

*The General Director*

**Call for Applications for Assignment of n. 10 Postdoctoral Research Fellowships**

***SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants***

(in compliance with art. 22, Law 240/2010 and following changes)

CONSIDERING Law no. 168, 09 May 1989;  
 CONSIDERING Law no. 241, 07 August 1991;  
 CONSIDERING Legislative Decrees no. 196, 2003 and no. 51, 18 May 2018;  
 CONSIDERING Law no. 240, 30 December 2010, article 22, paragraph 4, letter a);  
 CONSIDERING Legislative Decree no. 33, 14 March 2013;  
 CONSIDERING the Decree of the President of the Republic no. 445, 28 December 2000;  
 CONSIDERING the Statute of The University of Tuscia;  
 CONSIDERING the internal regulation for the awarding of research grants;  
 CONSIDERING the "SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants" Initiative for talent valorization and attraction of talented young researchers, confirming the University's commitment to promoting impact research, strengthening its attractiveness for talented researchers and renewing its support for those interested in applying for the "Starting Grants" research grants awarded by the European Research Council (ERC) or Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) "Postdoctoral Fellowships", both under the "Excellent Science" pillar of Horizon Europe with the University of Tuscia as the host institution;

**HEREBY DECREES THE FOLLOWING:**

**Art. 1 - DESCRIPTION**

The University of Tuscia has launched a selection procedure based on qualification of applicants and on interview feedback for the recruitment of n. 10 postdoctoral research fellows that cover all fields of research in the three European Research Council (ERC) domains: Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE), Life Sciences (LS), and Social Sciences and Humanities (SH).

The ten postdoctoral fellows will have to carry on research activities finalized to apply for the "Starting Grant" research grants awarded by the European Research Council (ERC) or for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) "Postdoctoral Fellowships" under Horizon Europe programme.

The ten postdoctoral positions are distributed across three ERC large research domains as follows:

ERC research domain	N. of postdoctoral research fellowships
Social Sciences and Humanities (SH)	5
Physical Sciences and Engineering (PE)	5
Life Sciences (LS)	

In the event that the number of candidates selected in the SH research domain is less than five, the available positions will be attributed to candidates placed in the ranking of the PE and LS research domains, according to the order of merit ranking.

## Art. 2 - REQUIREMENTS OF THE APPLICANTS AND INCOMPATIBILITIES

All those who have earned a PhD, or equivalent degree earned abroad, for a maximum of 5 years at the time of the deadline for applications can apply for this Call.

Applicants holding a PhD degree earned abroad must enclose with the application form an English translation of the degree along with a self-declaration of conformity of the translation with the original. Applicants must present IELTS for Academic Purposes exam certification (with individual section scores for reading, writing, listening, and speaking of 7.0 or higher, or TOEFL iBT (with a minimum score of 90 points) for English by the deadline for applications.

The ownership of the fellowship is not compatible with enrollment in bachelor's, master's or single-cycle master's degree courses, PhD courses with scholarship, and specialization schools in Italy or abroad. The ownership of the fellowship is also incompatible with enrollment in another school or course that provides for compulsory attendance, unless otherwise motivated by the scientific coordinator and the hosting department.

## Art. 3 - DOCUMENTATION AND FORMALISATION OF THE APPLICATION

Applicants must fill in the application form attached to this call. The application form must be peremptorily completed (under penalty of exclusion from the selection procedure) and sent by **9 september 2024** by certified e-mail to the address: [protocollo@pec.unitus.it](mailto:protocollo@pec.unitus.it), or sent by registered mail with return receipt addressed to: **University of Tuscia - Director General - Via Santa Maria in Gradi n. 4, 01100 Viterbo**.

Otherwise, the application will be considered inadmissible. For shipping via registered mail, the date of the stamp of the accepting post office will be considered valid.

In the subject of the PEC mail or of the envelope of the letter it is compulsory to indicate: "*SeedTalent call for application 2024*".

