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ADMISSION CALL TO PHD PROGRAM IN MANAGEMENT, FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING – XL CYCLE IN AGREEMENT

THE RECTOR

- Given the Statute of Università Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC, specifically *Art. 25*;
- Given the Act of 9 May 1989, no. 168;
- Given the Act of 30 January 1989, no. 398;
- Given the Act of 19 November 1990, no. 341 and subsequent amendments;
- Given the Act of 15 May 1997, no. 127 and subsequent amendments;
- Given Articles 68 and subsequent amendments of the Decree of the President of the Republic of 11 July 1980, no. 382, instituting the PhD Programs;
- Given the Act of 3 July 1998, no. 210, specifically *Art. 4*, as amended by *Art. 19*, Paragraph 1 of the Act of 30 December, 2010, no. 240;
- Given the Act of 13 August 1984, no. 476 and subsequent amendments, specifically *Art. 2* as amended by *Art. 5* of the Legislative Decree of 14 September 2011, no. 167;
- Given the Ministerial Decree of 8 February 2013, no. 45;
- Given the Ministerial Decree of 14 December 2021, no. 226;
- Given the Ministerial Decree of 23 February 2022, no. 247;
- Given the Act of 12 April 2022, no. 33;
- Given the New Guidelines for the accreditation of doctoral courses adopted by Ministerial Decree of 22 March 2022, no. 301;
- Given the regulation that governs the PhD Programs at Università Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC, issued with the Rector's Decree of 23 April 2014, no. 257 and updated with Rector's Decree of 25 March 2022, no. 879;
- Given the Ministerial Decree of 24 April 2024, no. 630, attributing funding within the National Recovery & Resilience Plan PNRR (Mission 4, component 2, investment 3.3 – Introduction of innovative doctoral programs that meet the innovation needs of companies and promote companies' recruitment of researchers) for new scholarships for innovative PhD courses that meet the innovation needs of companies for the academic years 2023/2024 and 2024/25 ;
- Given the resolution of the Department Board of February 29, 2024;
- Given the resolution of the University Faculty Board of March 4, 2024;
- Given the resolution of the Administration Board of March 12, 2024;
- Given the Regulations of the Doctoral Program in Management, Finance, and Accounting – XL Cycle of the Università Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC, issued by Rectoral Decree No. 1155 of March 15, 2024;

DECREES

Art. 1 - Activation

Università Carlo Cattaneo – LIUC, within in the 40th cycle of the PhD program in *Management, Finance and Accounting*, activated by Rector's Decree no. 1156 of 15 March 2024, issues a further call for



applications for admission to no. 5 places on the innovative doctoral program, which will be co-financed, according to Ministerial Decree no. 630 of 24 April 2024, allocating co-funding from the PNRR (Mission 4, component 2, investment 3.3 - Introduction of innovative doctoral programs that meet the innovation needs of companies and promote companies' recruitment of researchers) and by the company identified as partners in the innovative doctoral program and involved in the definition of the course of studies.

The research projects linked to the individual scholarships subject of this call must:

- a. be coherent with the aims and objectives of (EU) Regulation 2021/241, with the general strategy and the detailed description of the PNRR Component;
- b. aim to achieve specific results with reference to any milestones and targets that may be assigned to the Investment within the terms of the Plan;
- c. respect the "do no significant harm" (DNSH) principle according to Article 17 of (EU) regulation 2020/852 and in accordance with the European Commission Technical guidance Notice (European Commission 2021/C58/01);
- d. be suitable to address and bridge gender inequalities;
- e. support the participation of women and young people, also in accordance with decree law no.77 of 31 May 2021 (so-called Decreto Semplificazioni), as amended by conversion law no.108 of 29 July 2021, in relation to administration of the PNRR.

The Program is delivered in English.

The activation of the Program is subject to the completion of the verification procedures of the requirements by ANVUR. In the case of failure of accreditation, the non-activation of the Program may be decided, with a subsequent Rector's Decree,.

Art. 2 - Selection

Admission offers are made following a public selection process which provides a ranking of the applicants deemed eligible to attend the Program.

