

"Pegaso Scholarships are funded with resources of the PR FSE 2021/27 in the frame of Giovani SI (www.giovanisi.it), the project organized by Regione Toscana to help young people become independent."

LIFE COURSE RESEARCH

- LCR -

Director prof. Daniele Vignoli

XLII cycle - academic year 2026/2027

CUP Pegaso Scholarships 2026

B12B26000220008

SCIENTIFIC AREA	
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE	Department of Statistics, Computer Science, Applications "Giuseppe Parenti"
WEB	www.phd-lcr.com
PARTNER INSTITUTIONS	• Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa (<i>Pegaso</i>) • Università di Pisa (<i>Pegaso</i>) • Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa (<i>Pegaso</i>) • Università degli Studi di Bari • Università degli Studi di Torino • Università degli Studi di Trento • Università degli Studi Milano-Bicocca • Università degli Studi Napoli Federico II • Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele
CURRICULA	1. Biomedical 2. Psychological 3. Socio-Demographic
POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 22 Positions with Scholarship: 20 Positions without Scholarship: 2* <i>* standard ranking only for all curricula</i>	
RANKING FOR STANDARD POSITIONS CURRICULA: BIOMEDICAL - PSYCHOLOGICAL- SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC	
RANKING LIST FOR STANDARD POSITIONS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 7	2 - University of Florence (Socio-Demographic curriculum) 5 - Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarships 2026 (Biomedical curriculum: 1 Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa and 1 Università degli Studi di Firenze; Socio-Demographic curriculum: 1 Università degli Studi di Firenze, 1 Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa and 1 Università di Pisa)

STANDARD RANKING - THEMATICS FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS	BIOMEDICAL CURRICULUM - Omic analysis of molecular factors involved in age-dependent processes of the nervous system (<i>Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa</i>) - Functional analysis of molecular factors involved in age-dependent processes of the nervous system (<i>Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa</i>) - Geriatric Cardiology (<i>Università degli Studi di Firenze</i>) - Relations between ageing, clinical complexity and frailty (<i>Università degli Studi di Firenze</i>) - Life-course approach to health: chronic diseases (<i>Università degli Studi di Torino; Università degli Studi di Napoli; Università degli Studi di Firenze</i>) - Life-course approach to health: infectious diseases (<i>Università degli Studi di Torino; Università degli Studi di Napoli; Università degli Studi di Firenze</i>) PSYCHOLOGICAL CURRICULUM - Psychological trajectories and transitions in the life cycle (<i>University of Florence</i>) - Resilience and vulnerability processes in psychological trajectories (<i>University of Florence</i>) SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CURRICULUM - Aging, health, and life course transitions (<i>University of Florence</i>) - Family formation (couple relationships, union formation and dissolution, fertility) (<i>University of Florence</i>) - New research perspectives in social demography (<i>University of Florence</i>) - Gender, social origin, socio-economic status and individual life courses (<i>University of Florence</i>) - Socio-economic integration of immigrants in Western countries (<i>Università degli Studi di Firenze</i>) - Socio-demographic consequences of immigration in Western countries (<i>Università degli Studi di Firenze</i>) - Health services research and healthcare systems (<i>Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa</i>) - Population Health and Well-Being Across the Life Course (<i>Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa</i>) - Longitudinal and multilevel data analysis (<i>Università di Pisa</i>) - Non-probability surveys in case of unplanned socio-economic domains (<i>Università di Pisa</i>)
RANKINGS FOR SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS BIOMEDICAL CURRICULUM	
RANKING FOR POSITIONS WITH SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 6	1 - University of Florence - Department of Neuroscience, Psychology, Drug Research and Child Health (NEUROFARBA) Thematic - "RNA therapeutics and gene therapy: design and development of novel modulators for chronic pain treatment." Funded by project 58514_DIPECC_23_27 - "Progetto Dipartimenti di Eccellenza 2023-2027" - CUP B17G22000740001 1 - Scuola Normale Superiore Pisa Thematic - "Omic and functional analysis of molecular factors involved in age-dependent processes of the nervous system."

	1 - University of Pisa Thematic - “Stratification of metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) patients for personalized medical care through combined genetic, imaging and glyco-lipid profiling.” 1 - University of Turin Thematic - “Study of health inequalities using a life course approach.” 1 - University of Napoli “Federico II” Thematic - “Unraveling the mechanisms of rare disease to exploiting management of chronic diseases.” 1 - University “Vita-Salute San Raffaele” Thematic - “Molecular and functional determinants of paradigmatic age-onset chronic inflammation.”
RANKING FOR SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPIC SCHOLARSHIP PSYCHOLOGICAL CURRICULUM	
RANKING FOR POSITION WITH SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPIC SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE: 2	1 - Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarship 2026* Thematic - “Promoting relational and emotional skills to cope with post-breakup stress in adolescence: evidence-based interventions.” <i>(Università degli Studi di Firenze)</i> <i>*a period of training/research in an enterprise, a public research institution or other public institution (not a university) of at least 3 months is mandatorily required.</i> 1 - University Milano-Bicocca Thematic - “Early life and perinatal influences on psychological developmental trajectories.”
RANKINGS FOR SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CURRICULUM	
RANKING FOR POSITIONS WITH SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 5	1 - Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarship 2026* Thematic - “Reproductive health and low fertility: the role of medically assisted reproduction and policies to promote and support childbearing.” <i>(Università degli Studi di Firenze)</i> <i>*a period of training/research in an enterprise, a public research institution or other public institution (not a university) of at least 3 months is mandatorily required.</i> 1 - University of Bari Thematic - “Demographic behaviors and migrations.” 1 - University of Turin Thematic - “Education, Skills, and Labor Market Outcomes: Gender, Equity, and Inclusion.” 1 - University of Trento Thematic - “Socioeconomic inequalities and the spread of infectious diseases.” 1 - Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa Thematic - “Health Services Research Across the Life Course: Understanding Healthcare Needs, Utilization, Costs, Outcomes, and Future Care Demand.”

