



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DELL'AQUILA

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

D.R. Rep. n. * - Prot. n. * of * Attachments 2

Year 2024 Tit. III Cl. 6 Fasc. 10

**Number and date of the protocol entry are given in the metadata of the Titulus computer protocol system*

**PUBLIC COMPETITION, BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS AND EXAMINATIONS,
FOR 1 PHD POSITION IN PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCES
FUNDED BY THE IVANHOE AND EURIPIDES PROJECTS
CYCLE XL
ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025**

**THE RECTOR
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF L'AQUILA**

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

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

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

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

IN FORCE OF D.P.C.M. of April 9, 2001 "Disposizioni per l'uniformità del trattamento sul diritto agli studi universitari" according to article n. 4 of law n. 390, December 2, 1991;

IN FORCE OF legislative decree n. 68, March 29, 2012;

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

PURSUANT TO D.M. n. 226 of December 14, 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*";

PURSUANT TO D.M. n. 247 of February 23, 2022 which restated the gross annual amount of Ph.D. scholarships;

PURSUANT TO the rules for the admission of foreign students to the university course published on MIUR web site;

PURSUANT TO the Regulation of the Ph.D. Schools of the University of L'Aquila, renewed by Rectoral Decree n. 787/2022 of 2022, June 1st and subsequent amendments;

HAVING REGARD TO Ethical Code of University of L'Aquila issued by D.R. n. 1777/2022 of 2022, December 30th and subsequent amendments;

HAVING REGARD TO the resolution of the Board of Professors of Ph.D. course in Physical and Chemical Sciences of March, 11, 2024, acquired as prot. n. 37790 of 12/03/2024; concerning the request to issue a call for applications for 1 position for the Ph.D. Course in Physical and Chemical Sciences - cycle XL - with scholarship;

TAKE NOTE that the scholarship is funded by the IVANHOE project within the Italy-Israel scientific collaboration and by the EURIPIDES project within the Italy-Singapore scientific collaboration and that both projects are funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);

CONSIDERED the advisability of issuing the call for applications pending the accreditation of the PhD courses for the XL cycle - academic year 2024/2025;

HAVING REGARD TO the minutes of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Administration meeting of of 25 and 26 March 2024 respectively;



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HEREBY DECREES

ART. 1

ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVATION

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 - XL cycle - a.y. 2024/2025, for n. 1 position financed by the IVANHOE and EURIPIDES Projects.
2. The courses' duration is three years and starts on **1st September 2024**.
3. The form attached to this announcement, which is an integral part of it, indicates the source of funding, the curriculum of the PhD course, the research topic, the methods and criteria for selecting candidates, the date for the examinations.

ART. 2

Requirements for Access

1. Those who, at the expiry of the deadline for submitting the application for admission, are in possession of one of the following qualifications can participate in the selection, without age or citizenship restrictions:
 - a) master's or specialist degree, as per the enclosed form;
 - b) degree from the system prior to the Ministerial Decree n. 509/1999 (old system) as per the enclosed form;
 - c) qualification obtained abroad, recognized as equivalent to the aforementioned second level academic qualifications.

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.

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 certifications obtained (Bachelor e Master Degree), 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, declarations etc...).

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 Ph.D. course.

Those who already hold a PhD title are not eligible to apply.

3. Candidates who, on the expiry date of this announcement, do not possess the requisites referred to in paragraph 1, will be admitted to the selection with reserve. The qualification required for access to PhD courses must be achieved by the completion date of the enrollment, and in any case no later than the start date of the course.

ART. 3

Applications, terms and conditions

1. The application form may only be submitted using the dedicated online procedure, available at: <https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/40sfcbandoivanhoe-euripides>.
Applications must be submitted no later than July 18, 2024, at 1 p.m. (CEST) (announcement deadline).



