the Program and/or required by the Project Coordinator and/or Supervisors, including involments in meetings, schools, workshops and training activities.

3. He/She will write up the results of research activity and present research papers and publications at meetings and conferences as advised by Supervisors.

4. The University provides insurance coverage for the entire duration of the Ph.D. course and for activities pertaining to the course.

5. Interruptions in attendance shall be allowed for, illness or injury for periods of 30 days or more.

6. Maternity/paternity leave and leave for adoption or foster care may also be authorized. Maternity-leave laws and regulations as indicated in Gazzetta Ufficiale n. 247 of 23rd October, 2007 shall be applied.

7. A Ph.D. student's unexcused absence or non-fulfillment of obligations shall result in his/her exclusion from the course by the Board of Professors.

8. Ph.D. students enrolled at the University of L'Aquila may carry out limited teaching or tutoring activities within the University's Bachelor and Master-level degree courses if so established and programmed by the Board of Professors in agreement with the University Department.

9. Ph.D. students must preserve the confidentiality in information, knowings and materials that the organizations will make available for the study and research activities. They must not disclose beyond subject different by the ones that gave to them, in accordance with the Ph.D Course Regulation of this University.

ART. 11
Graduation

The title of Doctoral degree (Dott. Ric or Ph.D.) will be awarded provided a positive evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis, taking into account the achieved results.

The Ph.D. thesis can be written in Italian or in English and has to have an abstract in English. The Ph.D. thesis can be written in a language different form Italian or English provided the Board of Professors's authorization.

The evaluation committee for the Ph.D. thesis defence will be appointed according to the Ph.D. Courses University Rules.

ART. 12
Head of the Competition Procedure

According to art. 5 of law 07/08/1990, n. 241, the Head of the Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca of the University of L'Aquila (Piazza Santa Margherita, 2 – Palazzo Camponeschi - L'Aquila) shall be responsible for the competition procedure.

ART. 13
Legal Reference

For all other matters not foreseen or included in this announcement we shall refer to Law n. 210 of 03/07/98, Law n. 240 of 30/12/2010, Ministerial Decree 226/2021 and to the "Regolamento dei corsi di Dottorato di Ricerca" (Ph.D. regulations) of this University and to the Grant Agreement N. 101120422 of the project "QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security"

This announcement is available at: https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2207&lang_s=en

Further information may be requested by contacting the competent Ph.D. office:
Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca – tel. 0862/432032/432055/432704/432061/432032
e-mail: dot@strutture.univaq.it.

Further information concerning the Project "**QuNEST**" may be requested by contacting the Local Project Coordinator: *Professor Cristian Antonelli* cristian.antonelli@univaq.it

L'Aquila, December 7, 2023

The Rector of the University of L'Aquila
Signed Prof. Edoardo Alesse

Unità Organizzativa Responsabile: *Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca*
Palazzo Camponeschi - Piazza Santa Margherita, 2 – 67100 L'Aquila - e-mail dot@strutture.univaq.it – fax 0862/431214
Responsabile del Settore: Rossana Rotondi – tel. 0862/432032
Per eventuali informazioni rivolgersi a: Simonetta Ricciardi – tel. 0862/432055 - Veronica Tomei – tel. 0862/432704 -Valeria Gentile – tel.- 0862/432061

Technical guidelines for the submission of the application form for Ph.D. course in Physical and chimical sciences - GRANT AGREEMENT N. 101120422 - of the project "QuNEST – Quantum Enhanced Optical Communication Network Security"

XXXIX cycle

Online procedure, available at: https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott39-sfc-qunest/
until 1:00 p.m. (CEST) on January 26, 2024 (the expiration date of the notice)

1. The application form must only be submitted online. No hard copy of the application must be sent by post.

2. Before filling in the application form, please read carefully the selection announcement and to verify the eligibility criteria and the documents to be submitted.

3. WATCH OUT: ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE UPLOADED IN PDF FORMAT AND, IN SOME CASES, THEY MUST BE PRINTED, SIGNED AND UPLOADED. WE ADVISE APPLICANTS TO USE A PC CONNECTED WITH A PRINTER AND A SCANNER.

4. It is possible to fill in the application form by logging in at different times and saving the data. In order to access the application form that has been partly completed you must click on Modify to complete it.