Art. 3 - Contributions and economic support

Places subject to the Call for applications:

5 places with exemption from admission and tuition fees and with scholarship in accordance with the provisions of Ministerial Decree no. 630 of 24 April 2024, financed by the PNRR, which allocates PNRR funding (Mission 4, component 2, investment 3.3 - Introduction of innovative doctoral programs that meet the innovation needs of companies and promote companies' recruitment of researchers) and by partner companies. The scholarships are tied to the following research themes:

- How the adoption of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI), such as ChatGPT, influences work practices and organizational roles in businesses, contributing to their competitiveness.



- Reviewing their supply chain and sales processes in the light of new opportunities offered by AI in SMEs, particularly with regard to product configuration, inventory management, new sales and market activities.
- Development of architectures and models for interoperability between medical systems, with the aim of improving the management of patient information assets and optimizing synergies between production departments and administrative processes.
- Technology solutions to support processes in healthcare: monitoring, indicators and simulation for patient logistics and space and resource management.
- Performance Measurement and Data Management in Sustainability: a new sustainability strategy dashboard in the Business Intelligence system and non-financial reporting in preparation for CSRD.

In accordance with Ministerial Decree no. 630 of 24 April 2024 the reception of the above scholarships shall be subject to the following requirements:

- over the three-year period, the performance of periods of study and research in companies, including non-continuous ones, from a minimum of six (6) months to a maximum of eighteen (18) months, and periods of study and research abroad, including non-continuous ones, from a minimum of six (6) months up to the maximum limit provided for in Article 9, paragraph 3, of the Decree of the Minister of Universities and Research no. 226 of 14 December 2021;
- production by the PhD student of a semestral report, broken down into months, indicating time spent in university, in company and abroad with a summary of the main activities carried out; the report should be drawn up using through the dedicated MUR online platform and using the forms provided therein.

The candidate must be aware from the time of application that the scholarship shall be revoked in the following cases:

- doctoral studies not carried out according to the project accepted for funding and without having previously requested and obtained the necessary authorization from MUR;
- failure to carry out periods of study and research in companies and abroad as required by Ministerial Decree no. 630 of 24 April 2024.

The places with the benefit of a scholarship may be covered by any available financial resources from public or private entities as long as confirmed by the expiry date of the Call with a signed letter of intent.

The course program, illustrated in detail in the course Regulations, includes lessons and seminars on areas of interest referred to in the PNRR (European incentives), in particular topics regarding circular and sustainable innovation in terms of digitalization and Industry 4.0, of the supply chain and logistics,



of financial and managerial accounting, with emphasis on developing reporting according to Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) parameters.

Topics are studied both from a theoretical perspective with face-to-face teaching, and at a highly developed experiential level thanks to the presence of “laboratories” set up to effectively coordinate teaching, research and third mission activities. For example, the i-IFAB is a laboratory dedicated to topics regarding the digital transition at the level of industrial production; the Green-Transition Hub is a center for the pooling of knowledge and skills regarding themes of ecological transition, directing students and firms towards Sustainability and Circular Economy objectives and spreading knowledge of these topics to stakeholders and society.

Art. 4 - Admission requirements

The application form may be submitted, without restrictions of citizenship, by whoever holds a Laurea Magistrale, laurea specialistica or laurea (5-year) with minimum final mark of 95/110) or equivalent foreign academic degree, with minimum mark of 86/100, or persons who expect to achieve such a qualification by 31 October 2024 (failure to do so will render admission void in case of selection) in the following subjects (with reference to Ministerial regulations):

- LM-77 Economics – Business Administration
- LM-16 Finance
- LM-56 Economics
- LM-31 Engineering Management
- LM-59 Studies in Public and Corporate Communication and Advertising
- LM-63 Studies in Public Administration
- LM-76 Economics for the Environment and Culture

Applications from candidates holding a master’s degree (or equivalent) in subject areas other than those listed above, but whose qualifications and experience demonstrate knowledge of the subjects of the Program, shall be considered and assessed by the Admission Committee.

