



**Annex 2**

**Directorial Decree for the publication of the call for applications for admission to the PhD Programme XLI Cycle in Design, Arts and Transdisciplinarity - academic year 2025/26.**

**IED - Istituto Europeo di Design SbpA  
Turin Campus**

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE  
PhD in Design, Arts and Transdisciplinarity  
XLI Cycle - ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026**

**Art. 1 – Object of the Call for Applications**

This public call for applications governs the procedures for admission, selection, and admission to the Ph.D. Programme in Design, Arts and Transdisciplinarity for the Academic Year 2025/2026 – 41st Cycle, at IED – Istituto Europeo di Design, Turin Campus.

For the 41st Cycle of the Ph.D. in Design, Arts and Transdisciplinarity, three positions are made available, as specified below:

PhD Programme	Positions with Scholarship	Positions without Scholarship
<i>Design, Arts and Transdisciplinarity</i>	2	1

The Ph.D. Programme is scheduled to start on January 20<sup>TH</sup> 2026. Training and research activities will be primarily conducted at the IED Turin Campus, though they may also take place at other IED campuses within the network or at external partner institutions.

Admission to the Ph.D. Programme and the awarding of scholarships are determined through a competitive evaluation and selection process, followed by the publication of an official merit ranking list including all candidates deemed eligible for admission.

Scholarships and available positions will be assigned based on the ranking order. In case of withdrawal by an admitted candidate, the position may be offered to the next eligible candidate according to the ranking list.



## **Art. 2 – Admission Requirements**

Applications are open, without restrictions on citizenship, gender, or age, to candidates who, by the application deadline, meet the following requirements:

### **a. Educational Qualifications**

- Second-Level Academic Diploma (Ministerial Decree n. 14/2018).
- Master of Arts Degree (Ministerial Decree n. 509/1999 or Ministerial Decree n. 270/2004), Single-Cycle Degree under the former system (obtained prior to the entry into force of M.D. 509/1999).
- An equivalent academic qualification obtained abroad that grants access to doctoral studies in the country of issue, in compliance with international agreements, and in any case not below Level 7 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) or Level 7 of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED).

### **b. Language Proficiency**

- English language proficiency at a minimum level of B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

### **c. Educational and Research Experience**

- Documented teaching and/or research experience (minimum of five years) at national or international Higher Education Institutions in Arts and Design (Universities or Fine Arts and Design Academies, AFAM Institutions);
- Documented participation in national and international funded research projects (e.g. PNRR, EU calls), or in research projects involving partnerships between multiple institutions.

Applicants who have not yet obtained the required degree at the time of application may be conditionally admitted, provided that the degree is awarded by the date of enrolment. In such cases, the candidate must submit an official certificate of degree conferral; failure to do so will result in forfeiture of admission, even if successfully selected.

The eligibility of foreign qualifications will be verified by the IED Registrar Office and confirmed by Doctoral Admission Committee.

If the required qualifications are found to be missing or invalid—whether before or after the assignment of a place (with or without scholarship)—the candidate will be excluded from the selection process. The position will then be reassigned to the next eligible candidate according to the ranking list.

## **Art. 3 – Application Procedure and Participation in the Call**

Applications for admission to the competition may be submitted exclusively by means of an application form, duly completed and accompanied by all required documentation.

Applications must be submitted no later than December 18<sup>TH</sup> 2025 at 6:00 p.m. (Italian time). Applications received after the deadline, or lacking the required documentation, will not be accepted.

Applications, complete with all attachments, must be sent exclusively via e-mail to the following address: [phd@ied.it](mailto:phd@ied.it).

The e-mail subject line must read: "Name Surname – Application for Admission to the Ph.D. Call – 41st Cycle".

