



DIREZIONE ORGANIZZAZIONE, PROGRAMMAZIONE E SVILUPPO RISORSE UMANE

Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL

Via Università 4, Modena

Tel.: 059/2056512 – 2057078-6445-6447-6450-6075

e-mail: ufficio.selezioneassunzione@unimore.it

pec: selezioni@pec.unimore.it

Published on the University's online noticeboard and on the website of the University

Pica Code: CDR-2026-005

**Selection procedures for the awarding of Research Contracts
pursuant to art. 22 of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010**

THE MANAGER

HAVING REGARD to the University Statute

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree 7 March 2005, n. 82 containing the Digital Administration Code and subsequent amendments

HAVING REGARD to EU Regulation 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data, as well as the free circulation of such data

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 2003, “Personal Data Protection Code” as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101/2018

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree 11 April 2006, n. 198 “Code of equal opportunities between men and women, pursuant to art. 6 of Law 28 November 2005, n. 246”, and subsequent amendments

HAVING REGARD to Law 30 December 2010, n. 240, subsequent amendments and additions and, in particular, art. 22 as amended by Law n. 79/2022

HAVING REGARD to the current Regulation for the awarding of Research Contracts pursuant to art. 22 of Law 240/2010 issued with D.R. rep. n. 299/2025, prot. n. 109753 of 10 April 2025

HAVING REGARD to the resolution of the Council of the “Enzo Ferrari” Department of Engineering of January 10th 2026 (prot. no. 28407 dated 29/01/2026) with which the announcement of a public selection procedure was requested for the awarding of n. 1 research contract, within the project AI-enabled robotics for early crop disease detection in precision farming applications (CUP E93C25001260006)

DECREES

Art. 1 – Object

A public selection procedure is announced for the awarding of no. **1 Research Contract** of two-year duration, pursuant to art. 22 of Law 30.12.2010, no. 240.

Facility	“Enzo Ferrari” Department of Engineering
Principal place of service	via Vivarelli no. 10, Modena
Research project	Zero-waste Lignocellulose-Derived biorefinery products for smArt plant protection (ZELDA)
Principal Investigator of the research	Professor Paolo FALCONE
Scientific-disciplinary group (GSD)	09/IINF-04 – SYSTEMS AND CONTROL ENGINEERING
Scientific disciplinary sector (SSD)	IINF-04/A - Systems and Control Engineering
Contract term	2 years
Annual Gross Amount	€ 33.840,32 annual Gross Amount

Useful information for the presentation of the project proposal by the candidates	The objective of the scientific proposal is showing the candidate's awareness about the problems related to the robot motion planning and control problem in unstructured or poorly structured environments, for mobile sensing applications. The candidates' ability to implement the developed algorithms on a physical setup, consisting of a mobile manipulator, will also be evaluated, addressing challenges related to real-time control, simulation, and integration within a ROS framework.
Maximum number of publications	5
Foreign Language required	English
Italian Language assessment for foreign candidates	No
Additional qualifications (not mandatory) for the purposes of evaluation	certificates attesting to the candidate's experience in programming (ROS, C++/Python, ML frameworks)
Financial coverage	Codice U-GOV: PRJ-0461-ZELDA-FALCONE UA.A.RD.D04.20 - vincolo n. 5833 CUP: E93C25001260006

The Administration guarantees equality and equal opportunities between men and women for access to work and treatment in the workplace.

The terms declined with respect to a gender must be understood to refer to all genders.

Art. 2 - Admissions requirements

The selection process is open to Italian and foreign candidates who are:

- in possession of a **PhD qualification in Robotics, Automation, AI or a related field**, or equivalent obtained abroad, on the deadline for submitting the admission applications
- enrolled in the final year of a **PhD course in Robotics, Automation, AI or a related field**, provided that the qualification is expected to be obtained within six months of the date of publication of this selection announcement on the official University noticeboard, it being understood that the signing of the contract is subject to the qualification being obtained, under penalty of forfeiture.