5. Further information may be requested through HELP POINT ONLINE, accessible from the website https://help.univaq.it/

6. For technical problems contact support via the link at the bottom of the page https://pica.cineca.it/univaq.

7. Applicants with foreign qualifications that have not been legally recognized as equivalent to Italian degrees must read art. 2 of the selection announcement and upload the required documents in the relevant section of the online application.

8. After the application has been correctly filled in and submitted, applicants will receive an email with the confirmation of the submission.

1. DATA REGISTRATION

To start the registration go to the website https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott39-sfc-qunest/
Access can be done via SPID. In the absence of SPID, at the first access applicants need to register by clicking on 'Register' and fill in the required data. If applicants already have LOGINMIUR credentials, they don't need to register again. They must access with their LOGINMIUR username and password in the relevant field LOGINMIUR.

In case you forgot username and password, click on 'Forgot your credentials?'.

After completing the data, click on 'New Registration'. Applicants will receive an email with the data to confirm their registration. In case you don't receive or cannot read the email, must contact support via the link at the bottom of the page https://pica.cineca.it/univaq.

2. APPLICATION FORM ACCESS

Once registered it is possible to access the website https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/dott39-sfc-qunest/
and login with username and password to fill in the application form by clicking on 'New Submission'. Before filling in the application form, applicants can modify their personal data by clicking on the top right button (User Profile) and select what to modify.

The first section to be filled in is "PHD COURSE": the applicant must select the Ph.D. course and one of the curricula (where foreseen) and declare the position he/she is applying for
After that, the candidate is allowed to sit the oral exam abroad by skype or similar technologies. For that he/she must communicate a skype address or other links.

WATCH OUT: after completing each section of the form, the applicant must click on the button "SAVE AND PROCEED". Only if the data have been correctly filled in, the applicant can go to the next section. Otherwise error messages will display and will be compulsory to correct the data.

The section named "DECLARATIONS" display a list of declarations concerning the veracity of data inserted and the treatment of the personal data inserted in the application form.

The third section to be filled is "PERSONAL DATA". This section is partially filled by transferring data from the registration procedure thus the candidate must complete the missing items. In case of mistakes in personal data, applicants can modify them by clicking on the top right button (User Profile).

In the following section "Admission requirements" applicants must select one out of the four options proposed. After that applicants must specify the qualification awarded or to be awarde by the completion date of the enrollment, and in any case no later than the start date of the course.

In the following section "FURTHER DECLARATIONS" the applicants must compulsory declare the level of knowledge of English language and if they are in situations preventing the receiving of the scholarship and/or of special needs.

In the section named "ATTACHMENTS" the applicant can upload the identity card (or passport) and all the qualifications and certifications required in order to participate to the selection.
The references letters cannot be uploaded in this section: for these letters the applicant must follow a different procedures written above.

The applicant can write a self-declaration about the degree obtained and about all the exams passed. The self-declaration concerning the degrees obtained, can be written in a simple paper according to the scheme available below, or downloading the concerned form if it is available on the website of the home University.
The applicant must read carefully the list of documents required for the Ph.D. course, in order to speed up the procedure.

In this section you must upload the documents requested for the recognition of the foreign academic degree (art. 2 of the selection announcement - Admission of applicants with foreign (non-Italian) qualifications).
The files must be in pdf format and readable. For each file a brief description is needed.

Now, the candidate who has completed the application must return to the "Dashboard" and perform "Verify".
If the system detects errors it is necessary to edit the application and proceed with "Verify" again.

If the system does not indicate any errors, the candidate returns again to the "Dashboard" and selecting "Payment" makes the payment of the contribution of € 10.00 through "Pago PA" (Note: only candidates residing abroad, who do not have an Italian bank account, can make the payment by bank transfer).

After completing this section applicants will be redirected to the dashboard where they can see the draft of their application form. By pressing the bottom "Sign and submit" the process is finalised. By clicking on "Sign" bottom the process is finalise and the PDF file of application is generated.

