



PhD Programs in collaboration with **China Scholarship Council:** **CALL FOR PRE-SELECTION FOR CITIZENS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA - ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027**

1. Announcement

Politecnico di Torino and the **China Scholarship Council** signed a Cooperation Agreement promoting the enrolment of Chinese graduates in Politecnico PhD Programs.

Politecnico di Torino announces the opening of a preselection procedure for admission to the Ph.D. programs for the **academic year 2026/2027**. **The admission procedure is reserved exclusively for citizens of the People's Republic of China.**

The list of the PhD courses in the field of Engineering, Architecture, Design, and Urban Planning for which applications are open is available at <https://www.polito.it/en/education/phd-programmes-and-postgraduate-school/phd-programmes>.

2. Pre-selection and selection

In compliance with the provisions outlined in the Cooperation Agreement between Politecnico di Torino and the China Scholarship Council, the selection is a two-fold process:

- I. pre-selection at Politecnico di Torino;
- II. selection by CSC.

The present call covers only the first step (pre-selection), which will be carried out exclusively online and aims to pre-select applicants willing to enroll in one of the PhD Programs available at Politecnico di Torino.

At a later stage, **preselected applicants will then have to apply to the CSC call on the CSC website** for prospective scholarship awarding, according to the deadlines mentioned there.

3. Admission Requirements

The pre-selection call is open only to citizens of the People's Republic of China; overseas Chinese students may be eligible for application, subject to CSC policy.

The candidates interested in a **full-degree position at Politecnico di Torino** and planning to apply for a CSC scholarship will have to meet the following requirements:

Applicants with an academic qualification (2nd level) obtained in Italy	Applicants with an academic qualification (2nd level) obtained abroad
Master's degree (Laurea Magistrale) or Laurea specialistica or academic degree belonging to the university system pre-dating M.D. no.	Academic qualification valid for admission to a PhD program in their country with a minimum



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509 of 3rd November 1999, as amended by M.D. no. 270 of 22nd October 2004 – with minimum final grade: 95/110.	average grade of 70/100¹ for Chinese degrees (for the other Countries, the Admission Committee will evaluate the degree and decide on the weighted minimum GPA required for admission based on the documents submitted by the applicant).
English language certificate – level B2 , as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), among those indicated in Annex 1, regardless of the date of conferral. <u>Certificates different from the ones listed in Annex 1 will not be accepted.</u>	

Applicants who still lack the required academic qualification and/or the English language certificate listed in the table above by the application deadline indicated in art. 4 below are allowed to apply as long as they meet both requirements **by and no later than 31st October 2026**.

In these cases, applicants can participate in the selection process “**under condition**”. They are required to obtain their degree and/or the English language certificate before the above-mentioned deadlines; otherwise, **they will not be admitted to the PhD programme.** These applicants must have an average grade of their **Master's exams (weighted GPA) higher than 25/30**. In any case they must graduate with a **minimum final grade of 95/110**.

The lack of even one of the requirements mentioned above before the deadlines entails exclusion from the selection process.

4. Application procedures for the pre-selection at Politecnico di Torino

The submission of applications will be open through the apply@polito portal from **10:00 a.m. (CET) on November 15, 2025**.

To apply for a position at Politecnico di Torino, candidates must:

I. Register on the **apply@polito**

II. After the registration, **login** on apply@polito and click on “PhD Programmes” and select the PhD program of their interest, proceed with the application, and upload all the following documents:

	MANDATORY DOCUMENTS/INFORMATION	DETAILS
a)	A copy of a valid identification document .	Both front and back sides with a picture and a signature.
b)	For applicants who obtained the academic qualification (1st or 2nd level) in Italy:	If applicants hold two (or more) Master's degrees (2 nd level), they must specify in their application form which qualification

¹Master's degree obtained in Countries other than Italy and China: the University Committee will evaluate the degree and decide on the weighted minimum GPA required for admission based on the documents submitted by the applicant.