In the case of a **PhD qualification obtained abroad**, candidates must submit:

- **provision of academic recognition** (former equivalence) of the PhD title, issued by the competent authorities **or certificate of initiation of the request for recognition**; for information on the equivalence procedure, please refer to the website of the Ministry of University and Research at the [following link](#)

or

- **provision of equivalence of the PhD title**, issued by the competent authorities **or certificate of initiation of the request for equivalence**, according to the procedure referred to in art. 38 of Legislative Decree 165/2001; for information on the equivalence procedure, please refer to the website of the Ministry of University and Research at the [following link](#).

Pursuant to art. 38 of Legislative Decree 165/2001, "the winners of the competition are required, under penalty of forfeiture, to submit an application for recognition within fifteen days of the publication of the final ranking, to the Ministry of University and Research.

The documentation proving the academic recognition or equivalence of the foreign qualification must, in any case, be produced to the Administration for the purpose of recruitment, under penalty of exclusion.

In the case of a **qualification not obtained**, in Italy or abroad, at the time of submission of the application equivalence is assessed, for the sole purpose of awarding the contract, by the Selection Board on the basis of the documents submitted by the candidate, verifying that the degree has been issued by an academic institution recognized in the country of origin and that it is equivalent, in terms of level and content, to the Italian PhD title. The foreign PhD programme must last at least three years.

In this case, the candidate must declare the **enrolment in the last year of the PhD programme**, specifying the expected date of graduation and attaching a certificate of enrolment with the list of exams taken (Transcript of Records) in Italian or English or any other certificate useful for certifying the activity carried out.

The winner of the selection undertakes to promptly communicate to Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL the actual date of achievement. For the signing of the contract, in the case of a qualification obtained in Italy, the winner must send a copy of the title or self-certification pursuant to art. 47 D.P.R. nr. 445/2000. In the case of a qualification obtained abroad, the winner must provide Declaration of Value (Dichiarazione di Valore) issued by the Italian diplomatic-consular representation in the country where the degree was awarded with legalized and translated diploma legalized Diploma Supplement or the certificates issued by CIMEA, the Italian center ENIC-NARIC. For information on the equivalence procedure, please refer to the [website of the Ministry of University and Research](#).

Candidates are admitted to the selection with reserve. The requirements for admission to the selections must be met on the date of expiry of the deadline for the submission of applications for participation.

The following are excluded from the selection:

- a) those excluded from enjoying civil and political rights in their country of origin or residence
- b) those who have criminal convictions (in Italy and abroad), even if not definitive, and ongoing criminal proceedings; the candidate is required to expressly indicate them in the application form. The Administration reserves an independent discretionary assessment of the relevance of the crimes committed, also in order to protect its good name and image
- c) those who have benefited from fixed-term Researcher Contracts pursuant to Article 24 of Law 240 of 2010 (RTT)
- d) permanent staff hired on a permanent basis at universities, public research institutions, whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to a PhD degree pursuant to Article 74, paragraph 4, of the Presidential Decree of 11 July 1980, n. 382
- e) those who have a relationship of kinship or affinity up to and including the 4th degree with a professor affiliated with the Facility proposing the activation of the contract, or with the Rector, the General Director or a member of the Board of Directors
- f) those who have been dismissed or relieved from employment with a Public Administration or declared to have forfeited an Italian state job
- g) those who have benefited from contracts pursuant to art. 22 of Law 240/2010 as amended by Law no. 79/2022 for a period that, added to the duration envisaged by the contract put out to tender, exceeds a total of 5 years, even if not continuous. For the purposes of the duration of these relationships, periods spent on maternity leave or for health reasons according to current legislation are not relevant.

Art. 3 - Method and deadline for submitting the application

The **application for the participation** to the selection procedure must be drawn up and sent, under penalty of exclusion, **using exclusively the IT application PICA** – Integrated Platform for University Competitions – at the link <https://pica.cineca.it/unimore/>.

The application must be submitted within the peremptory deadline of **30 days** starting from the day following the publication of the call on the University's online noticeboard, i.e. **by April 2nd 2026, 1:00 p.m. (CET)**.

If the indicated deadline falls on a holiday, the deadline is postponed to the first non-holiday following, pursuant to art. 2963 paragraph 3 of the Italian Civil Code.