The e-mail must include the following attachments:

- a. Application form (Annex A) dated and signed (original or scanned copy). In the form, the applicants must specify whether they wish to be considered for both the ranking with scholarship and the ranking without scholarship, or only for one of the two.
- b. Copy of a valid identity document. Non-Italian citizens must attach a copy of their passport.
- c. Curriculum Vitae and Curriculum Studiorum, preferably in the Europass format, dated and signed. The CV must include the following statement: "I hereby declare that the information contained in this curriculum is true and accurate pursuant to D. P.R. 445/2000."
- d. Certification of academic qualification (EQF Level 7):
  - ✓ Diploma Supplement (if available for Italian or foreign qualifications deemed suitable).
  - ✓ Official degree certificate and transcript of records issued or signed by the awarding institution, if no diploma supplement is available.
  - ✓ Transcript of records or certification of examinations taken, issued or signed by the awarding institution, for applicants applying *sub condicione* (conditionally, pending degree completion).
- e. Two letters of reference.
- f. Research Position Paper, addressing the objectives and research areas of the Ph.D. Programme, as outlined below:

**Main research theme:**

*Design, Arts and Transdisciplinary Research Practices*: the intersection between artistic research and design research as a transformative platform for experimenting with transdisciplinary and relational applied research methodologies based on a framework of values oriented towards social and cultural impact.

**Research areas within the IED Framework:**

- Collective intelligence and human–non-human creativity
- Design, arts, and the creative industries in new socio-economic circular structures
- Cultural heritage through digital and phygital technologies
- Smart technologies and biomaterials: unconventional and circular applications
- Data design and information ecology: awareness and knowledge
- Decolonization, commoning, and social good in design and art practices

The Research Position Paper (maximum 10,000 characters including spaces) must include:

- ✓ **Abstract** (max. 500 characters): outlining the applicant's positioning in relation to the proposed research themes and the general field of interest to be developed within the framework of the Ph.D. Programme.
- ✓ **Five keywords** summarizing the area of interest and methodological approach.
- ✓ **Main extended text**, including:
  - Description of the field of interest, with justification of its scientific and artistic relevance and its added value in terms of knowledge generation.
  - General objectives.
  - Research methodological interests and application hypotheses.
  - Hypotheses of expected research outputs.

- Expected impacts on various stakeholders, including the academic community, society at large, and potential direct and indirect beneficiaries (*outcomes*);
  - Bibliography (minimum 5, maximum 10 references): key texts that have most influenced the applicant's thinking, methodology, training, and research orientation.
- g. Applicants may also include supplementary documentation, such as:
- ✓ Up to five publications in digital format, including complete bibliographic information (Book, papers, articles, other).
  - ✓ Any other document deemed useful for the Committee's evaluation (research portfolio, explanatory further documentation to the research project included video, images, artworks..., thesis abstracts or full thesis, certificates, attestations, etc.).

All documents must be submitted in .pdf format and named according to their content (e.g. "CV\_Surname\_Name.pdf", "ID\_Surname\_Name.pdf", "Research Project\_Surname\_Name.pdf", etc.).

Documents may be written in either Italian or English. Applications exceeding 400 MB in total attachment size will not be accepted. It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure the proper completion of the submission procedure.

#### Art. 4 – Evaluation Committee

The Evaluation Committee is appointed by the Academic Director and consists of three members chosen among the members of the Doctoral Board, the professors, and the academic staff of IED.

#### Art. 5 – Selection Procedures

The Evaluation Committee shall conduct the selection process in two phases:

Phase 1 – Evaluation of qualifications, research proposal (Research Position Paper) and any additional documentation submitted.

The criteria and corresponding scores are as follows:

	Criterion	Score
A	Relevance of Curriculum Vitae and Curriculum Studiorum	max 5 points
B	Minimum of seven years' experience in teaching and/or research at accredited national or international institutions and organizations	max 5 points
C	Participation in at least two funded national or international research projects	max 5 points
D	Relevance and significance of other documented qualifications: publications, awards, further educational certifications, artistic production, or any additional documentation submitted (research portfolio, project appendices, theses)	max 5 points
E	Relevance and consistency of the Research Position Paper with respect to the Ph.D. research framework, proposed research domain, and hypothesized social, economic, and cultural impacts	max 30 points



The evaluation of qualifications, research proposal, and supporting documentation will therefore be awarded a maximum of 50 points (20 + 30).

The results of Phase 1 will be communicated to candidates together with the invitation to the interview, no later than three days before the scheduled interview date, via the e-mail address provided in the application.

