



**UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI CAGLIARI**



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche ed Aziendali
Direttore: Prof. Patrizio Monfardini

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS
CALL 01BR/2026**

SELECTION FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF N. 1 RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP entitled:

"Remote work and Artificial Intelligence in local labor markets"
Resp. Prof. Fabio Cerina

THE DIRECTOR

HAVING REGARD to the Statute of the University of Cagliari, issued by Rector's Decree no. 339 of 27.03.2012, published in the Official Gazette - General Series - no. 89 of 16.04.2012, last amended by Rector's Decree no. 305 of 28/03/2022;

HAVING REGARD to Law No. 240 of 30.12.2010 on "rules on the organisation of universities, academic staff and recruitment, as well as delegation of the Government to encourage the quality and efficiency of the university system", and in particular art. 18, paragraph 5, letter f;

HAVING REGARD to Law No. 35 of 04.04.2012 on "Conversion into law, with amendments, of Decree-Law No. 5 of 9 February 2012, containing urgent provisions on simplification and development" and in particular art. 49, paragraph 1, letter h), which amends art. 18, paragraph 5, letter f) of the aforementioned Law 240/2010;

HAVING REGARD to Decree-Law No. 45 of 7 April 2025 (Further urgent provisions on the implementation of the measures of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan and for the start of the 2025/2026 school year), converted with amendments by Law No. 79 of 5 June 2025, and in particular paragraph 4 of Article 1-bis";

HAVING REGARD to the Regulations for the discipline of research grants referred to in Rector's Decree no. 846 of 10/10/2025;



HAVING REGARD to the agreement signed between the Sardinian Universities and the Foundation of Sardinia aimed at financing two-year research projects;

HAVING REGARD to the two-year research project financed with the funds of the aforementioned agreement for the year 2023 entitled: "Working from home: causes, consequences and policy implications" Resp. Scient. Fabio Cerina (CUP: F23C25000400007);

HAVING REGARD to the request of Prof. Fabio Cerina, Full Professor of the Department of Economics and Management **SSD - ECON-02/A Economic Policy** - on 21/11/2025 to start the selection procedures for the assignment of n. **1 research scholarship lasting 12 MONTHS and € 22,500.00 gross amount excluding charges borne by the University, (total cost € 24,412.5)** entitled "*Remote work and Artificial Intelligence in local labor markets*" resp. Prof. Fabio Cerina to be activated as part of the Project specified above;

HAVING REGARD to the resolution of 11/12/2025 with which the Council of the Department of Economics and Management unanimously approves the proposal made by Prof. Fabio Cerina

HAVING ASCERTAINED the financial coverage on:

SUB-PROJECT: BS_12/2025_ RICALTRO_CTC_FdS_2023_CERINA

Two-year University Projects Funded by the Foundation of Sardinia - year 2023 "Working from home: causes, consequences and policy implications" Resp. Scient. Fabio Cerina (CUP: F23C25000400007)

GROSS AMOUNT: 22.500,00 Euro

ORDERS

ART. 1
(Characteristics)



A public selection is hereby announced, based on qualifications and interview, for the awarding of n. 1 research scholarship with the following characteristics:

Funding source :

Biennial University Projects Funded by the Fondazione di Sardegna - Year 2023 - "Working from home: causes, consequences and policy implications" (CUP: F23C25000400007);

Project Deadline: 16/06/2027

Host structure: Department of Economics and Management;

Scientific Coordinator: Prof. Fabio Cerina;

Duration: 12 months and in any case no later than the deadline of the project;

Gross amount received: € 22,500.00 (twenty-two thousand five hundred/00 euros);

Title: "Remote Work, Artificial Intelligence, and Local Labor Markets";

Research topic:

The project investigates, on the one hand, the policy implications of attracting digital nomads to less developed but amenity-rich regions, assessing the net effects on local economic development through the calibration of a quantitative spatial equilibrium model and counterfactual analysis. On the other hand, it examines how exposure to Artificial Intelligence shapes firms' labor demand, skill requirements, and wage dynamics across European regional labor markets, using highly granular online job-posting data to evaluate whether the uneven diffusion of AI amplifies or mitigates pre-existing regional disparities. The research activity will mainly involve data collection, construction, cleaning, and analysis of highly granular datasets, as well as the simulation of quantitative models and spatial and cartographic analysis.

Familiarity with statistical and microeconomic software (such as *Stata*, *Python*, and *R*), mathematical modeling and simulation tools (*Matlab*), and geographic information systems (*QGIS*) is therefore expected.

ART. 2

(Eligibility and incompatibilities)



Applicants may participate in the selection procedure provided that, by the deadline for submitting applications, they hold one of the following qualifications:

- Master's Degree (Laurea Magistrale) in Economics, class LM-56;
- "Laurea Specialistica" pursuant to Ministerial Decree 509/99, deemed equivalent;
- Degree awarded under the system in force prior to Ministerial Decree no. 509/1999, deemed equivalent to the above Master's Degrees.

Participation in the selection is open, with no restrictions related to citizenship.

