SISSA Mathematical Fellowships

**TRANSLATION OF ANNOUNCEMENT No. 530/2024 DATED 19 JULY 2024
FOR No. 1 RESEARCH POSITION**

INTRODUCTION

SISSA Mathematical Fellowships are aimed at supporting a prestigious postdoc research program partly funded by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR). SISSA will identify, recruit and support the most talented and promising young researchers who demonstrated the ability to carry out autonomous research. The SISSA Mathematical Fellows will be recruited through a public selection procedure based on qualifications. During the one-year-contract at SISSA they will be granted total independence in the choice of their research topic and in their project management.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We hereby announce a public selection procedure to assign no. 1 research fellowship in accordance with art. 22 of Law No. 240 dated 30.12.2010 (dd/mm/yyyy), in its version prior to Law No. 79 dated 29.06.2022. The call is open to researchers working in all areas of Mathematics, (as defined by the Italian Ministry for University and Research, Scientific Area 01 - Mathematics and Computer Science) who have already showed research independence and potential to research leadership.
The annual gross amount of the research fellowship is € 36.636,00.
The project is expected to last 12 months.
The gross total cost of the research fellowship and of the above-mentioned additional research grant will be funded by the following project: DIP_ECC_MATE_CoordAreaMate_0459 - Dipartimenti di Eccellenza 2018 - 2022 (Area Matematica) - Coordinatore Area Matematica, UGOV code: DIP_ECC_MATE_CoordAreaMate_0459; Project code: G91I18000050006; Financing agency: Italian Ministry for University and Research; Funding channel: DIPARTIMENTI DI ECCELLENZA 2018 – 2022.

A contribution towards relocation expenses in Trieste is envisioned for the successful candidate if resident abroad (in the EU or outside the EU). The costs will be covered by the following project: DIP_ECC_MATE_CoordAreaMate_0459 - Dipartimenti di Eccellenza 2018 - 2022 (Area Matematica) - Coordinatore Area Matematica, UGOV code: DIP_ECC_MATE_CoordAreaMate_0459; Project code:

G91I18000050006; Financing agency: Italian Ministry for University and Research; Funding channel: DIPARTIMENTI DI ECCELLENZA 2018 – 2022.

Given the resolutions of the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors of SISSA dated 20 February and 27 February 2024 respectively, EU and non-EU foreign research fellows are entitled to a reimbursement of the costs incurred for their Italian health insurance up to a maximum of € 2,000.00 per calendar year. A reimbursement is also foreseen for a medical travel insurance covering the trip to Trieste at the start of the contract.

The minimum compulsory requirements for admission to the selection procedure are the following:
- Master of Science degree in Mathematics, Physics or other scientific disciplines;
- Proven experience in scientific research (Mathematics);
- A PhD degree is not mandatory upon submission of the application, but candidates must earn it before the start of the contract;
- Independence in research and an outstanding CV are essential assets.

The successful candidates will be assigned an office and access to all the School's facilities.

Further information on the research activities of SISSA can be found at the following link: http://www.sissa.it/research; http://www.math.sissa.it/.

For further information, candidates may visit the following website: http://math.sissa.it/content/sissa-mathematical-fellowships.

APPLICATIONS

Candidates shall submit the application, along with qualifications, documents and publications relevant for the selection procedure, through the online PICA application at the following website: https://pica.cineca.it/sissa/ar-dip-ecc-mate-49-2024.

No other form of submission of applications or documentation is allowed. The online application procedure will mandatorily require an email address to register in the system. Such email address will be used for every communication with the School's Administration.

Applicants shall upload all personal and professional data as requested by the application procedure; all documents must be uploaded in .pdf format.

All fields in the online application form must be filled out. The application must mandatorily include:
 1) a research project structured as follows:

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- An extended abstract, which has to be no longer than 1 page, describing the scientific sector of interest within the Mathematics Area (Mathematical Analysis, Numerical Analysis, Mathematical Physics, Geometry or other)
- A detailed research proposal, which has to be no longer than 5 pages (excluding bibliography);
- Bibliography

2) The candidate's curriculum vitae, including a complete list of his/her scientific and professional activities. The list of publications will have to be drafted according to international standards, and all authors must be mentioned;

3) a scan of a valid ID of the candidate;

Submission of **two recommendation letters** is strongly recommended. If the candidate still has to discuss his/her doctoral thesis, one of the letters shall be from the Phd advisor and shall include an evaluation/description of the thesis. Detailed instructions for the submission of the recommendation letters can be found below.

