

Announcement of selection for the definition of a ranking of eligible Candidates aimed at the assignment of 30 "Visitinps Scholars Program type B" for research projects concerning INPS "Research Topics".

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

INPS, carrying out its institutional goals, promotes research, statistical and economic analysis and assessment of policies impacts on the subjects falling within INPS competence and included in the Inps "Research Topics" through the research program called "Visitinps Scholars", established with presidential decisions April 2nd, 2015, no.13 and May 28th, 2015 no. 53, which is subject to the Regulation adopted with Board of Administration resolution adopted on September 30th, 2020 no. 60. To this end, this selection procedure is launched to define a ranking of suitable candidates for the assignment of 30 "Visitinps Scholars Program type B" research programs. For the realization of the research program "Visitinps Scholars Program Type B" Inps will not provide any allowance or expenses refund. The assignment of the "Visitinps Scholars Program type B" research does not imply the establishment of any employment relationship, nor any entitlement for legal and economic careers within the Institute, nor for any severance or other sum of money for any reasons. The research projects referred to in this selection must be included in the Inps "Research Topics" as indicated in the following article 2. The person in charge of the current procedure is Gianfranco Santoro Director of Studies and Research Directorate: dcstudiericerche@inps.it; The Scientific Director of "Visitinps Scholars" research program is Professor Tommaso Nannicini.

Art. 1 – Participation requirements and incompatibilities

This public notice launches a selection procedure with the aim to define a ranking of eligible candidates for the assignment of 30 research programs "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program".

The participation in this procedure is open to Italian or foreign citizens from Italian or foreign Universities or recognized research Institutes as:

- full, associate or assistant professors and equivalent researchers,
- researchers with a PhD or equivalent qualification obtained abroad, or in the process of obtaining a PhD, or equivalent qualification obtained abroad, who have completed all exams and / or other educational and training activities included in the PhD program or equivalent qualification, lacking only the discussion of the final thesis.

The above participation requirements must be met on the date of submission of the application form.

The participation in the procedure for assigning research projects within the framework of the "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program" is not allowed to:

- INPS employees;
- whoever has up to a second degree of kinship, according to the Italian civil law, with a member of the "Visitinps Scholars" research program Scientific Committee or with the INPS President or other members of Board of the Administration or Director General.

Art. 2 - Research project topic

The research project must focus on topics included within INPS "Research Topics" published on the institutional website with this announcement.

Art. 3 – Duration of the research programme "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program"

The "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program" shall last one year from the first day of research activity.

The starting date of the research activity, as indicated in the following Article 5, shall be established within 8 months from the date of publication of the ranking of assignees.

One year for the research program may be continuous or split into subperiods.

Art. 4 - Content, modality and terms for submitting applications

The application form, which must be submitted following the structure of the attached form A, must be received within 16.00 (Italian time) of **the July 19, 2024** at the e-mail address domandevitinps@inps.it. Applications submitted in any other form will not be accepted. The application form, including the research project, must be submitted by the principal investigator (PI), with adequate economic and/or statistical skills; the PI may indicate a collaborator or a multidisciplinary research team to be associated for the implementation of the aforementioned project. The multidisciplinary research team is considered as such if, in addition to the presence of researchers with economic and/or statistical skills, it is also composed of one or more researchers with law, sociological or demographic competences.

In the event a researcher indicates a research team, he or she shall indicate a main collaborator and specify his/her contribution in terms of results, in relation to economic and/or statistical competences in addition to any further competences in law, sociology or demography issues. Any investigator cannot submit more than one application for participation, nor can he or she be indicated as a collaborator in another application for participation, even within different research projects, in the same call; in this case he/she will be invited, before the start of the evaluation procedure, by the Head of Research Directorate (DCSR) to specify which project he or she intends to participate in; this clarification must be received within three days from the request, under penalty of exclusion.

In the event that the investigator or a collaborator are already assignees or collaborators in other research projects, they can apply for participation in this call but they will not be able, in case of assignment, to work on more than two research projects at the same time. The research projects are concluded by the submission of the Workinps Paper, in compliance with the deadline for starting the new project set out in the following article 5 of this call for the start of the research activity.

These provisions are applied not only to the collaborator but also to all members of the research team.

Under penalty of exclusion, the application form must include the domicile and the email address to receive notices as well as contain the following attachments:

- a. the research project that the candidate intends to carry out (maximum five pages – maximum 2000 words including abstract and not including bibliography);
- b. the *curriculum vitae*, with a descriptive account of their scientific achievement;
- c. copy of a valid identification document;
- d. possible indication of a collaborator (with a *curriculum vitae* attached) he/she intends to associate for carrying out the research activity;
- e. any indication of the personal details of the members of the multidisciplinary research team, with their *curriculum vitae* attached; the principal investigator and collaborator must be indicated within the team. (In the case of projects assigned to a research team, only the principal investigator and collaborator will be able to access the data placed on the "Visitinps Scholars" platform).