The interview will take place during the week following the application deadline.

#### Phase 2 – Interview

All candidates whose qualifications have been deemed valid in Phase 1, and who have obtained a minimum of 14 points in Criteria A–D and a minimum of 21 points in Criterion E, will be admitted to the interview.

The interview will consist of a presentation and discussion of the Research Position Paper and of the submitted documentation, aimed at assessing their aptitude for a transdisciplinary approach, and the coherence of their proposal with the research areas and objectives of the Ph.D. Programme.

The interview will be evaluated with a maximum of 30 points.

#### Summary Table of Admission Scores

Assessment Components	Max and Min Score for eligibility
Academic Qualifications	20 (min 14)
Research Position Paper	30 (min 21)
Interview	30 (min 21)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>80 (min 56)</b>

Candidates will be considered eligible for admission if, at the conclusion of both evaluation phases, they achieve a total minimum score of 56 points.

The interview may be conducted in person at the IED Turin or IED Milan campus, or online via Microsoft Teams, at the Committee's discretion. The interview will be held in both Italian and English. Candidates must present a valid identification document at the time of the interview.

Failure to attend or to respond to the interview invitation will result in exclusion from the selection procedure.

It is the candidate's responsibility to regularly check the IED website and their e-mail account for updates and official communications related to this selection process.

#### Art. 6 – Publication of the Ranking List for Admission and Awarding of Positions

The Evaluation Committee shall prepare a final merit ranking list, based on the comparative assessment of all candidates and their total scores.

Candidates are admitted to the Ph.D. Programme according to the order of the ranking list, until all available positions have been filled. Applicants who score below 53 points will not be considered eligible.

Doctoral scholarships will be awarded in accordance with the ranking order.



In the event of a tie, priority will be given to: the candidate with the higher score for the research position paper evaluation (*Art. 5- Letter E- Table of criteria and corresponding scores*). If parity persists, the younger candidate will be given preference.

Positions without scholarship will be awarded to eligible candidates, following the ranking order and applying the same criteria in the event of a tie.

Should any admitted candidate withdraw before the start of the programme, their position will be offered to the next eligible candidate in the ranking list.

The final ranking list will be published on the official website at: <https://www.ied.edu/courses/turin/phd/design-arts-and-transdisciplinarity> within three days from the conclusion of the selection process.

All competition records are public documents, and access is granted in accordance with applicable legislation.

The publication of the final ranking list constitutes official notification to all concerned parties and represents the only legally valid means of communicating the outcome of the selection procedure.

#### **Art. 7 – Doctoral Scholarships**

For the 41st Cycle, IED offers two doctoral scholarships.

Scholarships may be financed through multiple funding sources and have an overall duration of three years. They are renewed annually, following a positive assessment of the completion of the yearly research and training programme.

The annual gross amount of each scholarship is €16,243.00, before the deduction of social security contributions payable by the recipient. The scholarship is disbursed in monthly instalments by IED to the duly enrolled doctoral student.

Scholarships are subject to the payment of social security contributions (INPS, “gestione separata”), pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 26, of Law No. 335 of 8 August 1995, two-thirds of which are paid by the institution and one-third by the recipient. Doctoral candidates shall benefit from the related protections and entitlements provided by law.

The amount of the doctoral scholarship may be increased by up to 50% for periods of research and study spent abroad, whether continuous or cumulative, with a total duration of not less than six months and not exceeding twelve months, subject to prior authorization from the Doctoral Board.

Each doctoral candidate is also entitled to an additional annual research allowance equal to 10% of the scholarship amount, to support their research activities.

The annual scholarship renewal is conditional upon the admission of the doctoral candidate to the subsequent year, following the procedures defined in the Ph.D. Regulations.

In the event of failure to obtain the title, negative evaluation for the renewal of the scholarship, or withdrawal, the doctoral candidate is required to repay all sums received for the year negatively evaluated or for the current year at the time of withdrawal.

The scholarship cannot be combined with any other scholarship, except for grants or financial support awarded by national or international institutions to fund research stays abroad aimed at supplementing the candidate’s training and research activities.