Prior to final submission, and within the deadline of this Announcement, the online application procedure allows to edit and save the application as a draft.
The date of electronic submission of the application for participation in the selection is certified by the computer system by means of a receipt, sent automatically by e-mail. Once the deadline for submitting applications has expired, the system will no longer allow access and submission of the electronic form.

The online application and submission procedure has to be completed **by 22 July 2024, 11:59 p.m. CEST (Rome time).** The reference letters shall be uploaded on the PICA platform by the candidate's referees/supervisors by 28 July 2024, 11:59 p.m. CEST (Rome time).

The submission of the online application must be completed and finalized:
- **with the digital signature of the candidate**, by means of smart card, USB token or remote digital signature, for digitally signing electronic documents with a software using a PC or a web portal for Remote Signature provided by a Certification Service Provider (CSP). Candidates with a smart card or a USB token for digital signature should check the compatibility with the Digital Signature system embedded in our server. In case of compatibility, candidates shall sign the application on the server (i.e. ConFirma);
- **holders of server-incompatible Digital Signature and holders of Remote Digital Signature** who can access a web portal for digitally signing electronic documents, shall save the PDF file generated by the system on their PC; the .pdf file shall not be modified in any way, and

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it shall be digitally signed in CAdES format: the system will generate a file with .p7m extension. The candidate shall upload the .p7m file on the system. No changes are to be made to the file by the candidates before the Digital Signature, on pain of exclusion from the competition;

- **in case the two above-mentioned options do not apply**, candidates shall save the .pdf file generated by the system on their PC. The .pdf file shall not be modified in any way, on pain of exclusion from the competition. The .pdf shall be printed out, signed on the last page, scanned in .pdf format and uploaded on the system.

Candidates accessing the PICA platform using their digital identity (SPID – Public Digital Identity System) will not be required to upload a scan of their personal ID, nor to sign and upload their application.
For any technical issue regarding the application, candidates may contact the technical support through the link at the bottom of the page: https://pica.cineca.it/sissa ("supporto").
The School will verify that all the statements made in the application and accompanying documentation comply with the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 445/2000.

REFERENCE LETTERS - INSTRUCTION

The submission of two reference letters is strongly recommended. The letters can be uploaded on the PICA application by the referees **no later than 28 July 2024, 11.59p.m. CEST (Rome time)**.
If the candidate has not yet discussed his/her PhD thesis, one of the letters must be from the PhD advisor, and shall include a description of the thesis.
Letters of reference may only be submitted via the PICA application. After submitting the application, candidates may click the 'Reference letters' button on their 'Dashboard', which leads to a page where candidates can enter the names and e-mail addresses of two referees. The system will automatically send an e-mail request to the indicated contact persons, who will be allowed to upload their letter until the deadline stated in this Announcement. The letters will be automatically attached to the applicant's application. The candidate receives e-mail notifications when each contact person accepts the request and when each letter is successfully uploaded.
Once the deadline has expired, the system will no longer allow access and submission of reference letters.
For further instructions or support regarding the application procedure, candidates may write to assegniricerca@sissa.it.

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SELECTION PROCEDURE

The Committee will evaluate the research proposals, and in doing so can be joined by external referees.

The Committee may set specific criteria, as long as compatible with internationally recognized general standards, in terms of relevance, significance and quality of:

- documented research activity;
- education (University degree, PhD degree, other qualifications);
- other titles, awards or achievements, including reference letters;

Additional evaluation criteria will be:

- relevance and originality of the scientific and technological contents of the submitted research project, and/or methodological innovation;
- scientific quality of the candidate;

In case of ex-equo, preference will be given to:
- women;
- youngest candidates.

Candidates are subject to Italian law and to SISSA's regulations as specified in Annex 1.