All documents must be digitally signed or alternatively printed, signed, and scanned together with a photocopy of a valid identity document of the applicant. The timely submission of the application is the responsibility of the sender who will have the "Delivery" receipt of the certified email as proof of successful delivery.

The application must be submitted through the attached application form (**Annex 1**) together with the following documents:

- research proposal referring to a field of research among those covered by this call for applications according to the attached scheme (**Annex 2**);
- cover letter that describes the applicant's expectations as well as their research results achieved, and includes contact information for three referees who can provide judgment upon the applicant's experience, qualities, and skills (**Annex 3**);
- self-certification pursuant to article 46 of the D.P.R. 445/00 relating to academic qualifications possessed: PhD/specialization degree, date, and place of achievement;
- self-certification pursuant to article 46 of the D.P.R. 445/00 of any postgraduate specialization diplomas and relative marks with date and place of achievement;
- list of scientific publications published with all the information necessary for their correct identification; Publications must be provided in PDF format or made available by indicating a corresponding URL for their access;
- self-certification pursuant to article 46 of the D.P.R. 445/00 relating to scholarships and/or research contracts, certificates of attendance at postgraduate courses, research activities in Italy and/or abroad, fellowships, scientific-professional contracts and assignments, participation in scientific conferences and patents;

- PhD thesis in PDF format or made available by indicating a URL for its access; in addition, the applicant must include a summary of the thesis. The document, maximum 5 pages, must include a cover with the name and surname of the PhD grantee, title of the thesis, academic year, date, outcome and supervisor(s). The summary must be written in English;
- other duly documented qualifications;
- *curriculum vitae et studiorum* certifying one's scientific and professional activity drawn up according to the attached scheme (**Annex 4**);
- three reference letters drawn up as per the attached model (**Annex 5**); It is recommended to pay particular attention to the selection of referees who are among the professors, employers, collaborators with whom the candidate has developed his/her academic path and enriched his/her curriculum;
- copy of a valid identity document;
- in the case of a foreign degree, attach translation and self-declaration;
- Applicant's commitment to the University of Tuscia as the host institution (**Annex 6**).

The Administration reserves the right to request applicants to produce full documentation of the publications indicated in the list and any other attachments included in the application.

In compliance with the transparency obligations pursuant to Legislative Decree 14/03/2013 n. 33 this competition announcement will be published at the following [link](#).

The minutes of the selection committee will also be published at the same link.

#### **Art. 4 - EVALUATION OF APPLICANTS**

Application forms will be assessed by a selection committee appointed by the Director General, and composed of a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 9 members, representative of all ERC research domains.

For the evaluation of applicants, the committee can allocate a maximum of 100 points for each candidate, of which 35 are allocated for the qualifications of the scientific-professional curriculum, 25 for the research proposal, and the remaining 40 for the interview. Within such limits, the committee proceeds first to divide the total points among specific criteria.

For the definition of the evaluation criteria the committee could consider the following qualifications:

- demonstrated commitment to make a difference and ability to work both independently and in a highly collaborative team environment;
- demonstrated ability to interact effectively with technical and scientific staff;
- demonstrated ingenuity in dealing with complex problems;
- demonstrated strength and efficiency in technical writing;
- excellent oral and written science communication, and interpersonal skills, and a strong work ethic;
- demonstrated productivity and independent thinking;
- demonstrated commitment to a career in research.

Evaluation criteria for research proposals could be the following:

- timeliness and relevance of the research project;
- originality and feasibility of the proposal, inter/multidisciplinary aspects, innovative aspects and adequacy of the state of the art.

The evaluation of qualifications and research proposal precedes the interviews and the results will be made known to the applicants by publication on our website via this [link](#).

The date and place of the interviews will be communicated to the applicants at least 10 days in advance, by publication on the website mentioned above with reference to the subject concerned.

