



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PISA

PhD PROGRAMME IN INFORMATION ENGINEERING
ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027 (42ND CYCLE)

Coordinator professor *Paolo Nepa*

Administrative headquarters: Department of Information Engineering
(<https://www.dii.unipi.it/en/>)

SELECTION PROCEDURES

Total no. of positions available 11

ING_INF01_A	Type of selection procedure single ranking list												
	No. of available positions with grant 3 of which												
	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>No.</th><th>Funding organisation / Partner institution</th><th>Subject / Research project (if any)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td colspan="3">Positions with grant</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>University of Pisa</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)	Positions with grant			3	University of Pisa				
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)										
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3	University of Pisa												
IMPORTANT In addition to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 3 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out													
ING_INF02_A	Type of selection procedure subject-specific PhD grants with separate ranking lists: no. of ranking lists 2												
	No. of available positions with grant 2 of which												
	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>No.</th><th>Funding organisation / Partner institution</th><th>Subject / Research project (if any)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td colspan="3">Positions with grant</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa</td><td><i>Development of security solutions for ICT and industrial systems based on silicon physical unclonable functions</i></td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa</td><td><i>Development of neuromorphic integrated circuits for physical AI</i></td></tr></tbody></table>	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)	Positions with grant			1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Development of security solutions for ICT and industrial systems based on silicon physical unclonable functions</i>	1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Development of neuromorphic integrated circuits for physical AI</i>
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)										
	Positions with grant												
1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Development of security solutions for ICT and industrial systems based on silicon physical unclonable functions</i>											
1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Development of neuromorphic integrated circuits for physical AI</i>											
Both grants are funded through the CyberSiliconID Project, which concerns the development of a hardware and software authentication infrastructure based on new silicon chips capable of implementing physical cryptography techniques with very high entropy. Contacts: Prof. G. Iannaccone: giuseppe.iannaccone@unipi.it .													

IMPORTANT In addition to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 2 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out

ING_INF03_A

Type of selection procedure
single ranking list for research project

No. of available positions with grant 1
of which

No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
Positions with grant		
1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa and <i>Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften (ZHAW)</i>	<i>Enhancing Edge-AI with Spiking Neural Networks and Federated Learning for Resource-Constrained Embedded Systems</i>

Further requirements

The PhD candidate awarded the scholarship is required to carry out an 18-month research period at ZHAW, in Winterthur, Switzerland, subject to prior authorisation by the Doctoral Board. During the stay at ZHAW, the PhD candidate will be partially employed by the institute and will receive a monthly contribution of CHF 2,000.00 towards living expenses. Carrying out the activity at ZHAW requires possession of a Swiss work permit, which is generally obtainable for EU/EFTA citizens, whereas it is not guaranteed for citizens of other nationalities. For the first 12 months of the stay abroad, an increase in the doctoral scholarship is also provided, amounting to EUR 834.89 per month, pursuant to Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021.

Contacts: prof. Francesco Marcelloni francesco.marcelloni@unipi.it; prof. Carlo Vallati carlo.vallati@unipi.it.

IMPORTANT In addition to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 1 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out

ING_INF04_A

Type of selection procedure
single ranking list for research project

No. of available positions with grant 1
of which

No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
Positions with grant		
1	Consorzio Nazionale Interuniversitario per le Telecomunicazioni – CNIT	<i>Multi-dimensional and multi-platform radar imaging</i>

Contacts: prof. Agostino Monorchio agostino.monorchio@unipi.it; prof. Marco Martorella m.martorella@bham.ac.uk.

IMPORTANT In addition to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 1 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out

ING_INF05_A	Type of selection procedure single ranking list for research project		
	No. of available positions with grant 1 of which		
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
	Positions with grant		
	1	Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK)	<i>Enabling trustworthiness in AI for precision agriculture</i>
Contacts: prof. Pietro Ducange pietro.ducange@unipi.it .			
ING_INF06_A	Type of selection procedure single ranking list for research project		
	No. of available positions with grant 1 of which		
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
	Positions with grant		
	1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Modeling and experimental characterization of dynamic scaling behaviors in human-derived cell-based in vitro systems</i>
Contacts: Dott. Ermes Botte ermes.botte@ing.unipi.it .			
<p>IMPORTANT <u>In addition</u> to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 1 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out</p>			
ING_INF07_A	Type of selection procedure single ranking list for research project		
	No. of available positions with grant 1 of which		
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution	Subject / Research project (if any)
	Positions with grant		
	1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Research and development of integrated electronic architectures for reliable and efficient System-on-Chip for digital signal processing on board satellites</i>
Contacts: prof. Luca Fanucci luca.fanucci@unipi.it .			
<p>IMPORTANT <u>In addition</u> to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 1 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out</p>			

