

"Pegaso Scholarships are funded with resources of the PR FSE 2014/20 in the frame of Giovani SI (www.giovanisi.it), the project organized by Regione Toscana to help young people become independent."

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN SMART COMPUTING - SMART -

Director prof. Stefano Berretti

XLII cycle - academic year 2026/2027

CUP Pegaso Scholarships 2026

B12B26000210008

TECHNOLOGICAL AREA	
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE	Department of Information Engineering
WEB	smartcomputing.unifi.it
PARTNER INSTITUTIONS	University of Pisa University of Siena
POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 8 Positions with scholarship: 8 Positions without Scholarship: <i>not available</i>	
RANKING LIST FOR STANDARD POSITIONS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 6	2 - University of Florence 1 - University of Pisa 1 - University of Siena 2 - Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarships 2026*
RANKING LISTS FOR POSITIONS WITH SPECIFIC RESEARCH TOPICS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: 2	Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarships 2026** <i>*NOTE: Pegaso scholarships winners may be assigned to one of the affiliated universities</i> Thematic 1 - "Privacy-preserving computer vision for anonymization in telemedicine for motor disabilities in developmental age." Thematic 2 - "Secure and High-Performance Confidential Computing for Cloud Infrastructures." ** For Regione Toscana Pegaso Scholarships 2026 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.
STUDY/RESEARCH PERIODS ABROAD	at least 6 months
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 ● Abstract of the M.Sc. thesis ● Research project OPTIONAL ● List of publications and any other qualification document ● PDF copy or a chapter of the M.Sc. thesis (if available)									
RESEARCH PROJECT	The research proposal should be written in English and should be submitted as a PDF file. The length may not exceed 12,000 characters. The research proposal should describe a three years project having a high potential for a novel scientific contribution in any area related to smart computing. In the proposal, the candidate should briefly summarize the state-of-the-art, identify one or more open problems, explain why solving these open problems is significant, and describe a research plan, possibly addressing the associated risk factors and strategies for dealing with them. The research proposal will not be used to bound the research in any particular area; it just serves the purpose of assessing the candidate's technical writing skills, the ability to envision sensible long-term research goals, and the ability to plan and evaluate research activities. Candidates applying for multiple rankings must attach a separate project for each.									
FURTHER INFORMATION	Themes of interest are listed in the section below “Topics for the research project and the interview”. Additional thematic of interest are listed at: smartcomputing.unifi.it/procedures									
INTERVIEW MODE	Remotely (videocall) The interview can be taken in Italian or in English language. If held in Italian, the candidate's proficiency in English will also be assessed (at a minimum level of B2)									
EVALUATION MARKS	<table><tr><th>Parameter</th><th>minimum score</th><th>maximum score</th></tr><tr><td>Curriculum vitae, academic career, publications, qualification documents</td><td>27/120</td><td>40/120</td></tr><tr><td>Research proposal</td><td>27/120</td><td>40/120</td></tr></table>	Parameter	minimum score	maximum score	Curriculum vitae, academic career, publications, qualification documents	27/120	40/120	Research proposal	27/120	40/120
Parameter	minimum score	maximum score								
Curriculum vitae, academic career, publications, qualification documents	27/120	40/120								
Research proposal	27/120	40/120								

	Applicants who obtain a mark of at least 54/120 according to the minimum score for each parameter will be admitted to the interview		
	Interview (including a discussion of the research proposal)	26/120	40/120
	Eligibility is achieved with a minimum score of 80/120		
TOPICS FOR THE RESEARCH PROJECT AND THE INTERVIEW	• Artificial Intelligence • Computer Networking • Computer Vision • Computer Graphics • Computer Architectures • Conversational Agents • Data Analysis and Social Network Data Analysis • Fog/Edge computing in IoT • Embedded and Cyber-physical Systems • Machine Learning • Neuroinformatics • Pervasive Sensing & Computing • Quantitative evaluation and verification of concurrent systems • Security and Privacy in Smart Systems • Software architectures and engineering methods		

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE		
	DATE	TIME
INTERVIEW	September 14 th , 2026	10:00 am
The list of candidates admitted to the interview and the final ranking will be published at 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 .		