

UniTrento Internal Call for Research 2023

GIVEN the 2022-2027 University of Trento Strategic Plan, in particular the Action aimed at strengthening the research quality of individual researchers;

GIVEN the National Research Programme (PNR) 2021-2027, approved by the Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning with Resolution No. 74/2020 of 15 December 2020;

GIVEN art. 17 of EU Regulation 2020/852, which defines the environmental objectives, including the principle of not causing significant harm (DNSH, *Do no significant harm*), and the Communication of the EU Commission 2021/C58/01 containing "Technical guidelines on the application of the principle "do not cause significant harm" under the regulation on the mechanism for recovery and resilience"

the University of Trento announces

the **UniTrento Internal Call for Research 2023**

1. Aim of the Action

The initiative is promoted within the framework of the 2022-2027 University Strategic Plan, in particular of the Action aimed at strengthening the research quality of individual researchers.

The Action is characterised by a bottom-up approach and aims at funding individual or collaborative research projects of an innovative nature. Submitted projects may address topics related to any research field within the three ERC fields (Life Sciences - LS, Physical Sciences and Engineering - PE, Social Sciences and Humanities - SH). The allocation of the proposals to LS, PE or SH field will be based on the expressed preference of the applicants.

The Action aims to support researchers of excellence (hereinafter referred to as Principal Investigator(s) – PI(s)). PIs and Co-PIs (in case of collaborative projects) are UniTrento Professors and Tenure-track Researchers (ex art. 24 L. 240/2010 lett. b). Each individual may participate as PI or Co-PI in only one research grant proposal.

Selected research grants will be awarded for a period of 24 months without extension. Expected initial date is October 2023.

The contribution for each research grant will range from a minimum of € 50.000 to a maximum of € 150.000. The total budget made available for the Action is € 600.000.

2. Eligibility criteria

The internal selection is addressed to UniTrento Professors and Tenure-track Researchers (ex art. 24 L. 240/2010 lett. b), who hold an employment contract with the University of Trento in force at the deadline of the call.

Applicants must meet the requirements provided for in the UniTrento Regulation n. 8 of 10 January 2018 “Regolamento per il reclutamento e la progressione di carriera di professori e di ricercatori e per il conferimento degli assegni di ricerca di cui all'art. 22, l. 240/2010”.

To achieve the objectives of the 2022-2027 University Strategic Plan and of the National Research Programme (PNR) 2021-2027 and to implement the provisions therein, the project proposals submitted under the UniTrento Internal Call for Research must:

- be consistent with the major research and innovation fields and related areas of intervention defined by the 2021-2027 National Research Programme (PNR):
 1. Health
 2. Culture, Creativity, Social Transformations and Inclusive Society
 3. Civil security
 4. Digital, Industry and Space
 5. Climate, Energy, Sustainable Mobility
 6. Food, Bio economy, Natural resources, Agriculture, Environment;
- where relevant, comply with the “Do no significant harm” principle, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 in accordance with the technical guidelines

prepared by the European Commission (Communication of the European Commission 2021/C58/01);

- promote the exploitation of research results and ensure the protection of intellectual property, ensuring open access to the public to research results and related data in the shortest time and with the least possible limitations, according to the principles of “Open science” and “FAIR Data”.

3. Submission

Applicants must submit the following documentation, using only the forms provided by the University:

- Scientific proposal written in English (see attached template);
- CV of the PI and Co-PI(s) (ERC format, see attached template);
- Budget table and PI and Co-PI’s list of concluded, ongoing or under evaluation projects over the last 5 years (see attached template);
- Declaration of fulfilment of the DNSH principle signed by the PI (see attached model).

Applications must be sent in electronic format to research.support@unitn.it by **29 August 2023**.

Please specify in the email subject: UniTrento Call for Research 2023_PIname_PIsurname_department/center.