Applicants who earn more than 30 points in the qualifications and research proposal evaluation are admitted to the interview.

The interview aims to assess the contents of the proposed research and the applicant's scientific productivity as well as skills, attitudes, and competences. The committee can score from 0 to 40 and the interview is considered passed if the applicant earns at least 21 out of 40 available points. For applicants living outside Italy, we aim to hold a virtual admission interview following established standards and procedures in order to verify the identity of individuals. The person (applicant) must provide original documents (not copies) to prove their identity.

In case two or more applicants have equal ranking scores, the tie for their ranking position will be resolved in favour of the applicant with the best research proposal evaluation score. If the best research proposal evaluation scores are also equal, then the fellowship will be awarded to the youngest candidate.

#### **Art. 5 - CONCESSION**

The Administration will notify the ten winners of the fellowship by registered mail using the address indicated in the application form or by certified email.

The winners will be required to send the requested declarations of acceptance to the Administration within ten days of the receipt of the notification and will subsequently be required to enter into a contract pursuant to art. 7 of the call for applications.

The fellowship cannot be supplemented with funding from other awards or other types of financial aid, except for those established for integration of stays abroad, neither with other collaboration contracts nor with income from freelance activities carried out continuously. Extra-university activities as speaker in seminars, conferences, or publishing activities and limited activities of self-employed work are compatible with the fellowship in agreement with the Scientific Coordinator and with the authorization of the Department Council.

Key areas of responsibilities of the postdoctoral research awardees are the following:

- work independently on research tasks with limited oversight by Scientific Coordinator;
- participate in the development of goals for the research project and in the planning of laboratory work;
- contribute to progress reports;
- supervise, train, and collaborate with graduate students and other members of the research laboratory;
- effectively communicate scientific data, present at Scientific Conferences and Meetings, and publish in peer-reviewed, high-impact journals;
- present results in departmental seminars;
- carry out the research activity of the proposed project under the supervision of a Scientific Coordinator chosen by the Rector;
- effectively prepare a research proposal for MSCA postdoctoral fellowships or ERC Starting Grant. In particular, applying for a well-written and skillfully prepared research proposal for the "Starting Grants" research grants awarded by the European Research Council (ERC) or Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) "Postdoctoral Fellowships" under Horizon Europe programme during the fellowship is mandatory.

#### **Art. 6 - REMUNERATION**

The yearly gross amount of the fellowship will be 30.000,00 Euro. The amount includes expenses for industrial accident insurance and public liability insurance as well as social security contributions required by law to be paid by the University. The amount is paid in monthly postponed installments.

#### **Art. 7 - ACCEPTANCE AND CONTRACT SIGNATURE**



Declarations and certifications of acceptance must be sent by registered mail with the receiver's signed receipt attached (the stamp and date of the post office will be considered for verification purposes) within ten days from the communication date or sent to the address [protocollo@pec.unitus.it](mailto:protocollo@pec.unitus.it) or brought directly to the appropriate office.

The winners will be asked to sign the contract and agree to collaborate on a defined collaborative research project, which will start from the first day of the month following the signature, unless a justified request of exception by the applicant has been formulated in agreement with the Scientific Coordinator and the hosting department, and the request should not exceed 90 days.

For non-EU citizens, the fellowship will start after obtaining the appropriate visa and the actual beginning of the research activity.

#### **Art. 8 - OBLIGATIONS OF THE BENEFICIARIES AND CANCELLATION OF THE CONTRACT**

If the contract is not signed within the established deadline the winner shall lose every right to make use of the fellowship.

#### **Art. 9 - REFERENCE RULES**

The information provided here is a summary of the main rules and requirements for '*SeedTalent*' @ *UNITUS Grants* postdoctoral fellowships and who can apply for them.

#### **Art. 10 - PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION**

The University of Tuscia will commit itself to respect the terms of confidentiality of the information provided by the applicant as "all provided information will be handled confidentially for the purposes of this selection procedure only".

