

Rectoral Decree No. 654/2026 – 5/08/2026

**Public selection procedure
for the conferral of a research contract to conduct research activities
under the project “CULTSENSE FOOD – Exploring global food perception: Cross-cultural
insights in sensory description and preference”
at the University of Gastronomic Sciences
GSD 07/AGRI-07 – FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SSD AGRI-07/A – Food science and technology (formerly AGR/15).**

THE RECTOR

- Given Law no. 241 of August 7, 1990, “New rules on the administrative procedure”;
- Given Presidential Decree (DPR) no. 445 of December 28, 2000, “Consolidated text of legislative and regulatory provisions concerning administrative documentation”;
- Given Ministerial Decree (DM) no. 270 of October 22, 2004, containing amendments to the Regulation on the academic autonomy of universities;
- Given the Statute of the University of Gastronomic Sciences issued by Rectoral Decree no. 438/23 of January 9, 2023, published in the Official Gazette of January 21, 2023 – Ordinary Supplement no. 17;
- Given Ministerial Decree (DM) no. 89 of July 28, 2009, “Evaluation of academic titles and scientific publications”;
- Given Law no. 240 of December 30, 2010, “Regulations on the organization of universities, academic personnel, and recruitment, as well as delegation to the Government to promote quality and efficiency in the university system”;
- Given Law no. 79 of June 29, 2022, containing amendments to Article 22 of Law no. 240 of December 30, 2010.
- Given Decree-Law no. 1 of January 9, 2020, “Urgent provisions for the establishment of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of University and Research,” converted into Law no. 12 of March 5, 2020;
- Given Decree-Law no. 198 of December 29, 2022, “Urgent provisions concerning legislative deadlines”;
- Given Ministerial Decree no. 639/24, regarding the determination of scientific-disciplinary groups;
- Given the University Regulation for the conferral of research contracts, pursuant to article 22 of Law no. 240/2010;
- Given the resolution of the Academic Council of August 4, 2026, proposing the activation of a research contract under the project “CULTSENSE-FOOD – Exploring global food perception:

Cross-cultural insights in sensory description and preference” at the University of Gastronomic Sciences. GSD 07/AGRI-07 – FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, SSD AGRI-07/A – Food Science and Technology;

- Given the resolution of the Executive Committee of August 5, 2026, which authorized the calling of a comparative evaluation procedure for the selection of the holder of the research contract referred to in this call.

DECREES

Article 1 – Number of Research Contracts

A public selection procedure is announced for the conferral of 1 research contract for carrying out research activities (hereinafter referred to as the “research contract”) at the University of Gastronomic Sciences.

Article 2 – Research activities

- **Research project:** CULTSENSE-FOOD - Exploring global food perception: Cross-cultural insights in sensory description and preference.

Objectives and research activities: The CULTSENSE-FOOD project aims to develop and implement a standardized sensory methodology to enrich the global platform on food composition of the PTFI – Periodic Table of Food Initiative (<https://foodperiodictable.org/>) with harmonized data on sensory and hedonic perception of foods. The objective of the project is to contribute to enhancing food culture and promoting global efforts toward healthier and more sustainable diets.

The project involves collaboration with two international laboratories located on two non-European continents, which will be selected during the initial phase of the project.

Within the scope of the project, the research contractor, under the supervision of the Scientific Director of the project and in collaboration with the project’s research team, will contribute to perform the following activities:

- selection and contact of potential laboratories interested in contributing to the project;
- management of relations with the project funders and involved project partners;
- analysis of bibliographic sources and review of scientific literature;
- selection of food products to be tested during the project;
- design and management of sensory tests with trained tasters and consumers;
- training of tasters in sensory evaluations;
- management of ethical aspects related to sensory evaluations;
- development of operational protocols, training materials, and virtual workshops for the staff of the partner laboratories involved in the project;
- data collection, statistical analysis, and data management (sensory and instrumental);
- creation and management of an archive of data, results, and project documents;
- technical-scientific reporting on research results;
- communication and dissemination of the project and the obtained results.

- **Scientific disciplinary group:** 07/AGRI-07 – FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

- **Scientific-disciplinary sector:** AGRI-07/A – food science and technology (FORMERLY AGR/15).

- **Scientific Director of the research contract:** Professor. Luisa Torri (UNISG).
- **Languages:**
 - Knowledge of the English language is required, and proficiency will be assessed during the interview.
 - Knowledge of the Italian language constitutes a preferential qualification and, if declared by the candidate, will be evaluated during the interview.
- **Location** where the research activity will be carried out: University of Gastronomic Sciences.

