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**Decree – DMA Rep. n. 902/2023 Prot n. 248339 del 03/11/2023**

**Call for n. 1 Short Research Fellowship - Ca' Foscari University of Venice– Department of Management**

(L. 240 del December 30th 2010, art. 18, DL 19/2012; Regulations about Short Research fellowships issued under D.R. 300/2014 of 14/04/2014 and subsequent amendments and additions)

The present document in English is to be considered as a mere translation of the provisions of the call which is available in Italian at the following - Albo on line <http://www.unive.it/data/30402/>. The text in Italian is the official text of the notice of competition for all legal intents and purposes and, in the event of non-conformity with the present document, it shall prevail.

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**Description**

The Department of Management of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, on the basis of resolution taken by the Departmental Council on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2023 on the awarding of research grants for research fellows, hereby calls for applications for n. 1 Short Research Fellowship entitled **"Start-up accelerators. An empirical study"** lasting **8 months. The expected starting date is beginning of December 2023.**

The research fellowship is awarded for the purpose of collaboration with the following research programme: **"Start-up accelerators. An empirical study"**

**ABSTRACT**

**INTRODUCTION**

In today's entrepreneurial landscape, startup accelerators have established themselves as a fundamental actor in the economic process of supporting and promoting innovation (Cohen, 2013; Cumming et al., 2019; Pauwels et al., 2016). However, academic research on this subject is still scarce and highly fragmented due to the lack of structured and large-scale data (Cohen and Hochberg, 2014). This research project aims to delve into the role of startup accelerators and innovation ecosystems in the growth path of young entrepreneurial enterprises (Del Sarto et al., 2020; Gonzalez-Urbe and Leatherbee, 2018; Hallen et al., 2016). Leveraging data collected within an accelerator ecosystem, the primary objective of the research is to highlight the contribution of the acceleration program to the performance of businesses and the path of funding they pursue. The study also aims to investigate the intricate dynamics and interactions that develop between accelerators and other investors in today's entrepreneurial ecosystem—partner companies, business angels, venture capital funds, crowdfunding platforms, and financial institutions—defining potential implications for the involved startups (Bellavitis et al., 2017; Block et al., 2018; Cumming et al., 2019). In doing so, the research aims to contribute to the limited literature on the subject and provide new perspectives that can guide future research.

**OBJECTIVES**

The research project aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Analyze the characteristics of startups involved in the acceleration process offered by a specific accelerator for startup growth, e.g., size, sectors of activity, stage of development, growth objectives, entry timing into the accelerator.
- Investigate the contribution of the accelerator ecosystem to startup growth, e.g., services offered to entrepreneurs, provided resources, training programs, networking events, incubation periods.
- Measure the impact of the acceleration program offered by the accelerator on the performance of involved businesses, e.g., survival rate, growth rate, attraction of external funding.
- Identify interactions of the accelerator ecosystem with other investors or actors in the entrepreneurial landscape, e.g., types and frequency of interactions, implications for startups in terms of funding opportunities and growth strategies.

**EXPECTED RESULTS**

The research aims to define the contribution of the studied accelerator ecosystem to supporting entrepreneurship and identify its connection to the surrounding socio-economic environment. The study also aims to shed light on the initial stages of a startup's growth process, an area of research typically overlooked due to data limitations. It is indeed



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plausible to believe that a startup can gain immense advantages from entering an acceleration program. Through the network of relationships and synergies developed by the accelerator with other actors in the entrepreneurial landscape, a startup can optimize its growth path, acquire capital more easily, and reduce the so-called time-to-market, i.e., the time between the conception of a product or service and its commercialization.

The scientific responsible and tutor of the short research fellowship is **prof.ssa Elisa Cavezzali**.

The research fellow must provide the department with the following research output:

- **two-monthly reports** on the activities (tot. **4 reports**).
- **final report** on the activities undertaken, highlighting the results achieved.

For anything not specified in this Call, please refer to the Regulations and applicable legislation.

**Duration of the contract: 8 months**, indicatively starting in **December 2023**.

**The research fellowship amounts to € 10.000,00 (ten thousand//00 euro)**, exempt from IRPEF (personal income tax) and INPS (social security contributions). The amount awarded is understood to include any possible cost related to the research activity of the project.

The amount, granted in one single instalment at the end of the Short Research Fellowship, shall only be approved and awarded for whole months completed; amounts for months not completed shall not be awarded.

**Deadline for the submission of applications: November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023, at h 13:00** (1PM, Italian time).