#### **Art. 11 - QUESTIONS**

Please contact us at [ricerca@unitus.it](mailto:ricerca@unitus.it).

The General Director  
Avv. Alessandra Moscatelli



Firmato digitalmente  
da:  
MOSCATELLI  
ALESSANDRA  
Firmato il  
30/05/2024 13:32  
Seriale Certificato:  
2299485

Valido dal 21/03/2023 al 21/03/2026

InfoCamera Qualified Electronic  
Signature CA

SCHEME TO BE FOLLOWED WHEN COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

**Annex 1**

*(Should not be on letterhead)*

To the Director General of the University of Tuscia  
Via San Camillo de Lellis snc  
01100 Viterbo, Italy

I, the undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_ fiscal code

\_\_\_\_\_

born in \_\_\_\_\_ (province of \_\_\_\_\_) on

\_\_\_\_\_

and resident in \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_ (province of \_\_\_\_\_)

street \_\_\_\_\_ n. \_\_\_\_\_ tel. \_\_\_\_\_

email address \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST

to be admitted to participate in the public selection, by qualifications and examinations, regulated by decree n. \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_, for the assignment of n. 10 postdoctoral fellowships for collaboration in research activities at the University of Tuscia and for applying for a well-written and skillfully prepared research proposal for the "Starting Grants" research grants awarded by the European Research Council (ERC) or Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) "Postdoctoral Fellowships" under Horizon Europe programme during the fellowship with the University of Tuscia as the host institution.

Indicate the department of interest and the Scientific Coordinator

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

To this end, the applicant declares under his/her own responsibility:

- to have citizenship \_\_\_\_\_;

- to enjoy civil and political rights in the country of origin;
- have not received criminal convictions and have no criminal proceedings in progress (or: have received the following criminal convictions \_\_\_\_\_)
- to be in possession of the degree in \_\_\_\_\_ obtained on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ with the score of \_\_\_\_\_;
- to be in possession of a PhD in \_\_\_\_\_ obtained on \_\_\_\_\_ at the University of \_\_\_\_\_, administrative office of the doctorate **(Integration of Annex 1)**;
- IELTS exam certification (with individual section scores (e.g. reading, writing, listening and speaking) of 7.0 or higher, or TOEFL iBT (with a minimum score of 90 points) for English;
- not to be a permanent employee of universities, institutions, and public research and experimentation bodies, of ENEA and ASI, as well as of institutions whose scientific specialization diploma has been recognized as equivalent to the title of research doctor, pursuant to article 74, paragraph 4, of the D.P.R. n.382 of 11 July 1980;
- not to have any degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with a professor belonging to the department or structure making the call, or with the Rector, Director General, or a member of the Board of Directors of the University;
- to have read the announcement and have expressed my consent to the collection and processing of personal data for the purposes of the selection procedure (EU Regulation 2016/679 "General Data Protection Regulation");
- to request the following needs for special assistance pursuant to law 104/92 \_\_\_\_\_ and to this end attach the certification relating to the disability;

I, the undersigned, attach the following documents:

- research proposal referring to a line of research among those covered by this call according to the attached scheme **(Annex 2)**;
- cover letter that describes the applicant's expectations as well as their research results achieved, and includes contact information for three referees who can provide judgment upon the applicant's experience, qualities, and skills **(Annex 3)**;
- self-certification pursuant to article 46 of the D.P.R. 445/00 relating to academic qualifications possessed: PhD/specialization degree, date, and place of achievement;
- self-certification pursuant to article 46 of the D.P.R. 445/00 of any postgraduate specialization diplomas and relative marks with date and place of achievement;
- list of scientific publications published with all the information necessary for their correct identification; Publications must be provided in pdf format or made available by indicating a corresponding URL for their access;
- self-certification pursuant to article 46 of the D.P.R. 445/00 relating to scholarships and/or research contracts, certificates of attendance at postgraduate courses, research activities in