The University of Gastronomic Sciences guarantees gender equality and equal opportunities for everyone regarding access to employment and treatment at work. In line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the European Charter for Researchers, and its own Gender Equality Plan, the university strongly encourages applications from women and minority groups (European Parliament Resolution of November 13, 2018, on minimum standards for minorities in the EU (2018/2036(INI)).

Article 3 – Duration, renewal, and remuneration of the research contract

The research contract is set for a duration of two years. Pursuant to Article 22 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, and subsequent amendments, the contract is renewable only once, for a maximum period of an additional two years, subject to a positive assessment of the research activities carried out and in compliance with applicable regulations. Any renewal is also conditional upon the ongoing needs of the project and the availability of related financial resources; in any case, it cannot exceed the duration of the funding for the research project to which the contract refers.

Any renewal or extension of the research contract is decided by the Executive Committee in accordance with the “Regulation for the Conferral of Research Contracts”.

The gross annual remuneration for the research contract, net of charges borne by the institution, is €28,500. The beneficiary shall be paid according to the activities performed, as specified in the contractual provisions.

Article 4 – Tax, social security, and insurance terms and benefits

The gross annual economic benefit for the holder of the research contract is established through collective bargaining. Pending the adoption of the applicable national collective agreement, the remuneration shall be determined by the Executive Committee and shall not be lower than the initial remuneration payable to a fixed-term researcher.

The gross annual remuneration is not subject to indexation or revaluation and is governed by current fiscal and social security regulations.

The employment relationship established between the University and the research contractor is regulated by current laws, including provisions related to tax, social security, welfare, and employee insurance applicable to employment income.

The University also provides insurance coverage against work-related injuries and occupational diseases, as well as civil liability insurance.

Article 5 – Admission requirements

Candidates, whether Italian or foreign, may apply for the research contracts provided they possess the following qualifications by the deadline for submission of applications:

- A PhD degree or a qualification obtained abroad that is evaluated as equivalent solely for the purpose of conferring the research contract by the Selection Committee, or a specialization title in the

medical field for the relevant sectors;

➤ Alternatively, if compatible with the discipline of the relevant research program and associated reporting rules, candidates who are enrolled in the third year of their doctoral course may also participate, provided that the qualification is expected to be obtained within six months after the publication date of the call for applications.

Candidates who have a kinship or affinity within the fourth degree with a professor belonging to the Academic Council, the General Director, the Rector, or a member of the Board of Directors are not eligible to participate in the selection process.

Qualifications obtained abroad will be reviewed by the Selection Committee, which may consider them equivalent for admission purposes, subject to current regulations.

The required qualifications must be possessed by the deadline for submission specified in the call for applications. Candidates are admitted provisionally to the competition. The administration may, at any time, with a motivated decision, exclude candidates from the selection procedure due to failure to meet the prescribed requirements.

Article 6 – Methods and deadline for submission of the application for the selection procedure

The application for participation in the comparative evaluation must:

- be drafted using the form attached as Annex A to this call, which is an integral part of this decree, and signed at the bottom; the forms will be available online at: <https://www.unisg.it/contratti-di-ricerca/> .
- be sent via Certified Email (PEC) to the university's certified email address: rettore@pec.unisg.it, within the deadline indicated in this article. The application can only be sent from another PEC; applications sent from a non-certified email address will not be considered valid. The PEC submission must include all relevant attachments and a copy of a valid identity document in PDF format.
- alternatively, be delivered directly to the Rector of the University of Gastronomic Sciences, Office of Comparative Evaluations – Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, 9 – Loc. Pollenzo – 12042 BRA (CN). In this case, the candidate must provide a digital copy of all documents and titles submitted.
- clearly and precisely specify the call for which the candidate intends to participate.
- indicate the address chosen by the candidate for the purposes of the comparative evaluation. Any changes to this address must be promptly communicated to the office addressed in the application. The administration assumes no responsibility for communication failures due to incorrect indication of contact details by the applicant, delayed or missing communication of address changes, postal or telegraphic issues not attributable to the administration, or for non-return of acknowledgment of receipt of the application, documents, or communications related to the comparative evaluation.

Incomplete applications or those lacking the required signed attachments, where applicable, are inadmissible and will not be considered.

All communications regarding this call will be sent to interested parties via email or PEC.

Candidates who are recognized as persons with disabilities, pursuant to Law No. 104 of February 5, 1992, must explicitly request any necessary assistance related to their disability, as well as any need for additional time to carry out the examinations, in accordance with the provisions of the aforementioned law.