MANDATORY STUDY/RESEARCH PERIODS ABROAD	at least 6 months for Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarships 2026 at least 3 months for all the other positions
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE ADMISSION	• Copy of the Identification Document • Self-certification for qualifications obtained in Italy (laurea triennale, specialistica o magistrale o ciclo unico) with list of exams taken, credits and related grade, title of the thesis and graduation mark (using the template at this page or similar forms containing the required information) • Qualifications obtained abroad (Bachelor's and Master's Degrees or combined cycle Degree) with a list of all exams taken, credits and related grade, rating scale, title of the thesis and graduation mark <i>The same documentation except for the final mark must be submitted by those who will graduate within the 31/10/2026</i>
DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE EVALUATION	MANDATORY • Curriculum vitae of the applicant • Research Project • List of completed examinations with marks and with the weighted average grade of the exams both for Bachelor's and Master's Degrees (or equivalent) OPTIONAL • List of Publications (if any) • Other qualifications
RESEARCH PROJECT	The research project proposal should be drafted in English, it must not exceed 10.000 characters (including: spaces, abstract, references, and notes). The project must include an abstract (maximum 1500 characters, including spaces), state of the art and contextualization of the topic, data and methodologies, expected results, references. The project may include up to three tables and/or figures. STANDARD RANKING The research project submitted by candidates applying for scholarships in the standard ranking must refer to one of the topics listed in the section "STANDARD RANKING -THEMATICS FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS" RANKINGS FOR SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS It is allowed to apply for multiple scholarships with specific research topics within the same curriculum, by submitting a separate project for each scholarship and clearly indicating which scholarship the project refers to. Note: The same research project may be submitted for both one of the specific research topic scholarships and the standard ranking.
FURTHER INFORMATION	The research activity related to the Pegaso Scholarships 2026 will be carried out mainly in one of the partner institutions (Università degli Studi di Firenze, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Università di Pisa, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna di Pisa).

	The research activity related to the specific research topics scholarships will be mainly carried out at the funding institution. For Ph.D. students of the Socio-Demographic curriculum, a first year of in-person teaching is planned at the administrative headquarters (University of Florence). More information on the Life Course Research program is available on the course website: https://www.phd-lcr.com/																		
INTERVIEW MODE	Remotely (videocall)																		
FURTHER INFORMATION ON INTERVIEW	The interview will be focused on the topic(s) related to the subject of the research project(s) and it will also be aimed at assessing the scientific knowledge and the research aptitude of the candidate. The interview is also intended to verify candidate knowledge of the English language (level B2 at least).																		
EVALUATION MARKS	<table><tr><th>parameters</th><th>minimum score</th><th>maximum score</th></tr><tr><td>Curriculum vitae, publications and other qualifications document</td><td>20/120</td><td>35/120</td></tr><tr><td>Research Project</td><td>30/120</td><td>35/120</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 50/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview</td></tr><tr><td>Interview</td><td>30/120</td><td>50/120</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120</td></tr></table>	parameters	minimum score	maximum score	Curriculum vitae, publications and other qualifications document	20/120	35/120	Research Project	30/120	35/120	Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 50/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview			Interview	30/120	50/120	Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120		
parameters	minimum score	maximum score																	
Curriculum vitae, publications and other qualifications document	20/120	35/120																	
Research Project	30/120	35/120																	
Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 50/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview																			
Interview	30/120	50/120																	
Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120																			

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE		
	DATE	TIME
INTERVIEW	September 21 st , 2026	08:30 a.m.
The list of candidates admitted to the interview and the final ranking will be published at the page PhD courses		

ENROLLMENT ROUNDS		
Enrollment must be completed within the specified mandatory deadlines, under penalty of exclusion. (as per Art. 13 of the Call for Applications - Annex 1)		
	Opening Date	Deadline for Enrollment
Enrollment (successful candidates)	Ranking's publication date (by September 30th, 2026)	by 11.59 pm (CEST) on October 7th 2026
1st round (eligible candidates)	from 12th October 2026	by 11.59 pm (CEST) on October 16th 2026
2nd round (eligible candidates)	from 20th October 2026	by 11.59 pm (CEST) on October 23th 2026
It is the sole responsibility of the candidate to check their personal reserved area.		

No personal communications will be sent to candidates.
Technical instructions for enrollment can be found **[here](#)**.