4. Evaluation procedure

The University of Trento will appoint an internal Evaluation Committee composed of University Professors, which will evaluate the scientific excellence, the ground-breaking nature and the feasibility of the submitted research projects, the intellectual capacity, and the PI track record. The Evaluation Committee will also assess the commitment and the ability of the PIs and Co-PIs to attract funding, with attention to overlap with current funds.

The Evaluation Committee will be divided into three Panels, one per ERC field. According to the preference expressed by the PI in the proposal, each project will be allocated to a specific evaluation Panel (LS, PE, SH). The top scoring project proposal of each ranking will be funded. The plenary Evaluation Committee will then decide which additional projects will be funded with the remaining budget. A maximum of three projects from the same ERC field may be funded. The selection of the applications and the determination of the contribution will be made at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

The secretary of the Committee will be identified among the staff of the Directorate of Research Services and Valorisation. The Directorate of Research Services and Valorisation will communicate the outcome of the assessment at the latest immediately after the Academic Senate session scheduled for October 2023.

5. Funding

The UniTrento Call for Research 2023 funding is aimed at covering research expenses related to the submitted project proposal. The total budget made available for the Action is € 600.000. The contribution for each research grant will range from a minimum of € 50.000 to a maximum of € 150.000. Selected projects could be funded to a lesser extent than that requested, if deemed appropriate by the Evaluation Committee. A maximum of three projects from the same ERC field may be funded.

Pre-financing (for 1st to 12th month expenses) will be disbursed at the start of the project. The remaining part of the funding (for 13th to 24th month expenses) will be disbursed in accordance with the results of the project's activity monitoring conducted by the UniTrento Strategic Plan Steering Committee at month 12.

The funding will be suspended in case of termination of the PI's employment contract with the University of Trento.

Eligible expenses are listed in the annex "Budget table".

6. Reporting

The project must be implemented within the timeframe and in the manner described in the proposal. Any variations from the proposal must be submitted for approval by sending an email to research.support@unitn.it

By the end of month 11 PIs must submit a short progress report and a financial report of the expenses incurred up to that point to be assessed by the Strategic Plan Steering Committee.

Within 2 months after the end of the project PIs will have to submit the following documents:

- Scientific report on the results obtained, also considering the initial objectives of the project proposal;
- List of publications (submitted, under evaluation or published) based on the results of the research;
- Financial report showing the expenses actually incurred and demonstrating their consistency with the aims of the project. Any variations from the proposal budget on individual items exceeding 20% must be justified. Expenses must have been incurred within the project term. Expenses for publications may also be incurred after the end of the project and for a further 12 months as long as the agreements with publishers have been finalised by the end of the project, i.e. the publication has been accepted.

Unspent amounts cannot be used for other expenses and will revert to the University budget.

7. Public access to documents

The call and all the related documents will be published at the following webpage:

<https://www.unitn.it/ricerca/96149/attrazione-dei-talenti>

8. Personal data

According to art. 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679 "General Regulation on the protection of personal data", the University will process personal data collected within its institutional

purposes exclusively for the purposes related to the carrying out of the selection procedure (art. 6, paragraph 1, letter e), art. 9, paragraph 2, letter g), art. 10 of the GDPR).

The Data Controller is the University of Trento, via Calepina n. 14, 38122 Trento, email: ateneo@pec.unitn.it; ateneo@unitn.it. Data Protection Officer can be contacted at rpd@unitn.it.

The processing of personal data will be carried out in paper form and / or computerised only by personnel authorised to process data in relation to the tasks and duties assigned and in compliance with the principles of lawfulness, correctness, transparency, adequacy, relevance, and necessity.

At any time, the rights referred to in Articles 15 and following of the GDPR can be exercised against the Data Controller and, in particular, access to their personal data, rectification, integration, cancellation, limitation of the processing that concerns them and the right to oppose their treatment. The right to lodge a complaint with the Guarantor for the protection of personal data of art. 77 of the GDPR is reserved.

1. Attachments:

- Scientific proposal template;
- Curriculum Vitae, ERC format, template;
- Budget table and Projects list template;
- Declaration of fulfilment of the DNSH principle.