Deadline and methods for submitting applications

The application must be received, according to the methods described above, at the address indicated in this article by the strict deadline of **September 16, 2026**.

Applications delivered in person to the Office of Comparative Evaluations must arrive by 5:00 PM on the final day of the deadline.

Applications sent via certified email are considered timely and valid only if received by the deadline date of the call.

On the envelope of the submission, in addition to their personal details, the candidate must precisely indicate the specific comparative evaluation they intend to participate in, with reference to the call and the competition sector or the corresponding scientific-disciplinary sector.

Applications, titles, documents, and publications received by this university after the deadline for submission shall not be considered.

Attachments to the application

The procedures for submitting attachments are described in Annex A, which is an integral part of this decree.

Information and clarifications

Any questions or clarifications regarding the submission procedures can be addressed to the University of Gastronomic Sciences – Office of Comparative Evaluations – Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, 9 – Loc. Pollenzo – 12042 Bra, phone: 0172/458538, email: concorsi.pollenzo@unisg.it.

Article 7 – Content of the application for the selection procedure

In the application, the candidate must declare, under their own responsibility and under penalty of exclusion:

- a. name and surname;
- b. date and place of birth;
- c. citizenship;
- d. residence, as well as the address or contact details, including postal code, where communications related to this selection process should be sent. Any change in residence or contact details must be promptly communicated to this University;
- e. tax code;
- f. email or certified email (PEC) contact;
- g. doctorate or foreign qualification, including the obtained grade, date, the university where it was awarded, and the research project title;
- h. whether they are about to obtain the doctorate within the terms required by Article 5 of this call;
- i. knowledge of the foreign language specified for the project for which they are applying;
- j. that they are not permanent staff, employed on a permanent basis by universities, public research entities, or institutions whose scientific postgraduate diploma has been recognized as equivalent to a doctorate according to Article 74, paragraph 4, of DPR No. 382 of July 11, 1980, and that they have benefited from contracts pursuant to Article 24 of Law 240/2010;
- k. if the candidate is a non-EU citizen present in Italy, possession of a valid residence permit at the deadline of the call;
- l. indication, where applicable, of the willingness to participate in the interview via telematic video call;

- m. that they are not in any of the situations of incompatibility described in Article 5 of this call, especially concerning kinship or affinity within the fourth degree with a professor of the Academic Council, the General Director, the Rector, or a member of the Board of Directors.

Candidates with disabilities, pursuant to Article 3 of Law No. 104 of February 5, 1992, may request the benefits provided under Article 20 of the same law in their application for the selection procedure. They must attach a copy of the certification regarding their disability issued by the competent medical authority. The signature on the application for the selection is mandatory; failure to sign will result in the nullity of the application.

Article 8 – Qualifications and professional curriculum attached to the application

With the application for the selection process, the candidate must include, in a single folder, the following documents:

- a) a curriculum of their scientific and/or professional activity, updated to the date of submission of the application;
- b) documents or statutory declarations verifying the possession of the qualifications required by this call;
- c) documents or declarations verifying the possession of any additional qualifications deemed useful for the selection;
- d) up to a maximum of 5 publications that are considered relevant for this selection process.

For the purpose of evaluation, the candidate must submit documents attesting to the possession of the qualifications either in the original form or as simple copies accompanied by a self-declaration, pursuant to Article 47 of D.P.R. No. 445 of December 28, 2000, confirming that the copy conforms to the original. Alternatively, the candidate may provide a signed declaration of possession of the qualifications, considering that, according to Article 46 of D.P.R. No. 445 of December 28, 2000, the following titles can be self-certified: educational qualifications or professional qualifications held; exams passed; certificates of specialization, habilitation, training, updating, and technical qualification (Annex B).

The aforementioned qualifications must be declared in detail so that the Committee can evaluate them. It is clarified that all substitutive declaration of notoriety (self-certified affidavit) made pursuant to Article 47 of DPR No. 445/2000 must be accompanied by a photocopy of the identity document of the declarant.

Publications, especially scientific articles (print extracts), are considered valid for evaluation even if presented as simple photocopies, provided they include the author's name, the title of the work, place of publication, and, if available, the issue number of the journal, encyclopedia, or treatise from which they are derived, and are accompanied by a declaration acknowledging that the copy conforms to the original. To self-declare the conformity of the submitted qualifications to the original or their possession, the candidate may use the specimen attached to the call (Annex C).

Documents and qualifications (except publications) written in a foreign language must be accompanied by an Italian translation, along with a substitutive declaration of notoriety certifying that the translation is a true copy of the original text.