Applicants who expect to graduate after the application deadline shall be considered and may be admitted conditionally as long as they have obtained an average mark of 25/30 (or 83/100 in the case of courses studied abroad). The degree must be obtained with final mark of 95/110 (equivalent to 86/100 in the case of a foreign degree). Failure to do so will render their admission void.

Candidates shall provide a self-certification of achievement of the degree no later than 31/10/2024. Failure to do so will render any admission void.

Art. 5 - Submission of application for admission

To apply for admission, the applicant should:

- connect to the site <https://sol.liuc.it>;
- register by entering the required general/personal information and contact details, pledging to communicate any change;
- complete the online application form by entering the required information;
- attach by uploading onto the site the following documents in PDF format:



- scan of the application request, which can be downloaded from the website, duly filled in and with handwritten signature
- signed copy (both sides) of a valid personal identity document
- copy (both sides) of personal tax code (if available)
- Diploma Supplement or Degree Certificate (or self-certification if the qualification has been obtained in Italy) stating the name of the University where obtained, official study duration, exams passed, ECTS and related study areas, final mark and related grading scales. If the degree is yet to be obtained, average mark of the exams already taken and related grading scales.
- curriculum vitae, in Italian or English
- two reference letters, in Italian or English, with handwritten signature, completed according to the format published on the website
- official proof of international test score GMAT, GRE, or other equivalent test offered by internationally recognized and accredited agencies (if taken)
- internationally recognized English language certifications, with proof of score (if applicable)
- list of publications of academic/scientific relevance, if applicable, and/or any other qualifications or information useful to assess the applicant's aptitude for research
- a short statement of purpose (SOP) written according to the format shown and available on the website (800 words maximum, including spaces but not including bibliography and figures) concerning an individual presentation of the candidate and the candidate's motivation for pursuing the PhD
- a paper outlining the development of the doctoral research on one of the research topics indicated in art. 3, presented according to the guidelines published on the website:
<https://www.liuc.it/corsi-di-studio/phd-program>.

All documents may be presented in Italian or English.

If drafted in another language, they must be translated into Italian or English.

With completion of the application request, the candidate declares:

- possession of civil and political rights;
- being /not being enrolled in a bachelor's or master's degree course or other master or specialisation course;
- having been/or not having been awarded another scholarship (even for one year) for another PhD Program;
- being / not being an employee of the Italian Public Administration and in the event of a scholarship assignment, the commitment to be placed on unpaid leave for the duration of the Program
- the commitment to attend, if admitted, the Program in the manner prescribed in the Regulations of the Program and to participate in the activities planned for doctoral candidates within the University;
- awareness that at any time during the application process, and even after the start of the Program, the Administration may check the authenticity of the statements made and require the submission of original documents, having the right at all times, with sound reason, to exclude



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applicants from the selection process or from the Program, due to lack of fulfilment of requirements established by this call;

- to be aware of the penalties that may be incurred in the case of false declarations or data content not corresponding to the truth, according to Art. 76 of the DPR, 28 December, 2000, no. 445.

The entire application procedure must be concluded online by the final deadline of 23 August 2024 at 17:00 CEST.

Complete information and instructions for sending the application are available at:
<http://www.liuc.it/phd>.

The University administration assumes no responsibility for loss of communications, due to errors in contact details on the part of the applicant or late communication of changes of the same, or to failures in electronic communications not attributable to the administration itself.

Art. 6 - Application for admission: additional documentation for foreign citizens or holders of a foreign qualification

In addition to the provisions of *Art. 5* and in accordance with *Art. 4*, applicants in possession of an academic qualification obtained at a foreign university should also attach the following documentation:

- for applicants having obtained their diploma in another EU country:
 - Diploma Supplement
- for applicants having obtained their diploma from a NON-EU country:
 - Legalized copy of original Degree or master's degree diploma with translation if not in English and/or
 - Declaration of Value issued by the Italian Embassy or Consulate or Italian Cultural Institute responsible for the geographical area of the city where university degree was obtained and/or
 - Declaration of Equivalence issued by an Italian University.

If, at the time of submission, applicants do not yet have the relative Declaration of Value or Declaration of Equivalence, the Admission Committee shall decide on the validity of the diploma according to the applicable regulations in force in Italy and in the country in which the diploma was awarded and to international agreements regarding the recognition of qualifications for continuing study, for the sole purpose of admission to the course.