Only applications submitted via the PICA platform are accepted.

The PICA platform can be accessed via SPID or PICA account. If you use LOGINMIUR credentials, we recommend that you verify that they are active.

The guide to completing the application can be available at the link <https://pica.cineca.it/file/LineeGuidaCompilazioneDomandaPICA.pdf/>

The application is considered, for all legal purposes, a self-certification of the information contained therein and the attached documents, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree 445/2000 and subsequent amendments. Please note that the Administration is required to carry out appropriate checks on the veracity of the content of the substitute declarations provided and that, in addition to the forfeiture of any benefits the interested party may have obtained based on untruthful declarations, the criminal penalties provided for cases of falsification of documents and false declarations apply.

Candidates must attach to the application:

- documents proving the equivalence of the qualification if obtained abroad or certificates indicated in art. 2 in the case of a qualification not yet obtained
- copy of a valid identity document or the passport
- the project proposal, drawn up on the basis of the information indicated in art. 1

- the scientific-professional curriculum in European format, dated and signed
- publications, up to the maximum number indicated in art. 1 (further publications will not be evaluated)
- any additional documentation deemed useful for the purposes of evaluating the qualifications, to supplement the curriculum.

Citizens of non-EU countries, legally residing in Italy, must attach to the application a copy of the residence permit or EU residence permit for long-term residents (residence card for foreign citizens), regularly issued and valid, or the details of the receipt of the request made.

In the event of participation in multiple procedures, ongoing or previous, it is necessary to upload the documents as requested by each individual call: it is not possible to refer to documents already submitted for other selections.

Only what is actually attached to the application form can be evaluated.

Candidates with disabilities or with DSA may request the necessary assistance and/or additional time to be able to take the interview, pursuant to art. 20 of the law of 5 February 1992, n.104, Law 08.10.2010, n.170 and the Prime Ministerial Decree of 9 November 2021. Failure to indicate the necessary aids in the application exempts the university administration from any responsibility in this regard.

In the application, candidates must indicate an e-mail address and/or certified e-mail address (PEC), as the exclusive address for the purposes of the procedure. Any changes must be promptly communicated to the Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL via e-mail (ufficio.selezioneassunzione@unimore.it).

The Administration assumes no responsibility for the loss of communications resulting from inaccuracies by candidates or from failure or late communication of the change of the e-mail address indicated in the application or for any postal, electronic or in any case attributable to third parties, fortuitous events or force majeure.

By the above-mentioned deadline for submitting applications, the PICA platform allows the candidate to save as a draft and make changes to application. After the application has been submitted, no changes can be made. If the candidate wants to make changes to the application submitted, she/he must withdraw the one already submitted and make a new one.

Under penalty of exclusion, the **application** must be **signed** according one of the following methods:

- digital: through hardware (for example smart card or USB device with digital signature certificate issued by an accredited Certifier) and digital signature software, the PDF downloaded from the PICA application submission page must be signed, generating a file in pdf.p7m format to be reloaded onto the application page
- via ConFirma server: through hardware (for example smart card or USB device with digital signature certificate issued by an accredited Certifier) compatible with the ConFirma service
- handwritten: download the PDF of the document, print it, sign it manually, scan in PDF format and upload the scan to own application page.

It is not necessary to sign the application if the **access** is done **with SPID** (Public Digital Identity System).

The application must be completed and sent by the deadline indicated above: after this date the platform prevents access to the application, its modification and its sending.

After completing and submitting the application, the PICA platform automatically sends to the candidate's e-mail address a receipt with the date and time of submission of the application. If you do not receive it, you must contact the Cineca support service via the link at the bottom of the page <https://pica.cineca.it/unimore/>

Each application is associated with an **identification number** that must be used for each communication together with the code of the selection procedure. The identification number will also be used for communications from the University that require, for privacy reasons, to omit identification data.

For any technical problem, contact Cineca promptly and directly as manager of the Pica platform, by clicking on "For technical problems contact support" at the bottom of the page <https://pica.cineca.it/unimore/>. Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL has no competence for technical-IT problems.