The award of the funds is subsequent to the signing of the contract, which does not give any right to be employed by universities.

All matters regarding data processing and protection are in accordance with Law 196/2003, Decree Law No. 196 dated 30.06.2003, as amended by Legislative Decree No. 101 dated 10.08.2018, that transposes Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR). All the data provided to this Administration will be processed for the sole purposes connected with and instrumental to the selection procedure and the eventual drawing up and management of the contact.

THE DIRECTOR
prof. Andrea Romanino
(Italian version signed digitally)

Annex 1

GENERAL RULES AND REQUIREMENTS
Eligible candidates must be in possession of a scientific-professional CV which enables them to carry out research activity, and meet the further requirements specified in the announcement.

Personnel with permanent positions in Italian universities, public research and experimentation institutions, ENEA, ASI or institutions which award scientific degrees equivalent to PhD, in accordance with art. 74, par. 4 of DPR 382 dated 11.07.1980, are excluded from applying.

In accordance with Art. 18 of Law 240/10, candidates having a family relationship or other degree of kinship up to the 4th degree with the following persons are also excluded from applying:
- SISSA Professors belonging to the Area that requested the position;
- Director of SISSA;
- Secretary General of SISSA;
- Member of the Board of Directors of SISSA.

The research fellowship is awarded through a private law contract which does not give any right to be employed by universities.

TAX AND SOCIAL SECURITY TREATMENT, INSURANCE COVERAGE
The amount of the research fellowship is gross per year and includes contributions to be paid by the researcher. The fellowship is paid monthly. The fiscal and social security treatment of the research fellowship is in accordance with Art. 4 of Italian Law No. 476 dated 13.08.1984 and subsequent amendments and additions, and with par. 26 and following paragraphs of Art. 2 of Italian Law No. 335 dated 08.08.1995 and subsequent amendments and additions.

The School arranges for insurance coverage for the fellowship holders against accidents in the workplace and for third-party liability while carrying out their research work. The insurance premium is deducted from the fellowship.

INCOMPATIBILITIES
Research fellowships cannot be held simultaneously with other fellowships of whatever kind, except those awarded by Italian or foreign institutions with the aim of integrating the research activity of the candidate through a period spent abroad. Provided that they fulfil their research obligations, fellowship holders are authorized to carry out professional activity as long as the activity is compatible with the research position, does not pose a conflict of interest and is not prejudicial to the School. Fellowship holders willing to carry out external activity on a continuous basis shall submit a specific request, which will be evaluated by the relevant Area Council and subsequently submitted to the Academic Senate of the School for approval.

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If compatible with their research duties, and following written approval by the scientist responsible for the research project, fellowship holders can participate in research assignments commissioned to SISSA by third parties (pursuant to Art. 66 of the Italian Presidential Decree No. 382/80) in accordance with the current regulations.

Fellowship holders cannot be enrolled in University Degree courses, PhD courses with scholarship or medical school of specialization in Italy or abroad.

Government employees must be given unpaid leave for the entire duration of the fellowship.

FURTHER GENERAL RULES

The evaluation of the research project and of the qualifications, according to predetermined specific and general criteria as foreseen in the Announcement, shall be carried out by the Evaluation Committee according to the following table:

Qualification	Evaluation criteria	Score
Research project	Relevance, pertinence, quality	max 40 marks
PhD	Relevance to the project	max 8 marks
University Degree	Type of degree listed in the announcement - according to the degree mark	max 7 marks
Published works and other research products	Relevance to the scientific disciplinary sector of the research project	max 25 marks
Other post-lauream Degrees	Relevance to the scientific disciplinary sector	max 4 marks
Research project and other qualifications	Eventual contracts, scholarships, enrollment in PhD programs, periods spent abroad, reference letters etc.	max 16 marks
TOTAL		max 100 marks

A candidate is declared eligible if s/he scores at least 70/100.

All evaluation procedures may be carried out online by the Evaluation Committee. The Committee will then write a final report which will include the evaluation criteria, the total score of each candidate and a merit ranking.

The merit ranking is approved by means of a Director's decree.