Italy and/or abroad, fellowships, scientific-professional contracts and assignments, participation in scientific conferences, and patents;

- PhD thesis in PDF format or made available by indicating a URL for its access; in addition, the applicant must include a summary of the thesis. The document, maximum 5 pages, must include a cover with the name and surname of the PhD grantee, title of the thesis, academic year, date and outcome, and supervisor(s). The summary must be elaborated in the English language;
- other duly documented qualifications;
- *curriculum vitae et studiorum* certifying one's scientific and professional activity drawn up according to the attached scheme (**Annex 4**);
- three reference letters drawn up as per the attached model (**Annex 5**). It is recommended to pay particular attention to the selection of referees who are among the professors, employers, collaborators with whom the candidate has developed his/her academic path and enriched his/her curriculum;
- copy of a valid identity document;
- in the case of a foreign degree, attach translation and self-declaration in English.
- commitment letter to the University of Tuscia as the host institution for the MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship proposal or the ERC Staring Grant proposal (**Annex 6**).

The undersigned also requests that all communications relating to the selection procedure be sent to the following address, committing to promptly report its change:

-Name and last name \_\_\_\_\_;

-e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_;

-certified e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_;

-street \_\_\_\_\_ n. \_\_\_\_ tel. \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_;

-ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ (province \_\_\_\_\_)

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_



Integration of Annex 1

**SELF-CERTIFICATION**  
**(ART. 46 D.P.R. 28/12/2000, n. 445)**

I, the undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_ born in \_\_\_\_\_  
province of \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLARE**

Under my own responsibility, aware of penalties in case of false or inaccurate statements as from art. 76 D.P.R. 28/12/2000 n. 445 I will lose the right immediately to the fellowship:

1. I have earned the PhD in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

2. I have earned the following English language certification

IELTS for Academic Purposes with individual section scores for reading, writing, listening, and speaking of 7.0 or higher \_\_\_\_\_

TOEFL iBT with a minimum score of 90 points at \_\_\_\_\_

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

**(enclose copy of the certification)**

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ACCORDING TO ART. 13 D.Lgs. 196/2003**

Personal information will be gathered and handled according to the laws, within the purposes related to the development of institutional activities, especially for all executions connected to the performance of research activity with the University of Tuscia. The agreement to handling information given is not required according to art. 24 of D.Lgs. 196/03.



**Project Scheme to Compete in the 'SeedTalent' @ UNITUS Grants**

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<b>Project Scheme to Compete in the 'SeedTalent' @ UNITUS Grants in English</b>		
Scientific Disciplinary Area _____ Scientific disciplinary domain _____ ERC research domain _____		
Project title (Max 500 characters, including spaces):		
Project duration:	12 months minimum	Scientific area:
Keywords (at least one, max 9 words)		
Abstract (Max 3.000 characters, including spaces)		
<b>General and specific objectives</b>		
Max 2.000 characters, including spaces		
<b>Description of the project</b>		
Max 5.000 characters, including spaces		
<b>Innovative, inter/multidisciplinary aspects</b>		
Max 2.000 characters, including spaces		

<b>Expected results and deliverables</b>
Max 1.500 characters, including spaces
<b>Impact</b>
Max 2.000 characters, including spaces
<b>Work plan and articulation of activities and phases</b>
Max 1.500 characters, including spaces Gantt Chart for all 12 months is mandatory and must be complete and consistent in relation to the whole work plan.

