

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

THE RECTOR

PURSUANT to Law no. 168 of 9 May 1989;

PURSUANT to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, "Regulations on the Organisation of

Universities, Academic Personnel, and Recruitment; Mandate to the Government Administration to Incentivise the Quality and Efficiency of the

University System", Art. 18 thereof in particular;

PURSUANT to Art. 24 of the Articles of the University of Milan;

PURSUANT to the University Regulation for Administration, Finance, and Accounting,

Art. 118 in particular;

RECOGNISING that Rector's Decree of 24 February 2011, recorded as no. 0272623, served

to promulgate the Regulation on Scholarships for Promising Graduates, issued as RD 27.12.2000, recorded as no. 0202259, as subsequently

amended;

CONSIDERING the need for a new regulation to govern protocols for awarding scholarships

for promising graduates;

RECOGNISING that the Academic Senate, in its meeting of 23 May 2017, approved the new

Regulation on Scholarships for Promising Graduates;

CONSIDERING that the Board of Directors, in its meeting of 30 May 2017, expressed its

support for the passage of the Regulation; hereby

ORDERS

the promulgation of the University Regulation to establish scholarships for promising graduates pursuant to the text annexed to, and fully incorporated into this Order.

The Regulation shall take effect the day after its publication on the University's website.

THE RECTOR Gianluca Vago

REGULATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PROMISING GRADUATES

Art. 1 Scope

1. This Regulation shall govern the University of Milan's establishment of a scholarships fund for promising graduates to allow them to continue and complete their academic training.

Art. 2 Scholarship Award Criteria

1. Assigned through a public selection process, the scholarships are intended to fund research activities within University Departments under the supervision of a lead instructor, and within the scope of a programme of independent study set by that instructor.

Art. 3 Funding

- 1. The scholarships under this Regulation shall be funded:
- a) by research grants awarded by the European Union and other national and international institutions, pursuant to the rules and regulations set by the same;
- b) with the proceeds of specific research agreements or contracts executed by the University with entities in the public and private sector, in Italy and abroad, without any budget impact for the University.

Art. 4 Scholarship Award Eligibility

- 1. To be eligible for a scholarship, graduates must be 30 years old or younger, without any criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, who hold a degree from a single-cycle or Master's degree programme, or a degree earned under prior national academic regulations (Ministerial Decree no. 509 of 3 November 1999, as subsequently amended), or an equivalent foreign degree, certified as equivalent by the proper academic authority. Scholarships applicants must have earned their degree within the three (3) years prior to the application deadline.
- 2. Those who have not yet earned a degree as specified in paragraph 1, *supra*, may be allowed to apply upon request of the interested Department Council. In such cases, the applicant must earn their degree by the deadline set by the Department, and appearing in the call for applications. Scholarship winners who fail to earn their degree by that later deadline shall have their scholarship rescinded.
- 3. Applicants must meet any other educational or background requirements set forth in the call for applications.

Art.5 Scholarship Award

- 1. Scholarships shall be established under the authority of the Department Councils with funds available under Article 2, *supra*, upon request of the lead instructors whose research is eligible for funding from research grants or under contracts contemplating the setting aside of funds for such scholarships.
 - 2. The related resolutions shall set forth:

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- the education and training the scholarship is needed to finance, and the academic field or fields to which it relates;
- the educational or research programme the scholarship recipient must follow;
- the scholarship amount and term, and whether it is renewable;
- the eligibility and background requirements for scholarship consideration, including foreignlanguage ability;
- assessment criteria for scholarship applicants;
- any collaborations, national or international, currently in place within the Department;
- the proposed make-up of the Selection Board.
- 3. Should the Department request more than one scholarship be established, the components appearing in paragraph 2 must be provided for each scholarship separately.

Art. 6 Call for Applications

- 1. Scholarships are awarded following a public selection procedure, based on a review of the applicant's academic qualifications and a personal interview, pursuant to a call for applications.
- 2. The calls for applications are posted to the University website and shall set forth:
- the University Departments within which the activities contemplated under the training or research programme or programmes will be carried out;
- the number, duration, and amount for the scholarships to be awarded;
- the academic field or fields of study;
- the training or research programme or programmes;
- the eligibility criteria (skills and educational background requirements);
- the assessment criteria;
- the application protocols and deadline, including the requirement for each applicant to submit their CV, along with any other degree or certificate (including their degree thesis) or other supporting documents attesting to the applicant's qualifications with respect to the proposed training programme;
- the documentation that the winners must produce for purposes of scholarship disbursement.
- 3. The application deadlines shall be set at least twenty days from the call for applications.

Art. 7 Scholarship Amount and Duration

- 1. The gross amount for the scholarships shall appear in the call for applications, and shall range from a minimum of Euro 1,000 to a maximum of Euro 2,000 per month.
- 2. The scholarships shall be awarded for a period long enough to allow the educational programme to be carried out, with a minimum length of six (6) months and a maximum length of eighteen (18) months. Scholarships may be renewed one (1) time using the Departments' funds, for a total period, cumulative with the original term, not to exceed twenty-four (24) months. Any scholarship renewal for the same research project shall be filed by the lead instructor and approved by the Department Council in question, which will then note the renewal term and amount.



Art.8 Selection Board and Applicant Assessment

- 1. The Selection Board shall be made up of the lead instructor for the research programme, who shall chair the Board, and by two (2) other full-time faculty.
- 2. The competitive process consists in reviewing all candidates' CVs and qualifications, and a personal interview aimed at gauging their fitness for the study and research in question. The Selection Board has a total of 100 points to award, divided as follows:
 - 50 points for qualifications obtained
 - 50 points for the interview.
- 3. A review of the applicant's qualifications shall precede the interview. Each candidate's score shall be calculated as the sum of the points awarded for their qualifications, and those earned during the interview. Once they have completed their work, the Selection Board will generate a ranking of applicants. In case of a tie, the scholarship shall be awarded to the younger candidate.
- 4. The assessment reports, to be signed by all members of the Selection Board, shall be public record.
- 5. The records of the selection process shall be approved by Rector's Decree, and posted to the University's website.