The research grant is not compatible with:

- a) other grants awarded for any reason, except for those granted by national or foreign institutions intended to supplement the grant holder's activity through periods spent abroad;
- b) enrolment in PhD programmes with a scholarship and in medical specialization programmes, in Italy or abroad;
- c) research fellowships ("assegni di ricerca");
- d) subordinate employment relationships, without prejudice to the possibility for the grant holder to be placed on unpaid leave;
- e) self-employment activities, including para-subordinate work, except as provided in the following paragraph.

Grant holders may carry out self-employment activities, including para-subordinate work, upon written notice to the Scientific Supervisor and provided that:

- a) such activity is declared by the Scientific Supervisor to be compatible with the training activity covered by the research grant;
- b) it does not entail any conflict of interest with the specific training activity carried out under the grant;
- c) it does not cause prejudice to the University in relation to the activities performed;
- d) such activity remains residual in terms of time compared to the training activity covered by the research grant.

The overall duration of relationships established with holders of a research grant, research fellowship under Article 22 of Law 240/2010, and contracts under Article 24 of Law 240/2010



may not exceed twelve years, even if non-continuous. For the purpose of calculating the above duration, periods of leave for maternity or health reasons under applicable legislation shall not be taken into account.

ART.3

(Application form)

Applications for admission to the selection, drawn up on plain paper according to the scheme in **Annex A**, must be received by postal service, with acknowledgement of receipt to the address University of Cagliari, Department of Business Economics, Via Sant'Ignazio, 17 – 09123 CAGLIARI, or sent from your PEC (Certified Electronic Mail) box to the address protocollo@pec.unica.it **no later than the 20th day** starting from the day following the date of publication on the UNICA website (https://www.unica.it/unica/it/laureati_s07_ss01.page).

Applications received after the deadline will not be taken into account.

The candidate must attach to the application:

- a) **self-certification** relating to the place of birth, citizenship, residence, tax code and the non-existence of the situations of incompatibility referred to in art. 2 of this announcement;
- b) **curriculum vitae, dated and signed, of the qualifications and skills possessed;**
- c) **certificate of exams taken during the master's degree with indication of grades (transcript)**
- d) **copy of the master's degree thesis**
- e) **copy of the doctoral thesis, if available**
- f) **declaration in lieu of certifications** (Annex B), issued pursuant to art. 46 of Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28/12/2000, in relation to the qualifications referred to in Article 2 above, or any qualifications that can be assessed (in original or copy) in place of the aforementioned declaration of publications if required;



- g) **declaration in lieu of affidavit** (Annex C), issued pursuant to art. 47 D.P.R. 28/12/2000, relating to the conformity to the original of any titles produced in copy or publications (if required);
- h) if the qualifications required for admission were obtained abroad, **a copy of the recognition measure** certifying their validity in Italy. In the event that this recognition has not yet been made, the equivalence will be assessed, solely for the purpose of admitting the candidate to the selection, by the Selection Committee;
- i) **for candidates residing or domiciled outside Sardinia who wish to take the test electronically, remote interview request form (Annex D) complete with the required information;**
- j) **front/back photocopy of a valid identity document, in colour;**
- k) **list** on plain paper of the documents and qualifications submitted as an attachment to the application.

On the envelope, the candidate must report:

Surname and name, address;

Application for Research Fellowship Call 01/2026 "Remote Work and Artificial Intelligence in Local Labor Markets" Resp. Prof. Fabio Cerina

Qualifications submitted to this Administration after the deadline for submitting applications for participation in the selection will not be taken into consideration.

ART.4

(Selection committees and selection of candidates)

The Selection Committee shall be appointed, pursuant to Article 5, paragraph 1 of the University Regulations, by Director's Decree and shall normally consist of three tenured faculty members belonging to scientific-disciplinary sectors related to the research topic. The Committee may also be supplemented by one or more members appointed by the funding body as experts.



Having verified the eligibility requirements, the Committee shall determine the minimum score required for admission to the interview, with a total of 100 points available, of which 60 points are allocated to the assessment of qualifications and 40 points to the interview.

The selection procedure consists of a preliminary evaluation of the qualifications submitted by each applicant, with the assignment of the corresponding score, followed by an interview aimed at assessing the suitability of the admitted candidates.

Admitted candidates shall be informed of the date, time, and venue of the interview by e-mail and/or by publication on the same website, with at least 15 days' notice.

In order to sit the interview, candidates must present a valid identity document.

The interview may also be held remotely, subject to the simultaneous display of the color copy of the identity document already attached to the application.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Maximum overall score: **60 points**

A) Master's degree academic background (max 20 points)

The Committee shall assess the academic path undertaken during the Master's degree, taking into account its overall coherence with the subject matter of the call, the solidity of the theoretical preparation, and the quantitative orientation of the curriculum, with particular reference to courses in economics, statistics, econometrics, and quantitative methods, also on the basis of the grades obtained in the relevant exams.

B) Master's thesis and documented research activity (max 20 points)

The Committee shall assess the content, scientific quality, and thematic relevance of the Master's thesis, as well as its methodological and empirical approach, the candidate's data analysis skills, and the degree of autonomy demonstrated in carrying out the research activity.