Cover Letter (1 page max)

Three referees in the field of research of the candidate:

SURNAME	NAME	E-MAIL	TEL.	UNIVERSITY	DEPARTMENT

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

[Name and surname]

**CURRICULUM VITAE****PERSONAL INFORMATION**

<b>Surname</b>	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Date of birth</b>	[Day, month, year]

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE** (List in reverse chronological order)

<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Structure</b>	<b>Dates</b>

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Course of studies</b>	<b>University</b>	<b>Year of achievement of the degree</b>
PhD			
Master			
Degree of medical specialization			
Degree of European specialization			
Other			

**REGISTRATION IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Date of registration</b>	<b>Association, organization</b>	<b>Country</b>

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**FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

Language	Level of knowledge

**AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Year	Description

**TRAINING OR RESEARCH ACTIVITY**

Description
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**PROJECT ACTIVITY**

Year	Project

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, TRADEMARKS, etc.)**

Description
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**INVITED TALKS AT SCIENCE EVENTS (SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, COURSES, MEETINGS, AND OTHERS)**

Date	Title	Place

**PUBLICATIONS**

<b>Books and chapters</b>
[Author or authors, title of chapter, title of book, editor, publisher, year]

<b>Articles in scientific journals</b>
[Author or authors, year, title, journal, volume of journal, issue number of journal, page range of article, impact factor of journal, number of citations]

<b>Notes to judgement</b>

<b>Contributions in collected works</b>



<b>Monographs</b>

<b>Conference proceedings</b>
[Author or authors, year, title, title of proceeding, editor(s), publisher]

**OTHER INFORMATION**

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Declarations given in the present curriculum vitae must be considered released according to art. 46 and 47 of D.P.R. n. 445/2000.

The present curriculum vitae does not contain confidential and legal information according to art. 4, paragraph 1, points d) and e) of D.Lgs. 30.06.2003 n. 196.

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

### Reference letter

Applicant name:

Nationality:

Date of birth:

Fiscal code (if possessed):

Call for Applications for the awarding of Postdoctoral Research Fellowship 'SeedTalent' @UNITUS Grants – competitive selection to conduct research activities on a specific project entitled:

ERC research domain:

Please give an assessment of the applicant's ability to carry out advanced studies and frontier research, **highlighting his/her main strengths and weaknesses**. The information provided will be kept confidential.

Please evaluate the applicant by comparing him/her with others of the same age and position, whom you have known over the past five years.

If possible, indicate the number of PhD students that are compared to the candidate.

#### Rating scale:

- outstanding (top 1-2%),
- excellent (top 5%),
- very good (top 20%),
- good (top 40%),
- average, below average

Intellectual skills:

Motivation:

Research potential:

Ability to work in a team:

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#### About the Referee

Full name:

Position:

Address:

City:

Nationality:

Phone:

E-mail:

How long have you known the applicant, and in what context?:

In which of the following roles?

- Teacher
- Employer
- Manager
- Research coordinator
- Thesis supervisor
- Other (specify):

Place and date \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

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## Postdoctoral Researcher's Commitment

To the General Director of the University of Tuscia

**Re: Bando SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants 2024 Call – Applicant's commitment to the University of Tuscia as the Host Institution**

By applying to the Bando SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants 2024 Call, I, the undersigned

First name

Last name

fully acknowledge the **Bando SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants 2024 Call** and its regulations. With specific reference to Article 3: "DOCUMENTATION AND FORMALISATION OF THE APPLICATION" I therefore choose the University of Tuscia as the Host Institution of my MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship proposal or ERC Starting Grant proposal with the commitment to personally and fully carry out the activities envisaged in the research project submitted to the SeedTalent @Unitus Grants Call and effectively prepare a research proposal for MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship or ERC Starting Grant during the SeedTalent fellowship.

I will work under the supervision of Professor (in case specified in the application) or the Professor to be assigned for supervision as per the Call for applications:

Supervisor's first name and last name

at the Department of

Sincerely,

Researcher's first name and last name

Signature

Date (DD-MM-YYYY)

**Note for candidates:**

**This document is a compulsory attachment for the application to the Bando SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants 2024 Call. It must be duly filled, signed, and scanned as a mandatory part of your application to the Bando SeedTalent @UNITUS Grants 2024 Call.**