The documentation attached to the application must be exclusively sent in PDF format. Any requests for information can be sent to the e-mail address visitinpscholars@inps.it

Candidates, previously awarded with scholarships or research projects within the framework of the "Visitinps Scholars" program, are allowed to submit a new application in this public call, as long as the new research project contains elements of absolute novelty compared to previous project (A or B type).

The researcher can replace the collaborator only and exclusively in the case of renunciation of the continuation of his/her activity.

In this case, the Scientific Committee may submit for the approval of the Head of Research Directorate the PI request to avail of the support of another collaborator, after assessing the adequacy of the scientific and professional skills of the new collaborator resulting from the curriculum vitae, in accordance with the provisions of article 5 below.

The new collaborator must sign the contract or, if already completed, an integration of the same.

Art. 5 - Selection, ranking of eligible candidates and assignment of the research projects

A selection committee shall proceed to the comparative assessment of the research projects and the scientific profile of the candidates taking into account the qualifications (resulting from the *curriculum vitae*) and the scientific publications (indicated in the descriptive report on scientific production referred to in the previous

article 4) deemed as relevant for the purposes of assessing the candidate's suitability to carry out the research project presented.

The Committee, for the purposes of the comparative evaluation mentioned above, shall consider the following elements which, in order to be evaluated, will have to be consistent with the project submitted, inferred from the training and research career indicated in the curriculum vitae and in the descriptive report on scientific production referred to in the previous article 4.

- experience gained in research activities, including any scholarships, research awards or grants received, at public or private universities, Italian or foreign, or at structures involved in research activities within research institutes, public or private international organizations, Italian or foreign;
- experience in organizing, managing and coordinating research structures or groups in the same entities mentioned above;
- publications, formulations and research of original and innovative nature, or of scientific relevance associated to the journal ranking.

Before starting the evaluation, the Committee verifies that the topic of the research project is scientifically relevant and consistent with the Inps "*Research Topics*"; otherwise, the candidate is excluded.

The collaborator and any members of the *research team* indicated are subject to an assessment of suitability by the Committee for the implementation of the research project submitted, taking into account the adequacy of the scientific and professional skills resulting from the *curriculum vitae*. In particular, the collaborator who, together with the principal investigator, will be able to access the data placed on the Visitinps Scholars platform is subject, by the Committee, to an assessment of suitability for carrying out the research project, taking into account the adequacy of the scientific and professional skills resulting from the *curriculum vitae*. The score that the Commission can assign to the candidate is unique up to a maximum of 100 points expressed taking into account what is indicated in the previous paragraph 2.

In order to be considered eligible, candidates must obtain a total score of at least 60 points.

The ranking of the eligible candidates and the next ranking of the assignee candidates are published on the institutional website; it is valid for 12 months, starting from the date of publication and, in any case, not beyond the publication of the following selection announcement.

The assignment is notified to the assignees through a written notice. Within 15 days from receiving the notice, the principal investigator who has been indicated as assignee must send an acceptance or renunciation statement to the e-mail address visitinpscholars@inps.it indicating the date on which they intend to start the research activity. The starting date of the research activity must be within eight months from the date of publication of the list of assignees. If the assignees do not send the acceptance or renunciation statement within the deadline, the assignation shall be considered forfeited and the following eligible candidate on the list shall receive the assignment. Before or in the same time of beginning the research activity, the assignee and the collaborator (if present) must sign the relevant contract.

The investigator assigned the "*Visitinps Scholars Program type B*" and any collaborator, by signing the contract, declare that they are not in the incompatibility situations referred to in article 1 above and commit to communicate any changes, under penalty of termination of the contract.

The researcher and the collaborator by signing the contract undertake to observe:

a) the "*Provisions for conducting the Visitinps Scholars research activity and for the rationalization of the space available for the storage of data functional to the implementation of research projects*" or other provisions containing the discipline of the research activity;

b) the contents of the Institute's Code of conduct published on the institutional website www.inps.it;

c) to comply with the obligations laid down by the art.20 "*workers' obligations*" of Legislative Decree 81/2008 (Provisions on the protection of health and safety in the workplace), the implementing regulations and the provisions of the Institute on the subject.

For the sole purpose and for the effects of the aforementioned Legislative Decree, the researchers, in carrying out the activities aimed at the development of research, are treated as a "employee" and therefore subject to compliance with these obligations.

Art. 6 - Method for carrying out research activity

During the duration of the "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program" as mentioned in the previous Article 3, the researcher and, if present, the collaborator shall have access to the Institute through an identification badge.