**Who can apply?** (University Regulation for short-term research fellowships, Art. 3)

**Applications are open to all EU citizens and non-EU citizens who hold:**

- **Master's degree in classe LM-56 (Scienze dell'Economia)** (Italian Regulation).

In addition, the following skills and competencies will be assessed as rewarding:

- use STATA statistical software
- research activity on start-up incubators and accelerators.

People who kinship and affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with any professor belonging to the Department or to the Centre announcing the call for applications, or with the Rector, the Chief Executive Officer or a member of the University Board of Directors or other relevant provisions of Law 240/2010. Article 18, par. 1, lett b) are forbidden to participate to the selection.

The requirements must be held by the deadline for this call for applications.

Candidates are admitted to the selection conditionally; they may be excluded from the call at any time should they fail to meet the predefined requirements, even after the selection process is complete, with just cause and notification sent to the person concerned.

**Short Research Fellowship to non-EU citizens.**

If a non-EU citizen already living in Italy applies for a Research Fellowship, he must hold a residence permit valid up to the Deadline of the call. Otherwise, the Department undertakes to undergo the procedures for obtaining a residence permit for research activities.

**How to apply** (University Regulations for short-term research fellowships, Art. 5)

Candidates should submit:

- a) The application form, signed and dated, available on the University website <https://www.unive.it/data/28824/>  
Applicants must declare in the application, under their own responsibility:
  - educational qualification held;



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- the possession of a residence permit valid at the deadline of the call for applications, in case he/she is a non-European citizen residing in Italy;
  - that they understand that the short-term research fellowship is not compatible with the positions referred to in Art. 12 of the present Regulations and current legislation;
  - to be medically fit to discharge his/her duties for the fellowship;
  - not to have received measures restricting personal freedom at the time of submitting the application;
  - not to have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to and including the fourth degree, with any professor belonging to the department or facility issuing the call or with the Rector, the General Manager or a member of the University Board of Directors and that they are aware of the provisions of the Law no 240/2010, Art. 18, para. 1, letter b);
  - any benefit under L. 104/92.
- b) A CV in European format (<http://www.unive.it/data/28900/>), duly dated and signed with handwritten signature and dated and containing the declaration on data use and privacy stated by Italian Law D.P.R. n. 445/2000, D.Lgs 196/2003 and art. 13 of the GDPR (EU Regulation n. 2016/679). The Europass form is available online at this link: <http://www.unive.it/pag/10368/>;
- c) A copy of a valid identity document (e.g. Identity Card or Passport).
- d) All documents, qualifications and publications relevant for the selection procedure.

**Incompatibility**

The short-term research fellowship may not overlap with:

- other scholarships granted in any capacity, apart from those granted by national or foreign research institutes in order to integrate with periods abroad the specific activity foreseen by the work plan of the appointed fellow;
- attendance of PhD courses with scholarship and medical specialization, in Italy and abroad;
- research grants “assegni di ricerca”
- subordinate employment relationships

Scholarship holders can carry out occasional work activities, upon written communication to the scientific manager and on the condition that:

- a) this activity is declared by the person in charge to be compatible with the pursuit of the research activity referred to in the scholarship;
- b) does not involve a conflict of interest with the specific research activity carried out;
- c) does not prejudice the university, in relation to the activities carried out.

The awarding of the short-term research fellowship does not imply the establishment of any employment contract, nor does it give rise to any rights of access to positions of employment at the university

**How to submit an application**

Candidates must demonstrate possession of qualifications (excluding publications) by means of the declarations referred to in the aforementioned D.P.R. n. 445/2000.

The lack or inaccuracy of the declaration(s) referred to in letters a), b), d) will result in exclusion from the selection.

The University carries out random checks on the veracity of the statements made by the candidates in the applications and in the curriculum.

If from the control indicated above the untruthfulness of the content of the declaration emerges, the declarant forfeits any benefits resulting from the provision issued based on the untruthful declaration, without prejudice to the provisions of the criminal code and special laws on the subject.

**Applications can be:**

1) sent by certified e-mail to the address [protocollo@pec.unive.it](mailto:protocollo@pec.unive.it).

Indicate the following wording in the subject of the e-mail: **“Bric\_START-UP - 8 months”**. It should be noted that the validity of such sending, as established by current legislation, is subject to the use by the candidate of a certified e-mail box in turn. Therefore, sending from a simple / ordinary e-mail box will not be considered valid even if addressed



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to the PEC of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice. Only documents in PDF/A format must be attached to the e-mail message;

2) **sent by e-mail** to the address [ricerca.management@unive.it](mailto:ricerca.management@unive.it) specifying in the subject of the e-mail **“Bric\_START-UP - 8 months”**. In this case, the candidate assumes the responsibility arising from any failure to deliver the application and related documentation. Only documents in PDF format must be attached to the e-mail message.

