



## Industrial PhD Guidelines

The Company that wishes to further qualify its employees through participation in the doctoral path, can express this intention by signing a letter of intent, addressed to the President of the University and to the Coordinator of the PhD programme of interest.

In case of reciprocal interest from the University, an agreement is signed and approved by the Academic Board and the Department Council offering the course. With such an agreement the University undertakes to reserve one or more positions for the said company employees in its Call for Applications.

### Company or entity's requisites

The Company/Entity, in accordance with the ministerial guidelines for the accreditation of industrial PhD courses, in order to request the activation of an industrial study path, must meet at least one of the requirements below:

- a) have successfully participated in national or international research projects;
- b) have at least one division within the company dedicated to research and development.

**Contribution paid by the Company/Entity:** the company interested in the industrial PhD course is required to contribute to the University a certain minimum amount for the activation of each Industrial PhD position. The amount is agreed with the University and coincides, preferably, with the budget for research activities in Italy and abroad (equal to € 3,068.66) envisaged by the regulations, and cannot, in any case, be less than 1,000 euros, considering the costs that the University incurs to organize the training and research activities of the course. The Company/Entity must also take care of the student's annual enrolment fees and charges.

**Period of validity of the agreement between the University and the Company/Entity:** in order to give continuity to the industrial path, and in particular in relation to the ministerial accreditation of the industrial doctoral course, it is preferable to stipulate agreements with a duration of at least three doctoral cycles, it being understood that each year the University and the Company/Entity agree on the number of industrial doctoral positions to be activated. Should different needs arise, they will be assessed on the basis of the motivations presented.

**Duration of the programme:** 3 years, starting on 1 November of every year. The period of 6 months required to present and discuss the thesis is not included, to which an additional 6 months can be added in case of deferment. In any case, the thesis must be discussed by 31 October of the year following the normal end of the course.

**Candidates' requisites:** to be employees of the Company/Entity and have the necessary qualifications for admission to PhD programmes (five-year combined bachelor-master's degree, specialist or master's degree or equivalent foreign qualification). In the event that the candidate is no longer retained by the Company/Entity, the agreement is automatically terminated. In this case the PhD candidate will not be able to achieve the title of PhD.

**Candidates' selection procedure:** candidates must submit applications to participate in the competition and take the examination/interview, according to the procedures indicated in the Call. If successful, they will obtain entry in the ranking.

**Supervision and educational path:** the path is based on the co-supervision of the University and Company together. To this purpose, the academic supervisor must be flanked by a supervisor within the Company/Entity, with the task of monitoring the research activities, according to the methods discussed in the agreement and on the basis of a tailored training project agreed between the parties and assigned by the teaching staff of the doctoral course.

**Evaluation of the research activity:** specific monitoring methods can be defined, providing periodical reports on the research project carried out; in any case, as is applicable to all doctoral students, admission to the following years of the course is determined by the positive evaluation of the activity carried out, according to the methods provided by the Academic Board.