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The application must be signed. **The absence of the signature, or of the handwritten signature, implicates the exclusion from public competition.**

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, the curriculum, the place and the the research topics;
- 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, with the following bank details: IT60B0306903603100000046216 - Code SWIFT: BCITITMM - reason for payment: "Entry in Ph.D. competition in _____". Only candidates making payment in this way are required, before the 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 the 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.



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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 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 date of the oral exam are indicated in the form Article 1.3 of the above reported scheme. This date is to be regarded as an 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.

ANY CHANGES IN DATES AND TIMES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC ON THE UNIVERSITY WEBSITE AND IT MUST BE REGARDED AS AN OFFICIAL LEGALLY BINDING CALL.

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

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 art. 1 of this notice and provide a valid identification card.

Candidates may request to sit the oral exam via web conference communication systems. In this case, the candidate is required to provide contact information in their application and guarantee the use of a webcam to allow the Commission to verify the candidate's identity.

Foreign candidates may take the oral test entirely in English.



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3. During the interview, the Commission Board will assess the candidate's aptitude for scientific research, general preparation and suitability in relation to the research topic, as indicated in the form attached to this notice.

ART. 5

Examination Committee and competition rules

1. The Examination Committee, designated by the Board of Professors, is appointed by the Rector through a specific decree and is composed of a minimum of three to a maximum of five members among professors and assistant professors. At least one of the members must be full or associate 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.

2. The Commission can carry out the preliminary meeting and the meeting related 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 of March 17, 2020 and subsequent amendments).

3. 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/en/section.php?id=2250&lang_s=en and on the web site of the Department of Physical and chemical sciences and/or the Ph.D. web site.

At the end of the session the Examination Committee draws up the list of the interviewed applicants with the scores obtained.

This list, signed by the President and by the secretary of the Examination Committee will be published on the web site of the Department in Physical and chemical sciences and/or the Ph.D. web site on the same day of the oral examination.

ART. 6

Ranking and scholarship assignment

1. Once all the interviews have been completed the Examination Committee draws up the final ranking list, according to the sums of the obtained scores by each candidate in the assessment of qualifications and the oral test.

In the case of having the same score, the Ph.D. position will be conferred to the younger candidate.

The University Administration makes this list public by publishing it on the official notice board of the University <https://www.univaq.it/section.php?id=1391> and on the University web site https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2250&lang_s=en, once the validity of the examination procedure has been checked.

ART 7

Enrolment in Ph.D. Course



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1. Successful candidates must submit their enrolment through the University of L'Aquila official website https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2250&lang_s=en, within 15 days from online publication of selection results.

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

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

Successful candidates, who are admitted to the competition conditionally, will also have to produce self-certification that they have been awarded the degree within 3 days of obtaining it.

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;
- f) a self-declaration to obtain the scholarship for the Ph.D. course they have earned admission to;
- g) a scholarship accreditation form.

Within 15 days from the start of the Ph.D. Course, candidates who have been conferred a scholarship must send by mail a photocopy of a receipt from the INPS (national social security service), certifying that they have been registered in "posizione contributiva alla gestione separata" (for information visit the INPS website at www.inps.it).

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:



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- copy of their university degree with “Declaration of Value” provided by the Italian Embassy/consulate operating in the student’s country of residence;
- Transcript of records of the exams given during the degree course and marks awarded.

Alternatively, the winner may present the certificate of comparability and the certificate of verification issued by CIMEA as part of the agreement stipulated with the University of L'Aquila (<https://www.cimea.it/pagina-attestatati-di-comparabilita-e-verification-of-qualifications>).

For the registration, please enter the service Diplome, via the following link <https://cimea.diplome.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 the above-mentioned compulsory documentation must be consigned **by and no later than the 31st of December 2024. Failure to do so will result in expulsion from the course.**

Candidates with a qualification obtained abroad, when they arrive in Italy, are required to deliver the originals of the documentation relating to the qualification to the Settore Dottorati, Assegni e Borse di Ricerca.

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

2. 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.