The University assumes no responsibility in the event of dispersion of communications due to inaccurate indications of residence and address by the applicant, or from failure, or late, communication of the change of the same, nor for any postal or telegraphic problems, not attributable to the Administration itself. Likewise, the University cannot be held responsible for any non-receipt of applications sent via non-certified email within the deadline.

Incomplete applications, those without the required data and the compulsory attachments will not be taken into consideration. Furthermore, the applications which, for any reason, reach this University beyond the deadline indicated above cannot be accepted.

The declarations made in the application shall be considered issued in accordance with the DPR no. 445/2000 and subsequent amendments, by candidates entitled to use the simplified administrative certifications permitted by the above decree.

**Selection and Evaluation Procedure**

The selection is made by assessment of the scientific-professional qualifications and the interview of the candidates, by a Selection Committee appointed by order of the Director of the research department taking into account, whereas possible, gender balance.

The short list of candidates invited for interview will be published on the specific Department of Management “Research > Research Grants” at <https://www.unive.it/data/29521/> and <http://www.unive.it/data/17431/> and on the dedicated page of the University website at <http://www.unive.it/data/28900/> **on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

The publication of the aforementioned calendar, list and announcements have the value of notification; therefore, candidates are required to present themselves, with the valid identification document presented during the application phase, on the day, the time and according to the electronic media indicated in the public notice. The absence of a candidate from the interview will be considered to all intents and purposes as a waiver.

The selection procedure comprehend the qualifications assessment and the interview, to be held via teleconference. The beginning of the interviews phase is scheduled for **November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10 AM**, Italian time, via GMEET platform.

**Evaluation Procedure and Commission.**

A Commission summoned by the Director of the Department, who indicates the President of the Commission and the member taking the minutes, will evaluate the applications.

Evaluation procedure. The Commission defines the general evaluation criteria. The interview and any other test must ascertain the suitability of the applicant to the research activity.

The Selection Committee awards a maximum of 100 points to applications, on the basis of the qualifications and interview, and then drafts a final merit-based ranking according to the assigned scores and identifies the winner. In the event of a tie, priority shall be granted to the younger of the two candidates.

The Commission compiles a ranking and specifies the winning applicant, having regard to the score appointed to experience and qualifications, interview and any other test, as specified by the call. In the event of two or more candidates obtaining the same score at the end of the selection, the younger candidate will be preferred.

**Awarding of the grant and publication of the documents**

Having received the selection documents, and at the outcome of the checks, the Director approves, by his own decree, the classification and the selection procedure reports and makes them public.

Notification, including the start date of the short-term research fellowship, shall be sent to the winning candidate.



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The winner must accept the short-term research fellowship within seven days of receipt of the written notification referred to above, under penalty of revocation. In the event of withdrawal, the short-term research fellowship shall be awarded to the next available candidate, following the order of the final ranking of merit.

The results of all phases of the selection process will be published in the University's online register - Albo on line <http://www.unive.it/data/30402>, on the Department web page <https://www.unive.it/data/29521/> and <http://www.unive.it/data/17431/>, and on the dedicated page of the University website <http://www.unive.it/data/12122>. All information on the convocation of candidates will be published there, too, without further direct communication to the candidates.

Access to the selection documents is guaranteed pursuant to the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions and relative internal implementation regulation.

**Processing of personal data**

Personal data provided by the candidates in their applications for participation in the selection procedures, are processed pursuant to the legislative decree of June 30th 2003, no. 196 and subsequent amendments and additions and to EU Regulations 2016/679. Comprehensive information on personal data processing can be found <https://www.unive.it/pag/36550/>.

**Person in charge of the procedure**

Pursuant to the provisions of art. 5 of the law of August 7th 1990, no. 241 and subsequent amendments and additions, the person in charge of the administrative procedure for this selection is Sonia Pastrello, in charge of the Department of Management.

**Final provisions**

For anything not specified in this call, see the University current regulations regarding the awarding for research fellowships and the current legislation.

Digitally signed  
The Head of the Department of  
Management  
Prof. Anna Comacchio

Digitally signed  
Seen  
The person in charge of the procedure,  
Executive Officer of the Department of Management,  
Sonia Pastrello.