The application must be signed. <u>The absence of the signature, or of the handwritten signature, implicates the exclusion from the public competition.</u>

There are 3 methodologies to sign it and the candidate must select one of them and read carefully they directions. According to article 3 of the call the possible methodologies are the following:

- By digital signature using smart card, USB token or remote signature which allow the owner to sign general documents by means of a signature software or a Remote Signature web portal made available by the Auditor. Those who have a Digital Signature smart card or USB token shall verify that they are compatible with the Digital Signature system integrated in the system server. If so, the owner may sign the application directly in the system server (e.g. ConFirma);

- Those who do not have compatible digital signature devices and the Remote Digital Signature Owners who may access a web portal for signing general documents shall save in their own PC the .pdf file generated by the system and, without modifying it, digitally sign it in CAdES format. A .p7m file will be generated, which shall be saved and uploaded again in the system. Any editing to the file before signing with the Digital Signature shall interfere with the automatic check of correspondence between the content of such a document and the original, and this will bring to the application exclusion;

- If none of the above-mentioned options can be used candidates shall save in their own PC the .pdf file generated by the system and, without modifying it, print and sign it with full original signature in the last page of the printed document. A scanned .pdf copy of such a document shall be produced and the file thus obtained shall be uploaded to the system.

In case the access to the platform is via SPID, it is not necessary to sign the application with one of the aforementioned methods.

In case the applicant decides to sign the PDF file he/she must verify that the file that is going to be upload is complete because the system accept only one PDF file.

After the submission applicants will receive an email with the confirmation of the submission. Applicants will always be able to login to their account, personal data and application form.

3. REFERENCE LETTERS

The applicant must indicate the names and addresses at least two referees. The applicant must write in the form the official email address of the referee. A private email address is not allowed.

The referee will be informed of the candidates requirement and receive a reference letter form that he/she must submit by January 31, 2024 at 1 o'clock p.m. CEST.

We advise applicants to inform referees that they will receive the request. When the referee fills in the letter and submits it, the applicant will receive an email specifying that the letter has been upload. Applicants, however, can

always check the status of the request. Reference letters uploaded by applicants or sent by the referent directly to the university, will not be taken into consideration.

If applicants wish to change the referee they must contact support via the link at the bottom of the page https://pica.cineca.it/univaq.

4. APPLICATION FORM MODIFICATION OR WITHDRAWAL

Modifications of the application form after the pdf has been created are possible:
- If they have submitted the application form and received the email of confirmation applicants cannot modify the application form but they will be able to withdraw it following the relevant procedure available on the dashboard and submit a new application form.
- If they have created the pdf file but they have not completed the submission (the pdf file has not been uploaded yet and so they haven't received the email of confirmation) then they must contact support via the link at the bottom of the page https://pica.cineca.it/univaq and ask to have the application re-opened. In the email they must specify the reason of their request, the ID of their application form and attach copy of their identity document.

Self-Declaration in substitution of certification
(art. 46 D.P.R – 28th December 2000, n.445)

and/or

Self-Declaration in substitution of attested affidavit
(art. 47 D.P.R 28th December, 2000 n.445)

The undersigned _____ born in (place of birth) _____ on (date of birth)_____

residing in (city/State/Country) _____ Postal code _____ at (address) _____

DECLARES:

1) in compliance to art(s). 46,47 and 38, D.P.R 28/12/2000, n.445 that he/she has been conferred the following Degree:

Bachelor-level Degree in (title) _____ at (name of University or College issuing the Degree) _____ on (date issued) _____, mark _____

and that he/she passed the following exams:

EXAM (title of the exam/course)	MARK	DATE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

2) in compliance to art(s). 46,47 and 38, D.P.R 28/12/2000, n.445 that he/she has been conferred the following Degree:

Master-level Degree in (title) _____ at (name of University or College issuing the Degree) _____ on (date issued) _____,

and that he/she passed at today the following exams:

EXAM (title of the exam/course)	MARK	DATE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

The undersigned declares that he/she is aware of the sanctions applied in case of false statements established in art.76 D.P.R. 28/12/2014, n.445 and of the consequent loss of any benefits obtained by making false statements as established in art. 75 D.P.R. 28/12/2014, n.445.

The undersigned, under penalty of nullity of the application, shall enclose a photocopy of a valid ID.

Date, _____

_____
(Applicant's signature

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DELL'AQUILA

Amministrazione centrale

Area Ricerca e Trasferimento Tecnologico
Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca