



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DI TRENTO**

## **Public selection for admission to the Two-Year Master's Degree in**

### **Cognitive Science – Scienze Cognitive**

#### **Academic year 2026/27**

(English translation)

**The only binding version is the Italian one**

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## Art. 1 Public Selection

1. The Center for Mind and Brain (CIMEC) at the University of Trento announces two public selections based on qualifications and (if appropriate) interview, in order to select students for admission to the first year of the Master's Degree Programme in Cognitive Science for the academic year 2026/2027. The Masters programme in Cognitive Science is offered by the Center for Mind and Brain of the University of Trento. Entry is restricted to **80 places**. This figure **includes 35 places reserved to non-EU citizens resident abroad**. Should any places for Non-Eu candidates not be assigned, they will be available for European candidates and Non-European candidates permanently resident in Italy. Any places remaining after the first and the second round of selection could be made available in a potential third round.
2. In the aforementioned 80 available places, there is a priority reserve of 6 places for each of the three tracks of the Master's Degree Programme in Cognitive Science (Cognitive Neuroscience, Computational and theoretical modelling of Language e Fundamental Behavioural Neuroscience) for the quota reserved to non-EU citizens resident abroad and of 6 places for each of the three tracks for European citizens and equivalents, as regulated in the following art. 4.
3. The Master's Degree is an interdisciplinary course and provides teaching in the fields of cognitive science
4. The official language of the course is English

## Art. 2 Categories of applicants and Admission Requirements

### 1. Categories of Applicants

For the purpose of this admission Call, two categories of applicants are considered:

- **Europeans and Equivalents:** Italian citizens, European Union citizens, or those with equivalent status, hereafter referred to as "Europeans and Equivalents."
- **Non-Europeans:** Citizens of countries outside the European Union living outside Italy, hereafter referred to as "Non-Europeans."

It is essential to carefully read **Note 1** in this document to determine your category and proceed correctly with the subsequent steps.



## 2. Admission Requirements

Admission is subject to the following condition:

- i. a bachelor's or higher degree awarded in Italy or other qualification recognized as equivalent awarded abroad; undergraduate candidates are also accepted providing that they will obtain their bachelor's degree:
  - **before 30 June 2026** for Non-Europeans;
  - **before 30 September 2026** for Europeans and Equivalents and for non-European applicants graduating from Italian universities with a valid Italian residence permit for study purposes
- ii. a good knowledge of the English language, at least B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, attested as follows:
  - including a certification of knowledge of the English language emitted by an assessment institution accepted at an international level, consistent with the guidelines regarding type, duration and validity of certification published on the webpage of the [Language Centre of the University of Trento](#). The certification must be submitted to the University of Trento **by June 15th 2026 at the latest** by all the categories of applicants (both *Europeans and equivalents* and *Non Europeans*);
  - or including a Transcript of records attesting the completion of a university exam of English language knowledge at B2 level (the B2 level must be clearly stated)
  - or including a certification issued by the Language Center of the University stating the completion of an English Language B2 level exam: the exam must include a written test and an oral test.
  - or including a self-certification stating that the candidate speaks English as mother tongue
  - or including a certification emitted by the University that issues the bachelor's or master's degree attesting that the bachelor's or master's degree has been entirely held in English
- iii. a personal background with suitable professional, vocational and academic experience appropriate to the interdisciplinary nature of the degree course according to the disciplines characterizing the cognitive sciences area: philosophy and linguistics; psychology; psychobiology and cognitive neuroscience; mathematics, computer science and engineering.



## Art. 3 Application procedures and submission dates

1. Candidates seeking admission to the selection process must complete the online application form at [Application](#) according to the following procedures and deadlines.

Candidates can log in using:

- [SPID – Public Digital Identity System](#)
  - [Electronic Identity Card](#)
  - A UniTrento account (e.g. @unitn.it @guest.unitn.it accounts).
2. Submission of applications is divided into two sessions, according to the following deadlines:
    - a. **First call: between 17 December 2025 and 04 March 2026, 12.00 (CET)** for Non-Europeans;
    - b. **Second call: between 9 February 2026 and 29 May 2026, 12.00 (CET)** for Europeans and Equivalents.
    - c. Only in case of remaining places, starting from mid August it will be opened a third selection, reserved to Europeans and Equivalents.
  3. Technical problems in filling out the online application must be immediately communicated by email to [mcs@unitn.it](mailto:mcs@unitn.it). Applications submitted after the application deadline and/or in different ways will not be accepted.
  4. Applicants must complete the online application correctly uploading:
    - a. a copy of the passport (only pages related to personal information) or the identity card (Italian citizens are not required to upload it);
    - b. copy of bachelor's degree certificate or certificate (or self-declaration) attesting the expected graduation date<sup>1</sup>;
    - c. transcript including a list of all courses, exams and marks awarded (attach an official translation if this document is not in Italian or English). The transcript must include: the list of exams for the qualification to be awarded, the weighted average mark and the minimum to maximum range of marks;
    - d. transcript of marks obtained in all exams taken during any post-graduate degree (Master's) awarded before the submission of this application showing the final mark, any weighting of exams and indicating the range of minimum to maximum marks possible<sup>2</sup>;
    - e. curriculum vitae in English following the [Europass model](#);
    - f. proof of English language qualification;