Art.9

Scholarship Disbursement, Restriction against Multiple Awards, and Disqualification

- 1. Prior to disbursement, scholarship winners must tender an acceptance of the scholarship according to the terms and conditions appearing in the call for applications; such acceptance must include a commitment to begin the activities covered within the research and training programme on the first day of the month following such statement of acceptance. Award winners shall also produce any additional documentation required in the call for applications. Those who earned their degree overseas shall submit an official translation of their foreign degree, with a declaration of validity thereon, as required under applicable law.
- 2. Should any winner fail to complete the foregoing steps by the deadlines set by University Administration, their scholarship award shall be rescinded. Such rescission shall not apply to those who are unable to comply with the requirements of paragraph 1, *supra*, for health-related reasons, or other force majeure, proper proof of which must be submitted. In case of rescission or withdrawal by the scholarship winner, the next-ranking applicant will be awarded the scholarship.
- 3. Scholarship winners shall be restricted from outside employment, whether in the public or private sector. Furthermore, scholarship winners may not carry on any professional enterprise nor act as a consultant on an ongoing, paid basis; scholarship recipients may be authorised to carry on such activities on a limited basis, provided their work does not jeopardise their completing the sponsored study or research, and provided their fees or other compensation do not exceed Euro 15,000.00 per annum.
- 4. The scholarships subject to this Regulation cannot be cumulative with other scholarships regardless of the reason they were awarded, except those awarded by Italian or foreign institutions to fund study or research abroad intended to supplement the scholarship award-winner's training and research.
- 5. For purposes of restrictions and disqualification under the preceding paragraphs, all winners, upon accepting their scholarships, shall, in a sworn statement rendered in lieu of statutory affidavit, provide warranties and representations to the same, and shall be under an ongoing duty to report any changes thereto.

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- 6. The University reserves the right to verify the genuineness of any statements rendered, and conduct all proper audits on the same (including by random selection), to verify the truth of the facts, circumstances, and personal qualities subject to affidavit by the scholarship winners.
- 7. Scholarship recipients who make false statements, or fail to make those disclosures required under paragraph 5, shall be disqualified, without prejudice to any other penalties available at law.
 - 8. Activity funded by scholarship shall not be construed as employment.

Art. 10 Scholarship Recipient Rights and Responsibilities

- 1. Scholarships shall be disbursed in monthly instalments following the month of scholarship activity, once the lead instructor for the research programme has certified that the scholarship recipient has duly carried out all assigned activity.
- 2. Those awarded a scholarship under this Regulation shall not be or become university instructors, lest they be disqualified.
- 3. Scholarship recipients shall have full access to campus, and shall be required to carry out their scholarship-funded activities on an ongoing basis, pursuant to the schedule created by the lead instructor, and under the supervision of the same. Leaves of absence of up to thirty (30) days per year are permitted, subject to approval. Any other period of absence may lead to disqualification, with the exception of those excused under Article 11, *infra*.
- 4. Any scholarship recipient who suspends his or her activities without just cause, or who is liable for material and reiterated breaches of conduct, may be deemed disqualified from the remainder of the scholarship.
- 5. Scholarship recipients who, after accepting the award, fail to begin their scholarship-funded activities shall be disqualified.
- 6. Scholarship recipients who, after beginning their scholarship-funded activities, wish to withdraw from the programme, shall provide notice of the same to the Rector and to their Department unit. Compensation disbursed for the periods actually performed under the scholarship prior to withdrawal shall not be subject to reimbursement.
- 7. The scholarship recipient shall, at the end of the scholarship period, submit a detailed report on their activities to the Department.

Art. 11 Permitted Leaves of Absence

- 1. A scholarship recipient may interrupt his or her scholarship activities for up to one year due to maternity or prolonged illness; proof must be submitted. During such periods, scholarship funds shall not be disbursed. Scholarship recipients shall notify their Department unit of their situation as soon as the recipient is on notice of the same.
- 2. The Department unit through which the student is carrying out their scholarship activities shall take all necessary steps to ensure the safety and health of the scholarship winner during pregnancy, maternity leave, and breast-feeding of their infant, as required under applicable law.
- 3. Upon their return to studies, beginning on the date the cause of their leave of absence ceases, activities shall recommence for the remainder of the contemplated term.

Art 12 Applicable Law



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- 1. Scholarship winners are not eligible for social security or other benefits, nor shall the scholarship be considered for purposes of career-related assessments, nor any automatic accruals for purposes of social security or other benefits.
- 2. Scholarship funds are subject to the tax treatment contemplated by law, and are exempt from withholding.
- 3. The University shall provide private health-insurance coverage to scholarship recipients, along with liability insurance, limited to the scholarship term and the scope of the student's educational activities. The premium shall be withheld from the amount to be disbursed to the scholarship recipient.

Art 13 Final Provisions

- 1. For any matter on which this Regulation and the call for applications are silent, applicable provisions of law, and other university scholarship regulations shall provide gap-filling terms.
- 2. This Regulation has been approved by the Academic Senate, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, and is hereby promulgated by Rector's Decree. It shall take effect the day after its publication on the University's website. From that same day, the aforementioned Regulation on Scholarships for Promising Graduates issued as RD 27.12.2000, recorded as no. 0202259, as subsequently amended, shall be repealed.