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	Fill in the section "STUDI COMPIUTI" in the Apply platform with the complete study plan.	they wish to use to compete for admission to the PhD programme. The other degrees must be attached under the section "Ogni altro documento" (i.e., "Any Other Document") as provided for by letter I) of this table.
	For applicants who obtained the academic qualification (1st or 2nd level) abroad: - First-level degree diploma (EQF level 6) corresponding to the Italian Bachelor's degree (<i>Laurea</i>). The degree must be awarded by an accredited/recognized foreign university and allow access to second-cycle programmes (EQF level 7). - Certificate with all the exams taken in the Bachelor's degree programme (front and back scan) or a document issued by the University, including all the exams taken. - Second-level degree diploma (EQF level 7), corresponding to the Italian Master's degree (<i>Laurea Magistrale</i>). The degree must be awarded by an accredited/recognized foreign university and allow access to third-cycle programmes (EQF level 8). If the official diploma is not available yet, a provisional one can be accepted. Otherwise, it is necessary to have an official document that specifies the expected graduation date. - Certificate with all the exams taken in the Master's degree programme (front and back scan). If at the final year of the programme, a certificate of the exams taken - as updated as possible - with the weighted average of final or current grades; - Diploma Supplement, Declaration of value or Statement of Comparability issued by the Italian ENIC-NARIC – CIMEA, if available.	The documents must be: - <u>On headed paper with the stamp of the issuing institution and the signature of the administrator in charge</u> (if electronically signed, they can only be accepted <u>if verifiable online</u> via QR code or verification link); - <u>in Italian, English, French or Spanish by the issuing University. In case of any other language than those mentioned above, applicants are required to attach both the original version of the document and a translation, with the stamp and original signature of an official translator, in Italian or English in the same file.</u> Candidates who obtained a 1st or 2nd level qualification at a <u>non-European University</u> are required to include a short explanation on the evaluation system (minimum and maximum grade for passing each exam, final grade and the medium average) and the credit system to which it refers. In the event that this information is not present in the document, it is necessary to provide and attach an official statement issued by the University that includes the missing information. In the event that applicants have two (or more) Master's degrees (2nd level), they must state in their application form which qualification they want to use to compete for admission to the PhD programme. The other degrees must be attached under the section "Ogni altro documento" (i.e., "Any Other Document") as provided for by letter I) of this table.



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c)	English language certificate (level B2)	English language certificate – level B2 , as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), among those indicated in the Annex 1, regardless of the date of conferral. <u>Certificates different from the ones listed in Annex 1 will not be accepted.</u>
d)	Abstract of Master's thesis	The document must be written in English and uploaded in PDF format. A short but complete abstract of the Master's thesis project, which must include the overall objectives, the methodologies, the major results, and above all, the individual contribution. The format is free and can consist of tables, graphs, and/or images. Minimum 3000 characters, maximum 6000 characters.
e)	Short statement of Purpose (SoP) on the applicant's research interests and motivations for undertaking a PhD programme	The statement of purpose must be written in English – maximum 8000 characters. Applicants must highlight their scientific background in the topics that will be studied during the PhD programme they are applying for. Applicants need to emphasize their ability to engage with one or more research topics and must clarify their motivations, objectives, aspirations and personal inclination for the research topics. Applicants must also highlight their capacity to develop a research project and declare its assumptions, objectives and methodology. Applicants who compete for more than one PhD programmes are allowed to submit a separate statement of purpose for each programme they are applying for.
f)	Name and e-mail address of two referees who can be contacted by the Admissions Committee to get useful information for the evaluation of the application	One faculty member must be from Politecnico di Torino (the name of a lecturer who is available to be the supervisor during the PhD, in case of admission, must be indicated) , and one faculty member on the staff of another university (Italian or international university).



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For their evaluation, applicants can also upload to the Apply@polito platform the following optional documents, if available:

	OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS	DETAILS
g)	Recommendation letters written by academic teaching staff, researchers, staff members of institutions, and company employers.	The names of the individuals who sign the recommendation letters may differ from those of the referees (letter f).
h)	Valid GRE® General Test (5 years since the test date), obtained before the application deadline.	For more information, please visit the website https://www.ets.org/ .
i)	Publications	Information about publications (type of publication, author/s, date, etc.) must be entered in the specific section of the Apply@polito platform.
l)	Any other document which applicants deem proper for the purpose of evaluating their application	For instance: other Bachelor's or Master's degrees, prizes and awards, professional experience, any other valuable document for the purpose of declaring an applicant suitable for admission to a PhD programme, etc. All documents must be combined into a single PDF file and uploaded to the "Attachments" section of the Apply@polito platform.

Applicants are not allowed to upload any additional documents **after submitting their application**. For this reason, for applicants admitted to the selection process "with condition", Politecnico di Torino will consider the average grade of the exams taken during the Master's degree programme instead of the final grade.

Politecnico di Torino will not take into consideration any declaration, qualification, publication, or request to modify submitted documents after the closing date of this Call. Politecnico di Torino will evaluate the qualifications already obtained by the applicant before the closing date of the Call, provided they are submitted in accordance with the instructions outlined in this article.

Applicants are required to pay a non-refundable fee (€ 30.00) for each application they intend to submit. The payment must take place at the end of the online application process with the following payment methods:

- credit cards (or other payment methods available on the PagoPA platform) generating an **immediate payment**;
- pre-printed notice of payment (MAV on the PagoPA platform), generating a **deferred payment**.

Applicants who pay using the method illustrated under letter b) must pay before the deadlines referred in art. 5.

The application process is finalized and valid only after the payment of the fee mentioned above. Applications cannot be modified after payment has been made.



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5. Application deadline for the pre-selection at Politecnico di Torino

The application and the supporting documents listed above must be submitted by **December 10th, 2025, at 10.00 a.m. (CET time)**.

Applicants who still lack the required academic qualification and/or the English language certificate by this deadline may apply, provided they meet both requirements by October 31st, 2026.

6. Assessment procedure

Applicants will be assessed by a specific Admission Committee, appointed by the Rector and composed of at least three members chosen from among tenured faculty members and permanent researchers.