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<sup>1</sup> Italian students or students enrolled in an Italian University may submit a self-declaration according to DPR 445/2000

<sup>2</sup> The University of Trento reserves the right to require applicants to submit relevant documentation (statement of verification e/o statement of comparability) according to the procedure set on the webpage diploma verification



- g. statement of purpose - brief personal statement in English in which the candidate supports her/his application (max. 4000 characters, spaces included);
  - h. Besides, candidates can also upload information related to the referee details in case of submission of the reference letter (see art. 3.5).
5. The reference letter, not mandatory, has to be preferably written by a university lecturer and must be sent by the referee to [mcs@unitn.it](mailto:mcs@unitn.it) by the given deadline for applications;
6. Applicants are required to pay an application fee of 30.00 Euros, using one of the methods requested during the online application process, within the given deadline for applications. Failing to pay the application fee within the given deadline will automatically lead to the exclusion of the applicant.

#### **Art. 4 Selection and ranking**

1. The Admissions Committee is appointed by the Rector of the University of Trento and is made up of at least three members chosen from among the teaching staff at the Center for Mind and Brain and ensure that the selection procedures are correctly observed. The Committee may choose to meet via video conference and can work in sub-committees.
2. The Admissions Committee will evaluate whether candidates fulfil the entry requirements set out in the regulations governing the Master's Degree course in Cognitive Science – Scienze Cognitive and listed in article 2 of this document.
3. The evaluation is carried out by allocating points (up to 100) in accordance with the following criteria:

<b>Academic background and reference letter</b>	<b>Tot. max 50</b>
The following are given particular consideration: transcripts of records, any other curricular activities, publications, professional experiences, stage and voluntary work, knowledge of foreign languages, reference letter.	0-50
<b>Relevance of previous studies and experience to the course objectives</b>	<b>Tot. max 20</b>
The relevance of the candidate's previous studies (Bachelor's or Master's) and extracurricular activities (work placements, summer schools, jobs, etc.) to the nature and objectives of the course.	0-20
<b>Statement of purpose</b>	<b>Tot. max 30</b>
The following are given particular consideration: clarity, strength of motivation, relevance to the course applied for, ability shown in English, originality.	0-30

Application score	0-100
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Applicants might be invited to an interview (in person or online), only if the Selection Committee requires to collect further information on applicants' academic skills and personal competencies.

4. Applicants who are awarded a score of **50/100 or more** will be considered eligible.
5. In the event that two or more candidates obtain the same score in the ranking list, preference will be given to the youngest.
6. After completing the evaluation process, the admission committee will place the suitable candidates on two separate lists in order of classification for admission onto the Master's course (one list for Non-Europeans and one for Europeans and Equivalentents). These lists will be published at the [webpage of the Master's course in Cognitive Science](#).
7. For each of the two rankings of candidates eligible for admission to the master's degree course, the assignment of places will take place according the following procedures:
  - a) In the first instance, the 18 places reserved for places will be assigned for each of the 3 tracks, referred to in the art. 1 c. 2 admitting the first 6 candidates for each track according to the order of scores directly referring to each track and regardless of the order in the general ranking;
  - b) Once the first 18 places have been assigned, the further places will be assigned by scrolling through the general ranking, according to the order of scores. In the event that there are still unfilled places in the reserve of 6 places for track, these will be added to the available places and used by moving down the the general ranking.
8. In the event that among the 6 admitted in the first instance in the reserve of 6 places for a track there are candidates who renounce enrolment, other candidates from the same track will be admitted (according to the order in the ranking by score) in order to first fill the 6 places reserved for that track, regardless of the order in the general ranking.
9. Please note that candidates will not be allowed in any way to change their track after admission.

## Art. 5 Admission and Enrolment

1. Suitable candidates who have passed the selection procedure will have to pay an Enrollment confirmation fee of €100.00 (one hundred euros) within the date published on the shortlist to confirm their acceptance of the place. This payment will not be refunded in any case.



The enrollment confirmation fees will not be charged to those who, having been admitted through the second call, will complete the enrollment procedure within 7 days of the admission notice.