For information on how to apply, contact the Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL via e-mail (ufficio.selezioneassunzione@unimore.it) or by telephone (059 205 7078-6450-6447-6445).

Art. 4 - Exclusion

Exclusion from the selection can be ordered for lack of:

- admission requirements, indicated in art. 2
- project proposal and/or scientific-professional curriculum
- signing the application form, as indicated in art. 3

- compliance with the terms or method of sending the application for participation.

Exclusion may be ordered at any time, even after the selection has been carried out, with a reasoned executive decree, which will be notified directly to the interested party. Exclusion after completion of the selection process will result in forfeiture of the ranking list.

In addition, an executive decree provides for exclusion in the event that one of the declarations provided for in the application form or other declarations made pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000 is untrue.

Art. 5 - Selection Board

The comparative evaluation procedure is carried out by the Selection Board appointed by executive decree, upon expiry of the call, on the proposal of the Structure requesting the activation of the contract.

The Selection Board is composed of 3 members and 2 substitutes, ensuring, where possible, adequate gender representation, chosen from professors and researchers with research experience on the topics covered by the call, of which at least one is part of the scientific-disciplinary group covered by the call and one also acts as a recording secretary.

Professors and researchers working at foreign universities who hold an academic position corresponding to that of professor or researcher, as defined by the relevant Ministerial Decree, may also be appointed.

The decree of appointment is published on the [University's online noticeboard](#), on the [website of the University](#) and of the Facility.

In the event of resignation of an effective member, the replacement will be carried out with a substitute member.

The Selection Board may use telematic tools for collegial work and may conduct its meetings remotely. The procedures for conducting the meetings must be reported in the minutes.

Art. 6 – Selection Procedure

The selection takes place through the comparative evaluation of the candidates and is aimed at assessing:

- the adherence of the project proposals to the research project which is the subject of the call
- the possession of a scientific-professional curriculum suitable for carrying out the research activity which is the object of the contract.

The evaluation is integrated with a public interview to ascertain the candidates' aptitude for research.

Candidates must produce all the documentation for the evaluation, according to the methods indicated in art. 2.

Candidates are evaluated comparatively on the basis of the following elements:

a)	adherence, innovation, methodological rigor, quality of the project proposal presented in relation to the research area being selected	Max points 35/70
b)	scientific and professional curriculum vitae, encompassing overall scientific productivity and research activities conducted at public and private institutions, to be evaluated with particular emphasis on relevance to the content of the research project	Max points 20/70
c)	relevance of the publications produced with the research project being selected	Max points 15/70
	Subtotal of sections a) to c)	Max points 70/100
d)	interview to ascertain suitability for carrying out the research activity covered by the contract and knowledge of the required language(s)	Max points 30/100
	TOTAL of the evaluation	Max points 100/100

The Selection Board determines the methods of evaluation of the candidates during the first session and sends the documents to the person responsible for the procedure for publication on the [website of the University](#).

On the basis of the criteria established in the first session, the Selection Board evaluates the documentation produced by each candidate, expresses a reasoned opinion for each individual evaluation element and assigns the relative score to each candidate.

The scores awarded in the preliminary assessment are made known before the interview by publication on the [website of the University](#).

Candidates who have obtained a minimum score of 50/70 are admitted to the interview.

Art. 7 - Interview

The date, time and methods of the interview will be communicated to candidates with at least 10 days' notice from the date of publication of the minutes defining the criteria.

The publication of the notice constitutes notification of convocation for candidates admitted to the interview. Candidates who have passed the preliminary assessment and who have not been excluded from the selection are required to appear on the day and at the time indicated.

In the event of a subsequent impediment to holding the interview on the date and at the time indicated above by one or more members of the Selection Board or for organizational reasons, the new date will be made known by publication on the [website of the University](#) with at least 10 days' notice from the date of publication of the minutes defining the criteria.

To be admitted to the interview, candidates must show a valid identification document or the passport, preferably the same one attached to the application form.

Candidates who are unable to attend the interview in person due to pregnancy or breastfeeding are guaranteed participation via telematics or the availability of specific spaces for breastfeeding. Interested candidates must promptly notify the e-mail address ufficio.selezioneassunzione@unimore.it so as to allow the Administration to plan in advance the procedures to ensure regular participation in the interview.