The names of the members of the Admission Committee will be available on Politecnico di Torino's website: <https://www.polito.it/en/education/phd-programmes-and-postgraduate-school/admissions-to-phd-programmes/admissions/evaluation-of-applicants>.

The Admission Committee preliminarily verifies whether the applicants meet the admission requirements for the selection process listed in Articles 2 and 3 above. The decision is based on the documents attached to the applicant's application form.

Applicants with admission requirements will be assessed based on their motivations, academic background, competencies, expertise, and research skills, which can be deduced from the **documents attached to their application form and from the interview**.

7. Results of the pre-selection procedure

The list of eligible pre-selected candidates will be published on the following web page: <https://www.polito.it/en/education/phd-programmes-and-postgraduate-school/admissions-to-phd-programmes/admissions/results-and-ranking-lists>.

In the days following the publication of the pre-selection results, successful candidates will receive an eligibility letter that they must use to apply for a CSC scholarship.

Only candidates who have obtained the scholarship by the CSC will be allowed to enroll at Politecnico di Torino through this call.

The final candidates selected by CSC will receive further instructions via email. Detailed information regarding the procedures, supplementary documentation, and deadlines for enrolment for the Academic year 2026/2027 will be provided in a dedicated document, which will be published by May 31st, 2026, at the following page: <https://www.polito.it/en/education/phd-programmes-and-postgraduate-school/admissions-to-phd-programmes/enrolment/enrolling>.

Those who do not comply with the instructions outlined in this document will be excluded from the procedure and will lose their right to enrol in the PhD programme.

The doctoral programs are set to begin on November 1st, 2026 officially.



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8. Processing of personal data

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU Regulation 2016/679) and the "Code regarding the protection of personal data" (Legislative Decree No. 196 of 30th June 2003 and further amendments), Politecnico di Torino will process personal data to pursue its institutional aims based on the principles of correctness, lawfulness, and relevance of purposes.

More information on the processing of personal data is available at: <https://www.polito.it/en/privacy>.

9. Access to documents

Access to the documents is allowed in the forms provided for by the Law and in accordance with the "Regulation on access to administrative documents pursuant to Law No. 241/1990, civic access and general civic access pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 33/2013". Information on the procedure and forms to request access is shown in the "Regolamento in materia di accesso ai documenti amministrativi ai sensi della Legge n. 241/1990, accesso civico e accesso civico generalizzato ai sensi del D.lgs. n. 33/2013".

10. Governing laws and final provisions

For all matters not expressly provided for in this Call, reference is made to the relevant governing laws and regulations available at (<https://www.polito.it/en/education/Ph.D.PhD-programs-and-postgraduate-school/doctoral-school/legislation>), in particular:

- Ministerial Decree No. 226 of 14th December 2021;
- Ministerial Decree No. 301 of 22nd March 2022;
- Politecnico di Torino Regulations on Doctoral Programs.

The present Call is announced on the website of Politecnico di Torino (<https://www.polito.it/en/education/PhD-programs-and-postgraduate-school/admissions-to-PhD-programs/admissions/call-for-applications>).

According to art. 5 of Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990 (New rules on administrative procedure and right of access to administrative documents) and subsequent amendments, the person responsible for the admissions process to the PhD programs of Politecnico Silvia Vacca, the Head of the PhD Programs Hub of Politecnico di Torino, is responsible for the admissions process to the Ph.D. programs of Politecnico di Torino.

Requests for information may be sent using the Ticketing Support System, which is accessible following the procedure illustrated at <https://didattica.polito.it/segreteria/contatta/en/index.html>. Answers to the most frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available.

It should also be noted that any interaction between PhD candidates and the PhD Programs Hub will occur exclusively through the Ticketing Support Service mentioned above. Any communications addressed to staff and/or the office by e-mail will not be considered.



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Annex 1 – Table of certifications and minimum score for the recognition of the B2 level of English language proficiency for Politecnico di Torino

Certifying body	Certificate	Minimum score required
IELTS https://www.ielts.org/	IELTS Academic e General Training	5.5
Pearson http://pearsonpte.com/	Pearson Test of English Academic	59
ETS http://www.ets.org/toefl	TOEFL iBT	72
	TOEIC	Listening: 400 Reading: 385 Speaking: 160 Writing: 150
Cambridge English https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams-and-tests/qualifications/schools/	B1 Preliminary (PET) e B1 Preliminary for Schools (PET) B2 First (FCE) e B2 First for Schools (FCE) B2 Business Vantage (BEC Vantage) C1 Advanced (CAE) C1 Business Higher (BEC Higher) C2 Proficiency (CPE)	160
	Cambridge English: PRELIMINARY (PET) obtained before 2016*	Pass with Distinction (≥90) Statement of Results required
	Cambridge English: FIRST (FCE) obtained before January 2015*	≥60 Statement of Results required

Politecnico accepts the certificates listed in the table for exams on paper, on computer, or online (where applicable). Retakes of one or more parts of any of the certificates in the table are accepted, where applicable.



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*These certificates used a different scoring scale than the Cambridge certifications currently issued.