2. Successful applicants who fail to complete the steps set out in the point above shall be considered as having renounced their place. Candidates who intend to renounce their place for whatever reason are required to notify the committee as soon as possible, by sending e-mail to [mcs@unitn.it](mailto:mcs@unitn.it).
3. Should any places become available, due to withdrawals or any other reason, the committee reserves the right to invite other suitable candidates from the ranked list to enroll on the first year of the Master's degree course in Cognitive Science, up to the number of places available.
4. Non-Europeans who apply and pay the Enrollment confirmation fee must pre-enroll at the Italian diplomatic office in their own country. The pre-enrolment must be submitted by the deadline indicated in the "Italian Government regulations for the enrollment of Visa requesting students" document<sup>3</sup>. Pre-enrolment is compulsory in order to obtain the Visa. All candidates are advised to read the [procedures on how to arrive at UniTrento](#).
5. Non-Europeans who have confirmed the place must obtain the visa **by September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026** and arrive in **Italy before September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. **After this deadline it will be impossible for them to carry out the enrollment procedure and receive support to obtain the stay permit and the accommodation.**

## Art. 6 Tuition fees for Non-Europeans

1. The maximum tuition fees for Non-Europeans is €6,000 per academic year; further details are available at the webpage [Tuition fees](#).
2. For first-year students, the amount of the tuition fees can be reduced on the basis of the application score as follows:

Tuition Fees Amount	Application score
Tuition waiver	Application score between 90/100 and 100/100
€ 1.000	Application score between 70/100 and 89,9/100
€ 2.000	Application score between 60/100 and 69,9/100
€ 4.500	Application score between 50/100 and 59,9/100

<sup>3</sup> The information will be published at the following webpage [Studiare in Italia](#).



3. Tuition fees paying students in the 1<sup>st</sup> year can turn into tuition fees exempted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year provided that they succeed in gaining at least 42 credits by August, 10<sup>th</sup> (= within the June-July exams session), whereas students not meeting this requirement by the abovementioned deadline are expected to pay the tuition fees in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year as specified below:

Tuition Fees Amount	Credits earned before 10 <sup>th</sup> August
Exemption from paying tuition fees	$\geq 42$
€ 1.000	$36 \leq \text{CFU} < 42$
€ 2.000	$24 \leq \text{CFU} < 36$
€ 4.500	$6 \leq \text{CFU} < 24$
€ 6.000	$\text{CFU} < 6$

## Art 7 Scholarships for Non-Europeans

1. University of Trento will grant scholarships to top scored Non-Europeans applicants provided that they get an admission score at least 70/100. The number of available scholarships and their allocation will be announced with the ranking list. The available scholarships will be strictly assigned following the order of the ranking list, regardless of the reserved places planned for each track. Students who benefit from the UniTrento scholarship are waived from tuition fees.
2. The scholarship is intended as a partial contribution to mobility expenses and will be paid only after the arrival in Italy. The scholarship may be awarded for the following academic year on the basis of available resources and if the student meets the merit requirements established annually by the University.
3. Students who turn out to be in the "fee waiver" bracket are not necessarily entitled to receive a scholarship from the University of Trento.
4. Should any scholarship become available, as a result of withdrawal by candidates, the scholarship will be assigned to the next eligible candidates from the ranking list.
5. Other forms of funding will not be provided by the University of Trento for Non-Europeans students with the exception of the scholarships point 1.

## Art. 8 Tuition Fees and scholarships for Europeans and Equivalents

1. The amount of tuition fees for Europeans and Equivalents admitted students is available at the webpage [Tuition Fees](#). The amount can be partially or totally reduced according to the economic situation of the student's family (ISEE).
2. Information on scholarships, accommodation and tuition fee waiver for Europeans and Equivalents are published at the webpage [Scholarships](#).





**Art. 9 Transfer to UniTrento from another Italian university or study course change**

1. A study course change or transfer application to the Master's degree course in Cognitive science can be submitted only in case of positive evaluation by the selection committee. Students can be admitted at the II year as long as there are available places and provided that the student are recognized at least 42 credits, referred to the mandatory and/or elective courses of the Master's degree course in Cognitive science.
2. In case of study course change or transfer from another University please contact the Master Manager at [mcs@unitn.it](mailto:mcs@unitn.it) in order to ask for the request of academic credits transfer within September 30<sup>th</sup> 2026.
3. Students will be informed about the results within 30 days after having submitted their request.