To request this evaluation, applicants must attach the following documents to the application:



- Degree or Master diploma with relative mark, if already obtained;
- Certificate showing examinations passed during university degree or Master course, with marks awarded;
- Any other documentation that may be useful to assess eligibility (e.g. certificate of validity issued by ENIC-NARIC agencies).

The Committee shall evaluate the eligibility of foreign qualifications based on the documentation attached to the application. Evaluation shall be possible only where all the necessary information is available (type of qualification; duration of course; name of academic institution awarding the qualification; date of award; mark....). The Board may exclude any applicant whose documentation does not provide enough information for the evaluation.

To be considered valid for the application, the above documents must be issued by the relevant universities in Italian or English.

Art. 7 - Method of selection of applicants

Applicants are selected on the basis of their documented qualifications and in accordance with the following three criteria:

- a) having the necessary knowledge and expertise on the Program's topics
- b) aptitude for scientific research and coherence between scientific background and PhD Program main subjects, the originality and rigor of the research project presented
- c) competence in discussing and interpreting phenomena in the economic, managerial, financial or engineering fields, also expressed in quantitative form, as well as the linguistic competence necessary to participate profitably in the activities of the doctoral Program.

Criterion a) is assessed by considering the university career of the applicant, as well as any other qualifications or aspects of their personal CV useful to demonstrate their skills and knowledge.

Criterion b) is assessed on the basis of publications, participation in projects / research groups, the results of internationally recognized tests (such as the GRE or the GMAT), if taken, and the preparation of a Statement of Purpose that presents the candidate's research interests (in this regard, consult the website <http://www.liuc.it/phd> for specific drafting rules) and to the paper illustrative of the development of a doctoral research topic on one of the topics in Art.3.

Criterion c) is assessed on the basis of an oral test, that may be conducted in English, on a date communicated to the applicants at least 5 days in advance.

The oral test may be held at the University or remotely via video conference call (Ms Teams). Applicants taking the oral test by conference call must provide a telephone contact number and ensure their availability to be contacted at the contact number indicated in the application for 3 hours starting from the time stated in the schedule of remote testing. Applicants who are not available on two occasions will be considered absent and therefore excluded from the selection.

LIUC university declines any responsibility if an interview cannot take place due to technical reasons.



If the Committee cannot fully deem linguistic competency on the basis of the information available in the application form, competency will be determined during the oral test.

The overall score of the applicant is determined as follows:

- criterion a): up to a maximum of 10 points;
- criterion b): up to a maximum of 15 points;
- criterion c): up to a maximum of 20 points.

Applicants are deemed eligible for admission to the Program if they achieve an overall score of at least 30/45 points and provided that the score for each criterion is at least 2/3 of the total marks (rounded up), i.e. 7 for criterion a), 10 for criterion b), 14 for criterion c).

Art. 8 - Admission to the Program

A list of applicants who are eligible for admission to the Program will be published and ranked according to their score.

Applicants are admitted to the Course with exemption from admission and attendance fees and allocation of a scholarship in the order of the ranking, until all available places are filled, as provided for in Art. 3.

The Commission may make a differentiated judgment for each individual fellowship also in relation to specific skills required by the themes of the fellowships. Candidates are admitted to the doctoral course according to the order of the ranking list, it being understood that some candidates may be eligible only for some fellowships on the basis of the research theme related to them. The Phd Program Faculty Board will take note of the results of the Commission's selection and propose the allocation of places and fellowships. The Commission and the Phd Program Faculty Board are not bound by any options expressed by the candidates in the competition, in terms of topics and type of fellowship.

If any admitted applicants who were offered financial aid withdraw or fail to activate their enrolment within the stipulated time, the same ranking will be revised, and they will be replaced within three months of the start of the Program by the next highest-ranked candidates.

According to Art. 7, paragraph 2, of the Regulations, scholarships offered through the University but sponsored by third parties are offered to the highest-ranked applicant complying with all the requirements and limitations set by the sponsoring institution.