ING_INF08_A	Type of selection procedure single ranking list for research project	
	No. of available positions with grant 1 of which	
	No.	Funding organisation / Partner institution
	Subject / Research project (if any)	
Positions with grant		
1	Department of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa	<i>Enhancing the performance and the security of advanced cryptographic primitives with Trusted Computing Architectures</i>
Contacts: prof. Pericle Perazzo pericle.perazzo@unipi.it .		
<p>IMPORTANT <u>In addition</u> to the doctoral scholarship, at the end of each of the three years of the PhD programme, the selected candidates shall be eligible to participate in an annual call issued by the Department of Information Engineering for the award of no. 1 prizes, each amounting to EUR 4,500.00 gross, inclusive of charges borne by the administration. These prizes are reserved for students who have successfully passed the annual assessment of the activities carried out</p>		
NB: For the selection procedures		
ING_INF01_A, ING_INF02_A, ING_INF04_A, ING_INF05_A, ING_INF06_A, ING_INF07_A, ING_INF08_A		
<p>candidates who, on the closing date of the Call for applications, are employed under a subordinate employment contract with a public body, for a duration at least equal to that of the PhD programme, may choose whether to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>participate in the selection as a public employee, thereby automatically waiving the doctoral grant;</u> 2. <u>participate in the selection for a position with grant, without declaring their status as a public employee at the application stage.</u> <p>Applicants who are public employees, in the case referred to under point 1, must declare their status during the above-mentioned online application procedure by selecting the corresponding option in the dedicated field available on the “Alice” platform https://www.studenti.unipi.it. Such candidates must also submit a self-declaration certifying their employment with the relevant public body, in accordance with Annex 1 to the Call for applications. Any applicant who, when submitting the online application, declares that they wish to participate as a public employee shall automatically waive the grant, and the provisions governing the ranking list set out in Article 5 of the Call shall apply. This choice is irrevocable and <u>may not be changed at a later stage.</u></p>		

The information below applies to all the selection procedures indicated above

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (Article 3 of the Call for applications)

Master’s Degree (LM) /Second Degree (Specialistica-LS) (or Old system University Degree): **ALL**

or
equivalent academic qualification in accordance with *Ministerial Decree of 9 July 2009* to be obtained by **31 October 2026**.
In the event that the degree has not yet been awarded by the deadline of the Call for applications, the candidate must attach a list of the examinations taken, including the corresponding marks.

Important: In this regard, during the online application procedure for the selection, the candidate must attach a self-declaration concerning the degree already obtained, or to be obtained, drawn up in accordance with Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, as per Annex 2 to the Call for applications.

SELECTION METHODS AND CRITERIA (Article 4 of the Call for applications)

Curriculum vitae

The CV, duly signed and accompanied by a photocopy of a valid identity document, must be uploaded exclusively during the online application procedure for the selection, and must outline the candidate's educational background, as well as their professional and research experience. **Candidates are advised to submit any documentation deemed useful for the purposes of assessing the CV.**

Interview

The interview shall assess the candidate's knowledge, aptitude for research, willingness to undertake training pathways in Italy and abroad, and interest in further scientific study.

The selection procedures **ING_INF03_A, ING_INF04_A**

Interviews will only take position remotely

The selection procedures **ING_INF01_A, ING_INF02_A, ING_INF05_A, ING_INF06_A, ING_INF07_A, ING_INF08_A**

Videoconferencing **YES**

Candidates wishing to take the interview by videoconference must upload the VIDEO Annex to the Call for applications **exclusively during the online application procedure for the selection.** Requests received after the deadline of the Call for applications (8 June 2026) shall be submitted to the Selection Committee, which will assess whether to accept them in light of the technical time required to organise the interview by videoconference.

Research Project:

to be assessed together with the CV and to be presented at the interview

The research project must be uploaded **during the online application procedure for registration.**

The research project, assessed together with the CV, is intended to highlight the candidate's ability to design a research proposal and to verify the consistency of its content with the PhD programme themes.

The research project, which will be discussed during the interview, must be presented by the candidate in order to demonstrate its feasibility and sustainability.

The research project must briefly describe (no more than 5 pages of text and figures) the general idea, methodology, development phases, and expected results of a research project in the field of Information Engineering, as well as related to the scientific topic assigned to this fellowship, that the candidate intends to develop as part of the Doctoral course

The project submitted for the purposes of the selection does not constitute a constraint on future research activity.

	Minimum score	Maximum score
<i>Curriculum</i>	30	50
Candidates who have obtained a score of at least 30 out of 50 points shall be admitted to the written test.		
<i>Interview</i>	30	50
Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 60 out of 100 points		

SCHEDULE OF THE TESTS

The tests may take place in the period **between 22 June and 6 July 2026.**

The schedule of the tests, for each of the selections below, will be published **by 25 May 2026** at <https://www.unipi.it/bando-dottorato>, including the indication of the venue where they will be held.

RANKING LIST AND ENROLMENT

Article 5 of the Call for applications sets out:

- the procedures for drawing up the ranking list
- the date of publication of the ranking list
- the procedures and deadlines for enrolment
- the procedures and deadlines for subsequent admissions from the ranking list.

Important: Subsequent admissions from the ranking lists, after 17 September and until 31 December 2026, are permitted only for "open" grants (i.e. those without a specific research topic), namely: **ING_INF01_A.**

In the other selection procedures, as they involve subject-based grants, any unassigned positions at the end of the third round of admissions from the ranking list will be made available by means of a specific notice, to be issued by Rector's Decree in November. Such notice will be reserved for eligible candidates suitably placed in the ranking lists of the selection procedures already completed and will be published at <https://www.unipi.it/didattica/corsi/dottorati/>.

With regard to the publication of the notice and the procedures for the reallocation of the grants, **no individual email communication will be sent to eligible candidates**, as all relevant information will be provided upon publication of the ranking lists.

INFORMATION ON THE TEACHING ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAMME

Educational project and objectives of the programme:

<https://www.unipi.it/en/education/courses/phd-programmes/engineering-and-computer-sciences/information-engineering/>

Curricula of the PhD programme

1. *General*
2. *Industry 4.0*

PhD programme website:

<https://www.dii.unipi.it/en/>

PhD programme regulations:

<https://www.unipi.it/wp-content/uploads/regdotinginf.pdf>