When a candidate, even if not the winner of the competition, has the right to be enrolled, the suitable candidate entitled to be enrolled will receive a communication to the e-mail address indicated on the application for participation in the competition. Candidates selected as replacements must write a letter of acceptance within three days of the email. All other necessary documents indicated in this announcement must be consigned within, and no later than, ten days after receiving notification.

Failure to enroll by the deadline indicated is equivalent to tacit renunciation.

ART. 8 **Public Employee**

Public employees admitted to PhD courses must be placed on request on extraordinary leave for study purposes without paychecks for the duration of the course and take advantage of the scholarship.

Public employees who do not obtain the aforementioned unpaid leave from the institution to which he/she belongs will not be able to enroll or continue the course of study.

ART. 9 **Grants**

1. The grant is assigned according to the ranking list.

2. A Ph.D. gross Scholarships consists of € 16.243,00 which includes health and social security taxes that, on 2024, amounts to 35,030%, but only 11,677% is paid by the beneficiary.

From the first year of each Ph.D. course, for each PhD student a research budget, not less than 10% of the total sum of the grant conferred, will also be available for research activity in Italy or abroad.



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3. A scholarship is yearly provided and is renewed on the condition that the Ph.D. student has completed all programmed activities for the course during the previous year.

A Ph.D. scholarship 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 payment of the scholarship is made by monthly installment.

Candidates who have already benefited from other Ph.D. study scholarships in Italy (even if only for one year) are not eligible to receive another grant.

If a Ph.D. student does not respect what is indicated in article 15 paragraph 6 of Ph.D. regulations, his/her scholarship will be stopped.

ART. 10
Attendance Abroad

All Ph.D. students can carry out training periods abroad in qualified institutions. Such training or study periods abroad cannot be longer than 12 months and can be allowed in case they are foreseen by:

- a) The study program of the Ph.D. course;
- b) Upon advice of the course coordinator or board;
- c) Upon request made by the Ph.D. student.

The period of study abroad can be extended to 18 months at maximum only for the PhD in co-tutelle with foreign bodies.

All the Ph.D. students are entitled to an increase in the scholarship up to a maximum of 50% for the aforementioned training periods abroad.

Before going abroad, the following documents must be sent to the above-mentioned Ph.D. office by the Coordinator:

- Signed authorization by the course Coordinator for training/study periods abroad of 6 months or less
- or
- Board resolution allowing a period of over 6 months.

The authorization must include:

- the source of financial coverage for the additional sum of the scholarship;
- indication of the fund to which the additional sum of the scholarship is to be sent, if this sum is to be paid by the Department.

Upon returning to Italy, or each month, the Ph.D. Coordinator shall present the Certification about study periods abroad and shall request the payment of the scholarship increase.

ART. 11
Tuition Fees

The Ph.D. student is exempt from tuition payments. The Ph.D. student has only to pay € 156,00; the Regional tax (€ 140,00) and a duty stamp "marca da bollo" (€ 16,00).

Late payment will result in a € 52.00 fine.



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ART. 12
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.
2. The University provides insurance coverage for the entire duration of the Ph.D. course and for activities pertaining to the course.
3. Compatible employment activities shall be allowed for brief periods, following authorization from the Board of Professors, after hearing the favorable opinion of the supervisor, as long as such commitments do not pose any sort of conflict with the activities required within the Ph.D. course.
4. Interruptions in attendance shall be allowed for:
 - a) Illness or injury for periods of 30 days or more;
 - b) Military or civil service;
 - c) Training courses for teacher certification.

Interruption may also be agreed for substantiated serious personal reasons after having received a positive opinion of the Board of Professors. Discontinuation does not last longer than six months or one year according to the total course length. Ph.D. students benefitting of interruption period must recover the entire time with consequent test delay for the move to following year and for the awarding of title.

5. 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 only to scholarship holders.
6. 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. In this case the expelled Ph.D. student shall be liable for the sum of the scholarship conferred or for tuition fees.
7. 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.
8. 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. 13
Graduation

A Doctoral Degree title (Dott. Ric. or Ph.D.) will be awarded following a positive assessment of the Ph.D. thesis, taking into account the results achieved.

