



## Entrance Exams for the Joint Ph.D in Molecular Biology Academic Year 2017/18

The International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste, the University of Trieste, the University of Udine and the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) in Trieste offer post-graduate training to obtain a joint “**Philosophiae Doctor**” (**Ph.D**) degree in Molecular Biology.

The programme lasts for three years and is based on teaching and research activities, with examinations to determine admission from one year to the next and the attainment of the Ph.D degree.

### • **Fellowships and other benefits:**

There are 6 fellowships available of the duration of 3 years, extendable for a fourth year subject to approval by the School authorities and to availability of funds.

**The yearly amount of the fellowships is, at the moment, of €15.010,32 gross.**

A contribution towards living expenses of the amount of €100,00 gross per month will be awarded to those who will subscribe a registered rent contract in the Trieste and Udine provinces.

A contribution towards the expenses to be enrolled in the health insurance system up to € 198,77 will be granted to non-EU students only. Further coverages may be provided by single institutions.

A contribution (70% of the amount of the fellowship) may be awarded to students who should be forced to suspend their activity due to illness, maternity or other serious reasons up to 5 months.

### • **Requirements:**

The School welcomes applications from young candidates who are going to complete or soon after completion of their undergraduate studies with a strong interest in research.

To be admitted to the School, candidates must be in possession of one of the following degrees **by 31 October, 2017:**

- Italian **laurea** or **laurea specialistica/magistrale** in a scientific subject;
- A University degree obtained abroad and considered equivalent to the aforementioned Italian degrees by the governing bodies of the School (i.e. M.Sc.).

### • **Online application:**

An online application must be filled and completed using the procedure available at the page <http://www.sissa.it/applications/phd/> by 24.00 hrs. (Italian time) of 11 September, 2017.

Candidates should upload the following documents in pdf format:

- curriculum vitae et studiorum;
- a certificate of University examinations taken (with marks) in one of the following languages: Italian, English, French, German or Spanish;
- a final degree certificate in Italian, English, French, German or Spanish;

- If, at the time of application, candidates should not be yet in possession of a degree certificate, they can submit it at the time of the examination.  
*European Union candidates can submit a personal declaration instead of the aforementioned certificates.*
- a copy of the diploma thesis (if any).

At the end of the procedure, candidates will have to indicate the name and email address of at least one professor that will receive an email requesting to send a recommendation letter through the same online procedure **by midnight of the expiry date.**

**The candidate will then have to print out the admission request form, sign it and send it, together with a copy of an ID document (i.e. passport) by email, fax or post to the address on the form itself. The request form must reach SISSA within 8 days from the “online deadline” of each course. Late arrival of the application, for whatever reason, will not be accepted.**

All necessary information about the online procedure can be found at the page <http://www.sissa.it/phd-courses>

#### ● **Entrance Exams:**

Admission will be through evaluation of academic qualifications and an interview. Information about the exams can be found in the Ph.D schedule attached to the present announcement.

**A contribution towards documented travel expenses with the exclusion of expenses incurred using their own means of transport, of up to a maximum of 150 €** will be given to all candidates that will be physically present for the oral exam.

#### ***Interview by videoconference***

Candidates who intend to sit the interview by videoconference should state the chosen platform (Skype or similar) and the user address that will be then used by the Commission for the interview. The candidate must be available at that address on the day and at the time that will be notified by the Commission via e-mail.

For identification purposes, and under penalty of exclusion from the selection process, each candidate is required to identify themselves showing the same identity document already uploaded as an attachment to the application before the interview begins.

Failure to give personal address, lack of internet connection, unavailability of the candidate at the expected day/time, or failure to show a valid identification document, shall be reason for exclusion from the selection process. This does not apply if the candidate appears in person on the day and at the time of the interview.

SISSA accepts no responsibility in the event that technical reasons should prevent the proper conduct of the oral examination.

Should objective reasons, duly documented, prevent personal participation in the oral test, the candidate who has not sent a request for interview as an attachment to the application, can send it to [protocollo@sissa.it](mailto:protocollo@sissa.it) four working days before the date set for the oral examination, enclosing a copy of a valid identity document. The Administration will give notice of acceptance of the request.

#### ● **Admission:**

Candidates admitted to the course will receive an email confirming their place and fellowship. They will also be asked to be present at SISSA on **6 November, 2017.**

**Failure to do so without a valid reason will result in the loss of the place and fellowship awarded.**

**In order to be enrolled and to be awarded the fellowship, admitted candidates must pay a “Regional Tax” of the amount of € 140,00 - € 160,00 per year. Information will be given by the Students’ Secretariat in due time.**

The International School for Advanced Studies will respect the reserved nature of the information submitted by the candidates. All the data will be used for the purpose of the competition only and for the eventual fellowship, in accordance with the Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003.

Prof. Guido Martinelli – SISSA Director

Prof. Maurizio Fermeglia – Rector of the Trieste University

Prof. Alberto Felice De Toni - Rector of the Udine University

Prof. Mauro Giacca – General Director of ICGEB