Failure to show up, even if due to force majeure, is considered as a **waiver** of participation in the selection.

In the case of an online interview, candidates must ensure that their workstation is equipped with a webcam, which is essential for their recognition, and a microphone and headphones/speakers.

Failure to connect online to the interview or **late connection**, even if due to force majeure, is considered as a **waiver** of participation in the selection.

The Selection Board expresses a reasoned judgment regarding the interview for each candidate and assigns the relative score. The interview is passed with a minimum score of 21/30.

In the case of an in-person interview, the scores are announced by posting at the interview venue; in the case of a remote session, the scores are made known by publication on the [website of the University](#).

Art. 8 – Formulation and approval of the ranking list

At the end of the interview, the Selection Board must conclude its work by drawing up the merit ranking within three months from the date of publication of the appointment decree.

The final score is given by the sum of the scores obtained in the evaluation of the project proposal and the qualifications and in the interview.

In the event of a tie, preference is given to the youngest candidate.

The procedural documents and the merit ranking are approved by executive decree within one month of delivery of the minutes to the Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL.

The decree that approves the procedural documents is published on the [University's online noticeboard](#), on the [website of the University](#) and of the Facility, in compliance with the principles of transparency and protection of personal data, and is immediately effective.

Publication on the website has the effect of notification to candidates pursuant to the law.

The deadline for submitting any appeals begins on the date of publication of the decree on the [University's online noticeboard](#).

The validity of the merit ranking is set at six months from the date of publication of the decree approving the procedural documents.

In the event of renunciation or failure to take up service or forfeiture of the winner, upon formal request of the Facility, the ranking may be scrolled within the validity period of the same, without prejudice to the fact that the duration of the Research Contract must be two years.

For research needs related to the research project of the announcement, within the validity terms of the ranking, it is possible to award additional Research Contracts to candidates usefully placed in the ranking. In this case, the scrolling of the ranking must be authorized by the Council of the Facility, even if different from the one that requested the announcement, after verification of financial coverage.

Art. 9 – Employment contract and hiring

The hiring of the Holder of the Research Contract takes place through the stipulation of a fixed-term employment contract, with a full-time commitment and is regulated exclusively by the provisions of article 22 of law 240/2010, by the Regulation for the awarding of Research Contracts and by the employment contract. Ownership of Research Contracts does not give any right to access university roles, nor can it be counted for the purposes of art. 20 of Legislative Decree 75/2017.

The contract, drawn up in written form and signed by the Manager and the Contract Holder, is stipulated for the exclusive purpose of carrying out research activities, as part of the specific research project, the implementation of which is linked to the activation of the contract. The start of the research activity must be communicated by the Director of the Structure where the interested party must carry out his or her activity.

For the purpose of awarding the Assignment, the winner is required to submit the documentation required pursuant to current legislation. The Administration is required to carry out appropriate checks on the veracity of the content of the self-declarations issued; in the event of falsity in deeds and false declarations, in addition to the forfeiture of the benefits obtained based on an untruthful declaration, the criminal sanctions provided for are applicable.

In the case of a **PhD obtained abroad**, in order to sign the contract, the winner must provide the **documentation proving the equivalence of the qualification**.

In the event of graduation after the deadline of the announcement and within the date indicated in art. 2 of the announcement, the winner of the selection undertakes to promptly notify Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL the actual date of achievement. For the signing of the contract, in the case of a qualification obtained in Italy, the candidate must send the Office a copy of the qualification or self-certification pursuant to art. 47 D.P.R. nr. 445/2000. In the case of a qualification obtained abroad, the winner must provide a Declaration of Value (Dichiarazione di Valore) with a legalized and translated diploma or a legalized diploma supplement, or certificates issued by CIMEA, the Italian center ENIC-NARIC. For information on legalization, please refer to the [website of the Ministry of University and Research](#).

Citizens of non-European Union countries must submit appropriate documentation certifying the regularity of their position regarding their stay in Italy, pursuant to the current provisions on immigration (Legislative Decree 286/1998 and subsequent amendments).