### **Art. 8 – Enrolment in the Ph.D. Programme**

Successful candidates must complete the enrolment procedure through the **Esse3 CMS** platform, using the credentials and instructions provided following the selection results, and by paying the relevant fees and contributions as specified in Article 9.

Candidates admitted with or without a scholarship must comply with the deadlines and instructions for enrolment; failure to do so will result in the loss of the right to enroll.

Enrolment will be accepted with reservation and will remain suspended for candidates holding a degree obtained abroad until the submission and validation of the required degree documentation.

Foreign citizens who are not already legally residing in Italy must apply for a residence permit for study purposes within eight working days of their entry into the Italian territory. For such candidates, enrolment will be accepted conditionally and will remain suspended until the presentation of the documentation attesting that the residence permit application has been submitted.

### **Art. 9 – Fees, Exemptions, and Withdrawal**

All students enrolled in the Ph.D. Programme, whether with or without a scholarship, are required to pay an annual all-inclusive tuition fee of €1,800.00 for enrolment and attendance.

In addition, students must annually pay:

- The regional tax for the right to higher education, established by the Lombardy Region for the academic year 2024/2025, amounting to €190.00.
- The virtual stamp duty, amounting to €16.00.

Doctoral students who decide to withdraw from the programme may only submit a formal withdrawal request. Such withdrawal does not entitle the student to any refund or exemption from payment of the all-inclusive tuition fee, nor to reimbursement of the regional tax or stamp duty already paid.

Students holding a certified disability equal to or greater than 66%, and/or those officially recognized as having a disability status pursuant to Article 3, paragraphs 1 or 3, of Law No. 104 of 5 February 1992, are fully exempted from the payment of both the enrolment fee and the regional tax for the right to study.

### **Art. 10 – Obligations of Doctoral Students**

- a. Admission to the Ph.D. programme entails full-time and exclusive commitment, except as provided by the applicable legislation in force. Doctoral candidates are required to attend all educational activities and to carry out their study and research activities within the structures assigned to the Programme, in accordance with the modalities established by the Doctoral Board.
- b. Each doctoral student is assigned a Supervisor, selected from among the members of the Doctoral Board to support the Doctoral Student during the development of his/her research project and in the definition and updating of his/her training and research activity plan. For industrial Ph.D. programmes or those in artistic conservation/production, each candidate

must also be assigned a Co-supervisor affiliated with the company, institution, or organization with which the research project is conducted.

- c. Each PhD student is required to draw up an annual training and research plan agreed upon with his/her supervisor and approved by the PhD Board.
- d. The research proposal submitted by the candidate during the admission phase is to be developed and refined during the first year of the Ph.D. Programme, with the guidance of the Supervisor, and must be validated by the Doctoral Board during the end-of-year evaluation session. Consequently, the proposal may be modified and does not necessarily have to correspond to that originally submitted during admission.
- e. For the purposes of reporting and assessment, each doctoral student is required to prepare:
  - A semestral summary report of the activities carried out, indicating the allocation of time (broken down into months spent within the host institution, in-company, and abroad).
  - An annual report on research progress and activities performed.
  - The final doctoral thesis, as specified by the Doctoral Regulations and the Doctoral Board.
- f. Each doctoral candidate must spend a period of study and research abroad, lasting no less than six months and no more than twelve months over the three-year duration of the Programme. This period abroad may be non-continuous and may be undertaken at multiple institutions and/or organizations.
- g. In the case of research projects carried out in collaboration with external entities, or of scholarships entirely funded or co-funded by external bodies (such as companies, public or private institutions, universities, or other organizations), the doctoral candidate, in agreement with their Supervisor, may be required to spend research periods at such entities, in accordance with the terms set out in the respective agreements.
- h. The periods of study and research abroad and those conducted at external entities are to be considered distinct, although they may coincide within the same organization when justified by academic reasons and approved by the Doctoral Board.
- i. As an integral component of the doctoral training programme, the candidate may be required, with the authorization of the Doctoral Board and without any increase in the scholarship amount, to undertake:
  - Tutoring activities for IED students.
  - Supplementary teaching activities, up to a maximum of 48 hours.
  - Third mission activities (public engagement, dissemination, knowledge transfer).
- j. The Doctoral Board, under the conditions established by the Teaching Regulations, may authorize the doctoral candidate to engage in paid professional activities aimed at acquiring skills relevant to the doctoral training area, provided that such activities are compatible with the proper execution of the educational, teaching, and research activities of the programme. The maximum income permitted for a doctoral candidate—compatible with the receipt of a scholarship—may not exceed the total amount of the scholarship itself, pursuant to Article 11 of Ministerial Decree No. 470/2024.