The Researcher must submit at least two intermediate reports to the Scientific Director illustrating the research activity carried out:

- the first report no earlier than one month and no later than three calendar months from the start of the research activity;
- the second report at the end of the duration of the research program;

as well as a final document on the research carried out within the program. This final document must be submitted within 3 months from the end of the research Program".

The Scientific Director may ask the assigned researcher to integrate these reports and the final document.

The researchers assignee of the "Visitinps Scholars Program B" or their collaborators must duly present their work in special seminars aimed at an audience of experts as well as in special seminars for employees of the Institute. These seminars will be periodically organized by the Central Directorate for Studies and Research. The researcher must submit the Workinps Paper relating to the research assigned within six months of the presentation of the final document.

Researchers, for the purpose of carrying out their research activities, make use of the equipment and instruments made available by INPS for this purpose.

The information necessary for the realization of the research project will be extracted from the INPS databases and subjected to an anonymization process with mechanisms that make it possible the association with other data sources. The data thus extracted will be saved in a folder located on a Virtual Desktop made accessible through the Citrix VDI infrastructure to which the researcher and collaborator will be able to access and process the data exclusively through personal credentials (user ID

and password); within this Virtual Desktop the researcher and the collaborator will find all the analysis tools made available by the Institute.

The Virtual Desktop will not allow internet browsing, access to external storage devices, data extraction, except in the cases and in the manner indicated in this article, nor the "Copy and paste" of parts of documents. Requests to import datasets into the Visitinps processing environment, containing a statement describing in detail the content of the files to be extracted, must be sent to the Studies and Research Directorate providing to:

- deletion all columns not strictly necessary for the purposes of processing;
- indication of the semantics of each column;
- the source of the information contained;
- arguments why the file, and the data it contains, are necessary for research.

Requests for data extraction from the processing environment, in relation to the drafting needs of the project, may only relate to aggregate statistics.

It is forbidden to export data via electronic devices or other methods such as, but not limited to, photographs or screenshots; the violation of this prohibition will result in the termination of the research project award contract.

Article 7 - Insurance cover

The assignee of the "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program" and his/her collaborator (see art 4) accessing INPS's premises shall be guaranteed suitable insurance cover pertaining to a third party civil liability insurance activated by the Institute.

Article 8 - Renunciation and Forfeiture

Forfeiture from the assignment of the "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program" shall involve whoever does not declare to accept the assignment within the term indicated in the previous Article 5; whoever does not indicate the date on which he/she intends to begin the research activity, or whoever does not begin the research activity within one year from the date of publication of the list of assignees, except for justified reasons arising from serious health conditions or force majeure, duly proven.

The assignee of the "Type B Visitinps Scholars Program" who intends to renounce to the assignment must give written notice to the Director of the Studies and Research Central Directorate at the following address dcstudiericerche@inps.it.

Failure to submit the periodical reports on the research activity carried out as well as the final document provided for by the previous Article 6, shall entail the forfeiture from the assignment of the research program, "Visitinps scholars program type B, except for justified reasons.

Article 9 - Intellectual Property

INPS has the right to make use of the methodologies developed and of the results achieved through the research activity.

The researcher assignee of the "*Type B Visitinps Scholars Program*" is entitled to the copyright on the results of the activities he/she carried out using INPS's data, resources and information. The assignee researcher must submit his/her research work for publication on the series of studies and research called "Workinps Papers". He or she can submit this work for publication outside the Institute, exclusively for academic and Scientific purposes, making clear reference to the circumstance that were carried out within the "Visitinps Scholars" research program and report the

clarification that these publications exclusively reflect the views of the author and do not engage the responsibility of the Institute.

The publication of the aforementioned research work outside the Institute cannot take place before the presentation for publication on the "Workinps Papers" series referred to in the previous paragraph.

Article 10 - Data processing

The Institute, before putting the data necessary for the implementation of the "Visitinps Scholars" program on the Visitinps platform, submits them to an anonymization process.

Therefore, in order to realize the assigned activity, each researcher and each collaborator shall be assigned a personal username, provided by the Institute in order to access the processing systems. They shall be allowed to consult the above data, according to the modalities indicated in the single research program assignment contracts and, in any case, in compliance with what provided for by Legislative Decree No. 196 of June 30th, 2003 and following amendments and integrations.

The assignee researcher and his/her collaborator, as mentioned in the previous Article 4, are prohibited to transfer, communicate or disclose to third parties, for any reason, the data object of the activity assigned.

The data collected for the purposes mentioned in this announcement will be processed and stored in compliance with Legislative Decree n.196/2003 as amended and integrated by the Legislative Decree August 10th, 2018 n.101 and by L. december 3th, 2021, n. 205.

NOT CERTIFIED TRANSLATION