A probationary period of 30 days is foreseen, during which each party may withdraw from the relationship at any time without obligation to give notice or compensation in lieu of notice, with immediate effect from the moment of receipt of the communication to the other party. After this period, the Contract Holder is considered confirmed until the expiry of the contract.

Failure by the winner to sign the contract or failure to take up service is considered a resignation with consequent forfeiture from the ranking and it can proceed to scrolling it, compatibly with the timing to be able to carry out and complete the activities within the timeframes set out in the project indicated in article 1.

The employment relationship established between the University and the Research Contract Holder is governed by the provisions in force on the matter, including the tax, welfare, social security and insurance treatment provided for income from employment.

Art. 10 – Rights and Duties

The Contract Holder is required to personally carry out the research activity covered by the contract, establishing, in agreement with the Principal Investigator, the methods and times in relation to the organizational aspects and functional needs of the research.

The Contract Holder must provide annually and at the end of the contract a technical-scientific report, from which emerges the fulfillment of the performance of the planned research activities and the related results achieved and any other documentation also requested by the funding body. The report must be approved by the Principal Investigator of the project.

The Holder of the Research Contract is subject to the provisions of the law on maternity protection, accidents and illnesses.

The Contract Holder undertakes to comply with the provisions of the University Regulations on industrial and intellectual property, in the Code of Ethics and Conduct of public employees adopted with Presidential Decree 16 April 2013, n. 62 and subsequent amendments and in the Code of Conduct for Employees of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia issued with D.R. prot. n. 25591 of 01/02/2023, rep. n. 98/2023, and to comply with the protection and safety regulations, including in the health field, in force at this University.

Art. 11 - Intellectual property

The creation of an invention, susceptible to patenting, by the Holder of the Research Contract within the scope of the research activity object of the contract, is regulated in accordance with the legislation in force on the matter, the Regulation on new entrepreneurship and ownership, management and valorisation of the intellectual property of the research results of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia and the clauses of the individual contract.

Art. 12 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to EU Regulation no. 679/2016 and Legislative Decree no. 196/2003, as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101/2018 candidates are informed that the processing of personal data provided by them will be processed, in paper or electronic form, for the sole purposes of this procedure and the possible establishment of the employment relationship and for the purposes related to its management.

The data will be processed by the office responsible for the procedure and by the Selection Board, with the use of computerized procedures, in the ways and within the limits necessary to pursue the purposes, even in the event of possible communication to third parties.

The provision of data for the purposes described is mandatory and any refusal by the candidate precludes participation in the procedure.

The data collected may be communicated to any subjects entitled pursuant to Law no. 241/1990, Legislative Decree 33/2013 and their subsequent amendments.

The data controller is the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, in the person of the Rector pro-tempore.

For anything not expressed here, please refer to the Information on the processing of personal data available on the application page on the PICA platform and at the link <https://www.unimore.it/it/privacy>

The person responsible for the procedure is dr. V. Stefania Angileri. For information regarding the competition procedure, please contact the Ufficio Reclutamento Personale Tecnico Amministrativo, Interinali e CEL, Via Università, n. 4, 41121 Modena, tel.: 059/205 7078-6450-6447-6445-6075, ufficio.selezioneassunzione@unimore.it, selezioni@pec.unimore.it

Art. 13 - Transparency

The call is published on the [University's online noticeboard](#), on the [website of the University](#) and of the Facility, on the websites of the Ministry of University and Research and of the European Union.

Art. 14 - Final and Referral Rules

The Administration reserves the right to revoke this procedure, suspend or postpone the interview, or suspend or not proceed with the hiring of the successful candidate, due to needs that cannot currently be assessed or foreseen, that prevent the awarding of the Research Contract.

For anything not expressly regulated in this announcement, please refer to the Regulations for the Awarding of Research Contracts pursuant to Art. 22 of Law 240/2010 issued with Rector's Decree No. 299/2025, Ref. No. 109753 of April 10, 2025.

Modena, 3 March 2026

THE MANAGER

Dr. Maria Raffaella INGROSSO

Digitally signed pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 82/2005