### **Art. 11 – Award of the Ph.D. Degree**

The Doctoral degree is awarded following a positive evaluation of the Doctoral Thesis by the Evaluation Committee. The Doctoral Thesis must contribute to the advancement of knowledge or methodologies in the chosen field of research, in the relevant scientific and artistic fields.

The Doctoral Thesis defense takes place publicly before a committee appointed by the Academic Director upon recommendation of the Doctoral Committee.

All aspects regarding the appointment of the Evaluation Committees, the requirements for doctoral students admitted to the final examination, and the procedures for conducting the examination, are detailed in the IED Academic Regulations for PhD Courses.

### **Art. 12 – Personal Data Processing and Procedure Officer**

Pursuant to Articles 13 and 14 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR) and Legislative Decree No. 196 of 2003, as subsequently amended and supplemented, the Data Controller is Ecoconsult. The Data Protection Officer (DPO) is Eng. Luca Oldrini.

The processing of personal data—collected and used exclusively for the purposes of the present selection procedure—shall be carried out in full compliance with the principles of lawfulness, fairness, relevance, transparency, and confidentiality.

All personal data will be processed and stored in accordance with current legislation and used solely for purposes connected with the selection process and with the subsequent management of any resulting contractual or academic relationship with the Institute.

Such data may be disclosed only to public administrations directly involved in determining the legal, economic, or academic status of the successful candidate, and will be processed in compliance with the applicable regulations for the purposes of managing the candidate's academic, social security, insurance, and tax records.

Data processing shall be carried out by authorized personnel, through the acquisition and secure electronic storage of documents, using archiving procedures designed to ensure full confidentiality and data integrity.

Candidates who have provided their personal data are entitled to access, rectify, and exercise all rights provided under Articles 15–22 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679. Any request for the exercise of these rights must be addressed to the Data Controller. Without prejudice to such rights, candidates also retain the right to lodge a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority (Garante per la Protezione dei Dati Personali), Piazza Venezia 11, 00187 Rome.

By submitting the application for participation, the candidate authorizes and gives full consent for IED to publish, on its official institutional website, all information relating to the present call for applications, including the nominal ranking list and corresponding scores.

The Procedure Officer responsible for this selection process is Arch. Riccardo Balbo. The Doctoral Programme Secretariat contact person is Ms. Ginevra Corrarati, available Monday through Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the telephone number +39 011 541111 or by e-mail at [phd@ied.it](mailto:phd@ied.it).



### Art. 13 – Publication and References

This Call for Applications is published on the official IED web site <https://www.ied.edu/courses/turin/phd/design-arts-and-transdisciplinarity>.

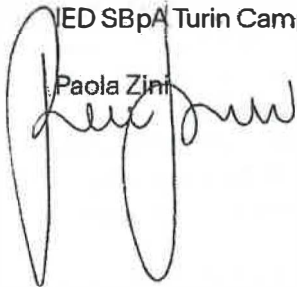
For any matters not expressly provided for in this Call, reference shall be made to the following:

- Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14 November 2023 (“Regulation concerning accreditation criteria for doctoral programmes and institutions entitled to issue Ph.D. degrees”).
- Current national and European legislation on doctoral education.
- IED General Regulation and Ph.D. Regulations, as approved by IED Academic Board.

This Call enters into force on the date of its publication.

*Turin, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

Director  
IED SBpA Turin Campus

Paola Zini  


Academic Director  
IED SBpA Group

Riccardo Balbo  