C) Relevant research and work experience (max 10 points)

The Committee shall assess research and work experiences carried out at entities, institutions, universities, research centers, research projects, or within the framework of curricular internships, consistent with the subject matter of the call, taking into account the duration, the nature of the activities performed, and the degree of relevance to the project's



objectives.

The score shall be awarded proportionally to the duration of the experiences and their scientific relevance, up to a maximum of 2 points for each month of experience.

D) PhD relevant to the subject matter of the call (max 10 points)

The Committee shall assess the possession of a PhD degree consistent with the project's themes or, alternatively, attendance of PhD years in relevant fields, awarding points according to relevance to the subject matter of the call, based on the following criteria:

- up to a maximum of 2 points for each year of PhD attendance in fields consistent with the subject of the call;
- up to a maximum of 10 points for the award of a PhD degree on topics relevant to the research project.
- In any event, the total score attributable under this criterion shall not exceed 10 points.

For the purpose of assessing empirical and methodological skills, including those related to data management and analysis, the Committee may use the Master's thesis and, if available, the PhD thesis as material to verify the candidate's experience in the use of statistical, econometric, and data-analysis software, as well as tools for spatial analysis and cartographic representation.

The interview (maximum total score: 40 points), which may also be conducted remotely, shall focus on the topics covered by the research grant.

Upon completion of the assessment, the Committee shall draw up the final ranking list on the basis of the sum of the scores obtained by each candidate in the evaluation of qualifications and in the interview. In the event of a tie, the younger candidate shall rank higher.

ART. 5

(Awarding of the research grant, start and conclusion of the activity)

The proceedings are approved by Director's Decree, following verification of the required eligibility conditions, and published on the Department's and the University's websites.



The start date and the arrangements for carrying out the research activity at the relevant university structure—which the grant holder is entitled to access, with the obligation to comply with the applicable regulations and safety rules—shall be agreed with the Scientific Supervisor in agreement with the Director of the Department.

The grant holder is required to take out an adequate mandatory personal insurance policy covering both (i) the risk of accidents occurring during the period of presence at university facilities or at external facilities where the grant holder has been previously authorized by the Scientific Supervisor to carry out the activity, and (ii) third-party civil liability, in relation to any damage to persons or property caused by the grant holder. A copy of the insurance policy must be submitted to the administration on the start date of the research activities at this University.

The grant activity must be completed within 12 months and in any case no later than the project end date indicated in Article 1.

At the end of the period scheduled for carrying out the research, the grant holder shall submit to the Director of the Department a detailed report on the activity carried out and the results achieved, to be approved in advance by the Scientific Supervisor.

ART.6

The holding of this research grant does not establish an employment relationship and does not give rise to social security benefits, evaluations for the purposes of legal or economic career progression, nor to any automatic recognition for social security purposes.

Payment of the research grant shall be made in monthly instalments in arrears.

The amounts paid under the research grant constitute income treated as equivalent to employment income pursuant to Article 50, paragraph 1, letter c) of the Consolidated Income Tax Act (Testo Unico delle Imposte sui Redditi), Presidential Decree no. 917 of 22 December 1986, and shall be subject to Italian personal income tax (IRPEF) pursuant to Article 24 of Presidential Decree no. 600/1973 (Common provisions on the assessment of income taxes). They are also subject to the Regional Tax on Productive Activities (IRAP), with the related burden borne by the Administration.



ART. 7

(Withdrawal)

The scholarship may be revoked for justified reasons if the Scientific Supervisor responsible for overseeing the grant holder submits a written request to the Director of the relevant structure, who shall order the revocation where the relevant conditions are met.

In the event of withdrawal or inability to continue the activity, the grant holder shall lose entitlement to the grant as of the date of withdrawal or the date on which the inability is ascertained.

ART. 8

(Processing of personal data and right of access to records)

The University of Cagliari is the data controller of personal data, pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data, as well as on the free movement of such data and the Italian legislation in force. The information on data processing is published on the https://www.unica.it/unica/it/utility_privacy.page website.

Pursuant to the provisions of art. 5 of Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, the person in charge of the selection procedure referred to in this announcement is the Administrative Manager of the Department of Economics and Management - Dr. Claudia Cottu.

Candidates have the right to exercise the right of access to the documents of the competition procedure in accordance with the procedures provided for by Presidential Decree 184 of 12.4.2006 (Regulation governing access to administrative documents).

ART. 9

(Advertising and safeguards)

This call for applications will be published on the University website (https://www.unica.it/unica/it/laureati_s07_ss01.page) and on the website of the



Department of Economics and Management
([https://www.unica.it/unica/it/borse di ricerca 1.page](https://www.unica.it/unica/it/borse_di_ricerca_1.page)).

For anything not specified in this announcement, reference is made to the rules contained in Law 240/2010 and in the current Regulations for the discipline of Research Scholarships of this University.

The Director of the Department
Prof. Patrizio Monfardini
Digitally signed