Art. 9 - Enrolment

Applicants admitted to the Program must send or submit in person their Doctorate enrolment form to the Doctorate of Research Secretariat, Università Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC, Corso Matteotti 22, 21053 Castellanza (VA) Italy, in electronic form no later than 5 days, and in paper form, within 10 days of the date they receive the admission notice, completing on unstamped paper the document available at the link <http://www.liuc.it/phd> and attaching the following documents:



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- 1) self-certification of Diploma Supplement or certificate showing the degree awarded, with examination grades or scores, credits and relative subject areas (if not already submitted)
- 2) declaration of acceptance of the form of financial support allocated (only for recipient applicants)
- 3) documents proving the payment of university fees (see art. 11)
- 4) one passport photograph, which will be authenticated by the Secretariat.

Additional documentation for non-EU citizens or holders of a non-EU qualification

- visa/residence permit for study purposes (for applicants from outside the European Union);
- other documents requested in art. 5 and art. 6 if not previously provided (legalized copy of degree diploma and declaration of value or declaration of equivalence);

The recipients of scholarships and/or exemptions who do not submit documentation within the prescribed period shall be considered to have withdrawn and the related economic benefits shall be made available, according to the ranking, to applicants with lower assessment who are at that moment enrolled. The same occurs in the case of renunciation of the form of financial support allocated.

It is prohibited to enrol in more than one PhD Program; any applicant who has obtained admission to other PhD Program(s) must opt for only one of them.

Art. 10 - Scholarships

Scholarships are offered for the entire three-year duration of the Program unless attendance is suspended.

Interruption of attendance on the Program for more than thirty days is cause for scholarship suspension. In the case of exclusion, scholarships will be permanently suspended.

The PhD scholarship cannot be granted to applicants holding postdoctoral research fellowships. Post-doctoral research fellows may, however, be admitted to the PhD Program.

A scholarship cannot be granted to PhD applicants participating in a higher education apprenticeship Program.

The yearly amount of the PhD scholarship, paid in monthly instalments, is determined in accordance with the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research Ministerial Decree no. 247 of 23 February 2022. Currently it amounts to € 16.243,00 yearly, before social security and health insurance contributions to be paid by the recipient. In recognition of the commitment of selected applicants the Università Carlo Cattaneo has decided to raise the amount of the scholarship to **€20.400,00**, before social security and health insurance contributions to be paid by the recipient.

Scholarships that require the completion of a specific research activity oblige the applicant to carry out this activity and to comply with the provisions in the Agreement.

Art. 11 – Enrolment costs

At enrolment, all students must pay the regional tax for the Right to Education and the applicable stamp duty.



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Art. 12 - Processing of personal data

According to EU Regulations no. 2016/679 personal data provided by the applicants will be processed with electronic and paper-based means at LIUC for the purpose of this admission procedure and publication of the proceedings in accordance with the rules laid down by Regulations and Legislative Decree 196/2003 as updated by Legislative Decree 101/2018.

Participation in the application and admission procedures implies, in accordance with the principles of the above-mentioned rules, a tacit consent to the publication of the applicant's personal and admission test results on the LIUC website. The person responsible for the procedure is Dr. Massimo Colli.

Art. 13 - Publication of the call for application

This call for applications is published in the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic and in electronic version on the websites of University Carlo Cattaneo - LIUC (<http://www.liuc.it>), of the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research MIUR, (<http://bandi.miur.it>) and of the European Union (<http://ec.europa.ec/euraxess>).

This call is written in Italian and translated into English. In case of conflict and/or different interpretation of individual parts, the text written in Italian shall prevail.

Any changes or additions to the call will be announced by publication on the University website.

Art. 14 – Reference legislation

For anything not explicitly stated in this announcement, please refer to the Regulations of the PhD Program in Management, Finance and Accounting - XXXIX Cycle issued with Rector's Decree of 4 April 2023, no. 1023 and the relevant norms and regulations as specified above.

Castellanza, 8th July 2024

D.R. n. 1201 (One thousand two hundred and one)

Chief Executive Officer
Ing. Richard Arsan

The Rector
Prof. Federico Visconti