Students can write their Ph.D. thesis in Italian or in English, an abstract in English must also be provided. Students wishing to write their thesis in a different language from Italian or English must receive authorization from the Board of Professors.

The evaluation committee for Ph.D. thesis discussion will be appointed according to the Ph.D. Regulations of the University.



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ART. 14
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. 15
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.

This announcement is available at: https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2250&lang_s=en.

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

L'Aquila

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

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



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Ph.D. Course in Physical and chemical sciences	
Positions available	1
Funding source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">n. 1 grant financed by the IVANHOE and EURIPIDES Projects
Grant subject	<p>N. 1 grant aimed at carrying out research concerning: “<i>Electrocatalysis with innovative nanomaterials for hydrogen production</i>” - Scientific supervisor: Prof. A. Politano (antonio.politano@univaq.it)</p> <p>SUBJECT OF RESEARCH</p> <p>The IVANHOE (Innovative nanomaterials as electrocatalysts for hydrogen evolution reaction) and EURIPIDES (innovative Electrocatalysts based on quantum materials for the sustainable Production of hydrogen by Electrolysis) projects, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), focus on the development of innovative nanomaterials as electrocatalysts for the hydrogen evolution reaction (HER) and the oxygen evolution reaction (OER). The aim is to produce clean hydrogen through the electrochemical splitting of water, a promising method that uses materials based on abundant elements on Earth. The most active catalysts for HER to date are platinum group metals, but they are expensive and prone to degradation over time. To address these issues, it is essential to identify innovative materials that exhibit unusual electronic and physicochemical properties, demonstrating fast reaction kinetics, stability in acidic and alkaline environments, and lower electrode costs. Both IVANHOE and EURIPIDES aim for the large-scale production of nanostructures of these materials to demonstrate their efficacy in HER/OER and test their scalability in industrially relevant conditions. The projects also plan to optimize electrode architecture to create high-performance alkaline electrolyzers for large-scale applications, thereby promoting international cooperation in the renewable hydrogen energy sector.</p>
Duration	3 years
Curriculum	Chemical sciences
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	<i>Prof. Massimiliano Aschi</i> massimiliano.aschi@univaq.it
Admission Pre-requisites	All Master-level Degrees in Chemical or foreign degrees with certified equivalency or recognized as equivalent to the afore-mentioned qualifications. Within the deadline indicated in this call for applications, candidates who are expected to obtain the above-mentioned Degrees by no later than the enrollment, and before the Ph.D. programme’s start date (September 1 st , 2024), may also apply.



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Candidate profile.	<p>The candidate must hold a degree in Chemistry with a solid background in the field of Physical Chemistry, with particular reference to electrochemistry and surface chemistry with advanced nanomaterials. It is essential that the candidate has experience in the theoretical modeling of surface physicochemical processes. Prior knowledge of the Quantum Espresso code will be preferred. The candidate must demonstrate an in-depth understanding of spectroscopic techniques relevant to surface chemistry and electrochemistry, in order to actively collaborate with the bilateral experimental team of the IVANHOE and EURIPIDES projects. For this international project, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), a candidate with previous experience abroad, demonstrating the ability to integrate and collaborate in multicultural and multidisciplinary contexts, is preferred.</p> <p>Furthermore, the candidate must have an excellent command of the English language, the ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team. It is also important to demonstrate:</p> <p>(i) A strong motivation for scientific research and the development of sustainable technologies.</p> <p>(ii) The ability to disseminate scientific results through participation in international conferences relevant to Physical Chemistry.</p>
Admission Procedure	<p>Qualification assessment and oral exam. Candidates may request to sit the exam via web (Microsoft Teams, Skype and similar). Foreign candidates may take the oral test entirely in English. Candidates must provide valid contact details and they must have valid photo-ID to be shown during the oral exam.</p>
Examination topics	<p>The oral examination is aimed to assess general knowledge of Chemistry based on the competencies acquired during the master's degree, the motivation and aptitude for scientific research.</p> <p>The oral examination will cover the following topics: electrocatalysis, chemisorption and physisorption, adsorption sites, theoretical models, and techniques of surface chemistry.</p>
How apply	<p>The application must be submitted only via the online procedure available at: https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/40sfcbandoivanhoe-euripides.</p> <p>The documents must be attached in pdf format.</p> <p>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.</p>
Documents to be enclosed in the Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Curriculum Vitae.2. Candidates holding a degree from an Italian university must provide:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-certification concerning their Bachelor-level Degree indicating final mark and list of exams taken and marks obtained;• Self-certification concerning their Master-level Degree course indicating final mark and list of exams taken and marks obtained.3. Candidates enrolled in an Italian Degree Course must include:



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-certification of their Bachelor-level Degree indicating final mark and list of exams taken and marks obtained;• Self-certification of the exams so far taken in their Master-level Degree course indicating marks obtained. <p>4. Applicants with foreign Degrees must follow the directions explained in article n. 2 of this call.</p> <p>5. A summary of their master's degree thesis (Max 2 pages).</p> <p>6. Any publications and research projects in which the candidate has participated, deemed appropriate for evaluation.</p> <p>7. Other qualifications deemed appropriate for evaluation.</p> <p>8. Photocopy of the candidate's identity card.</p>
Language(s)	<p>Assessment of foreign language skills English language skills and competence (written and spoken) shall be assessed during the oral exam.</p> <p>Admission Foreign candidates may take the oral exam in English.</p>
Exam schedule	<p><i>Evaluation of documentation: July 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.</i></p> <p><i>Interview: July 25, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.</i> at the Department of Physical and Chemical Sciences – Classroom “Signorelli” - Coppito – L'Aquila</p>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The assessment procedure consists of two phases: qualification assessment and an oral exam. Scores are indicated out of a total of 100 points, assigned as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Qualification assessment: Max. 50/100 points attributed through assessment of the candidate's CV and other qualifications. The minimum score required for admission to sit the oral exam is 40.2. Oral exam: Max. 50/100 points: The oral exam aim is to evaluate the candidate's motivation, candidate's aptitude for scientific research, general preparation and preparation on the subjects indicated for each research topic in the section “Examination topics”. During the oral exam will be assessed the candidate's English and French language skills. Foreign candidates may take the oral test entirely in English. The minimum mark for the oral test is 40 points, the maximum mark is 50 points.
Title evaluation results publication	<p>Title evaluation results shall be published on the University website https://www.univaq.it/en/section.php?id=2250&lang_s=en and on Department website: https://dsfc.univaq.it/en/</p>



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***Technical guidelines for the submission of the application form for Ph.D. Course
in Physical and chemical sciences – funded by the IVANHOE and EURIPIDES
projects
XL cycle***

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED FROM JUNE 18, 2024, AND NO LATER THAN JULY
18, 2024, AT 1 P.M. (CEST).**

Online form available at: <https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/40sfcbandoivanhoe-euripides>

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, in particular the PhD course table in order 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.

(a) DATA REGISTRATION

To start the registration, go to the website <https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/40sfcbandoivanhoe-euripides>
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, contact support via the link at the bottom of the page <https://pica.cineca.it/univaq>.



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(b) APPLICATION FORM ACCESS

Once registered it is possible to access the website <https://pica.cineca.it/univaq/40sfcbandoivanhoe-euripides>

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 in Physical and chemical sciences, the curriculum, the place and the research topic.

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 awarded by the completion date of the enrollment, and in any case no later than the start date of the course: **September 1st, 2024**.

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 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 download 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).



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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. The absence of the signature, or of the handwritten signature, implicates the exclusion from the public competition.

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.

c. 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.



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**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 will be confer 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
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



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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)