**Art. 10 Further Information**

1. Specific information concerning the master's course is available at the [webpage of the master's course in Cognitive Science](#).
2. It is advisable to carefully research the cost of living in Trento.
3. For further information please contact the admission office of the master's course in Cognitive Science:  
[mcs@unitn.it](mailto:mcs@unitn.it)

Trento, 17 December 2025

## Note 1 - Italian, European, equivalent and Non-European candidates

### Candidates belonging to the category "European and equivalent candidates"

According to the provisions of this call for admission, individuals considered "European and equivalent candidates" include people who have:

- Italian citizenship, even if it is one of two citizenship held - in case of dual citizenship, the Italian citizenship prevails on the non-Italian one;
- Citizenship of one of the countries of the [European Union](#), even if it is one of two citizenships held - in case of dual citizenship, the European citizenship prevails on the non-European one;
- Citizenship of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, the Republic of San Marino, or the Vatican City State;
- Citizenship of any country not listed in the above sections (hereafter referred to as "non-EU"), who are **permanently residing in Italy** and hold one of the following types of stay permits. These permits must be valid at the time of application to this selection call and must be renewable until the completion of the degree or master's degree for which the candidate is applying.
  - Stay permit for study reasons
  - Long-term stay permit
  - Stay permit for salaried employment or self-employment
  - Stay permit for family reasons
  - Stay permit for political asylum
  - Stay permit for subsidiary protection
  - Stay permit for religious reasons
  - Stay permit related to the recognition or revocation of refugee status, as regulated by [Legislative Decree No. 25 of January 28, 2008](#)
- Non-EU citizens permanently residing in Italy who have obtained a secondary school diploma in Italy.

### Candidates belonging to the category "Non-European candidates residing outside Italy"

This category includes the following candidates:

- Citizens of countries outside [European Union](#), Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, the Republic of San Marino, or the Vatican City State who are not permanently residing in Italy (hereafter referred to as "non-European citizens");
- non-European citizens who hold an Italian stay permit for study purposes and who are not permanently living in Italy;



- non-European citizens who are in Italy with a temporary protection permit but are not permanently residing in Italy and have not obtained a secondary school diploma in Italy. However, if a secondary school diploma has been obtained in Italy and the individual permanently lives in Italy, such candidates fall under the category of "European and equivalent candidates" and must therefore follow the instructions designated for that category in this admission call for applications.



## **Note 2 – Information on the processing of personal data**

Regulation (EU) 2016/679, the “General Data Protection Regulation” (hereinafter “GDPR”), provides that everyone has the right to the protection of personal data concerning him or her.

In compliance with Article 13 of the EU Regulation 2016/679, the University of Trento provides the present notice to persons who want to participate in this selection procedure (hereinafter “data subjects”).

### **1. Data controller**

The Data controller is the University of Trento, via Calepina 14, 38122 Trento; email: [ateneo@unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@unitn.it); [ateneo@pec.unitn.it](mailto:ateneo@pec.unitn.it).

### **2. Contact details of the Data Protection Officer (DPO)**

The DPO can be contacted to request information on personal data at the following email address: [dpo@unitn.it](mailto:dpo@unitn.it).

### **3. Purpose of the processing and legal basis**

The University of Trento shall process personal and particular data exclusively for the management of this selection procedure, as part of the performance of its public interest tasks as well as for the fulfilment of legal obligations (article 6(1), points e) and c) of the GDPR).

### **4. Acquisition of data**

The provision of personal data for the purposes indicated above is mandatory to participate in the selection procedure; failure to provide it will make it impossible to participate. The provision of particular data is optional and failure to provide it will make it impossible for the University to guarantee the use of the facilities requested.

### **5. Data processing methods**

The processing of personal data shall be carried out manually and by automated means by authorised staff, according to their tasks. Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and transparently, confidentially, in a manner that is adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed (GDPR, article 5(1)).

No profiling is carried out, and decision are not taken by automated means.



## **6. Recipients of personal data**

Personal data will be disclosed to all the University personnel acting for the above-mentioned purposes.

In any case, personal data must be disclosed in compliance with legal obligation and/or a provision of the judicial Authorities.

Personal data may be published on the University website in fulfilment of the obligations of publicity and transparency provided for by current legislation.

## **7. Data retention period**

Personal data will be stored as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes for which they were collected, and in any case as long as it is necessary by law. In any case, the data will be stored as long as necessary by the regulations in force and/or by University regulations on the storage of administrative documents relevant to the performance of its services.

## **8. Rights of the data subjects**

At any time the data subject can exercise the rights referred to in article 15 et seq. of the GDPR towards the Data Controller, at the contact details indicated above, and in particular: the access to his/her own personal data and to other information as mentioned in art. 15 of GDPR; the request of rectification of his/her own personal data when inaccurate and/or their integration when incomplete; the erasure of his/her own personal data, except when the University is obliged to data storage to comply with article 17 (3) of the GDPR; the restriction of processing as per article 18 of the GDPR; the object to processing of personal data concerning him or her when allowed as per art.21 GDPR.

This is without prejudice to the right to lodge a complaint with the Supervisory Authority pursuant to Art. 77 of the GDPR and/or to take the appropriate judicial offices.