To prove the equivalence of a qualification so as to meet the requirements described in Annex 1, the candidate must refer to the list of equivalences available on the website of the Italian Ministry of University and Research (https://www.mur.gov.it/it/aree-tematiche/universita/equipollenze-equivalenza-ed-equiparazioni-tra-titoli-di-studio/titoli-0

Foreign academic qualifications should be officially recognized equivalent to an Italian degree pursuant to the Laws currently in force.

In the event of a foreign degree that has not already been declared equivalent in Italy according to the law, the Evaluation committee will assess its equivalence only for the purposes of this selection procedure.

The candidate with the highest score will be offered a contract with SISSA in accordance with Art. 22 of the Italian Law 240/2010, in its version prior to Law No. 79 dated 29.06.2022.

The merit ranking applies only to the present procedure and cannot be used in other evaluation procedures.

Within 30 days from the start of the research activity at SISSA, Italian and EU candidates and non-EU citizens resident in Italy will have to submit a valid ID and fill out the following documents:

> 1) affidavit attesting birth, citizenship, place of residence and Italian tax code;
>
> 2) affidavit attesting the possession of a University Degree and a PhD (only if required by the announcement).

Non-EU foreign citizens in possession of a valid residence permit can self-certify the above only if specific international agreements are in force between their country and Italy.

Non-EU citizens regularly sojourning in Italy may submit an affidavit according to Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree No. 445/2000 exclusively for personal qualities and events which can be certified by public Italian authorities.

In any other case, the information requested in points 1) and 2) of this article must be notified by means of an affidavit and plain copies of the relevant documents within 30 days from the beginning of the research activity at SISSA.

Within 60 days from the beginning of their research activity, winners have to submit certificates and declarations issued by the foreign competent authorities, accompanied by an Italian translation authenticated by the Italian Consulate abroad. The School reserves the right to verify all affidavits.

Should the winner refuse the position, not accept it or fail to submit the above-mentioned documents on time, the research fellowship may be offered to the next eligible candidate in the classification list, following the authorization granted by the Director, at the express request of the Area Coordinator or the scientist responsible for the research activity.

The starting date of the fellowship shall be agreed with the Area Coordinator or with the scientist responsible for the research project.

Fellowship holders undertake to carry out the research activity as foreseen in the contract and in accordance with the research program of the Area.

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The research activity is carried out in the frame of the research project for which the applicant has been selected. Every year fellowship holders must submit a report to the Area Council on the activity carried out in the previous year. In case of major non-compliance the contract can be terminated by decision of the School Senate and upon a reasoned proposal of the Area Council, having heard the researcher concerned.

The contract is automatically resolved in the following cases:
- unjustified delay or failure to start the research activity;
- unjustified suspension of the activity for more than 15 days;
- breach of the incompatibilities established by the current Rules for the awarding of research fellowship in SISSA;
- negative evaluation of the research activity expressed by the Area Council.

An authorized absence of up to 30 days a year does not require the fellowship to be suspended or the absence to be made up at a later date.
Fellowship holders wishing to resign must give a notice of at least 30 days, in which case no penalty shall be applied by SISSA. Failure to do so shall result in a penalty involving the recovery or the failure to pay the salary for the period of notice not given. The 30 days' notice shall not be applied during the first 30 days of research activity.
SISSA shall reserve the right to terminate the contract if the external funding becomes unavailable. In this case SISSA shall give the fellowship holder at least a 60 days' notice. Failure to do so shall result in the payment to the research fellowship holder of an amount equal to the period of notice not given.

The total duration of the research fellowship including the renewals must not exceed 6 years with the same fellow. To this end, the time in which the candidate was holder of a research fellowship and enrolled in PhD courses (without scholarship) is not taken into account for a period not exceeding the legal duration of the PhD program.
In accordance with the Italian Law No. 240/10, in its former version prior to Law No. 79 dated 29.06.2022, candidates cannot be awarded research fellowships or temporary researcher contracts with public, private or online universities, nor with other institutions as specified in art. 22, par. 1 of Law No. 240/10 for a period exceeding 12 years, whether consecutive or not. To this end, the periods of absence due to maternity leave or state of illness are not taken into account.