The provisions regarding self-declarations apply to Italian and European Union citizens residing in Italy or in one of the EU countries.

Non-EU citizens legally residing in Italy may use self-declarations, as listed in Articles 46 and 47 of DPR No. 445/2000, limited to states, personal qualities, and facts certifiable or attestable by Italian public entities.

In all other cases, non-EU citizens authorized to reside in Italy may use self-declarations under Articles 46 and 47 where such declarations are permitted by international agreements between Italy and the declarant's country of origin (Article 3 D.P.R. No. 445/2000).

Qualifications, publications, and curricula for which the candidate requests evaluation must be submitted by the deadline for application for the selection process.

The administration assumes no responsibility for the loss of materials sent by the candidate.

Article 9 – Selection Committee

The Rector appoints a Selection Committee composed of three members selected from professors and researchers (or experts in the field) with research experience related to the topics of the call, of whom at least one is affiliated with the scientific-disciplinary group concerned. Professors and researchers from foreign universities who hold an academic position equivalent to that of professor or researcher, as defined by the specific Ministry Decree, may also be appointed. The appointment of the Selection Committee is made public through publication on the website of the University of Gastronomic Sciences. Within the committee, a president and a minute secretary are designated. The committee may utilize telematic tools for collegial work. The committee conducts its work in the presence of all members and adopts decisions by an absolute majority of the members.

As from the date of publication of the Rectoral Decree appointing the Selection Committee, candidates shall have a mandatory period of 10 days within which to submit any requests for recusal of Committee members to the Rector. After this deadline, and in any event after the Committee has been formally constituted, no requests for recusal of Committee members shall be admitted. The rejection of a request for recusal may not be relied upon as a subsequent ground for recusal.

The committee must conclude its work within 90 days from the publication date of the Rector's Decree appointing it. The Rector may, for proven and exceptional reasons communicated by the Committee President, extend the deadline once and for no more than 30 days. If the work has not been completed after the extension, the Rector shall, by reasoned decision, initiate the procedures for replacing the members to whom the causes of the delay are attributable, while at the same time setting a new deadline for completion of the work.

Article 10 – Evaluation procedure

The committee proceeds with the comparative evaluation of the candidates, aiming to assess whether they possess an adequate scientific-professional curriculum suitable for conducting the research activity outlined in the contract.

Definition of evaluation criteria

The committee predetermines the general criteria for evaluating qualifications, publications, and interviews during its initial meeting, prior to reviewing the applications. These criteria are published on the university's website (<https://www.unisg.it/contratti-di-ricerca/>).

Candidate evaluation

After completing the evaluations, the Committee collectively gives a reasoned overall judgment and assigns a score to each candidate.

Interview

The list of candidates admitted to the interview, along with the schedule, venue, and time, will be published on the website (<https://www.unisg.it/contratti-di-ricerca/>). **The publication of the call on the university portal serves as a legal notification for the call to the tests. The absence of the**

candidate will be considered as a withdrawal from the comparative evaluation regardless of the reason.

The Committee may decide to conduct the interview online by remote means, notifying candidates when the venue and time of the interview are communicated, as specified above.

In any case, for foreign candidates residing outside Italy and for candidates residing more than 200 km from the selection venue, the interview may be conducted by video call, subject to prior approval by the Selection Committee after verification of the technical feasibility.

To appear for the interview, candidates must be in possession of a valid identification document.

The interview aims to assess the candidate's suitability for conducting the research activity outlined in the contract, as well as to evaluate their knowledge of English and/or other languages relevant to the research.

The interview will be conducted in English and may also be held in Italian if the candidate has declared proficiency in that language.

The interview is open to the public.

Article 11 – Merit ranking

At the end of the evaluation, the Committee compiles a merit ranking based on the scores achieved by the candidates and identifies the winner of the selection.

The merit ranking compiled by the Selection Committee is approved by the Rector concurrently with the issuance of the Rector's decree approving the protocols.

The research contract related to this comparative evaluation procedure shall be awarded to the candidate who ranks first in the merit list.

If the candidate ranked first on the list declines the research contract, the Academic Council has the option to assign it to the next candidates in the ranking.

In order to ensure appropriate publicity, the merit ranking will be published on the website <https://www.unisg.it/contratti-di-ricerca/>.

Article 12 - Conferral of the research contract

The conferral of the research contract is formalized by the signing of a private employment contract between the University of Gastronomic Sciences and the winner of the comparative evaluation procedure. The contracts establish a fixed-term subordinate employment relationship and do not confer any rights regarding access to university faculty positions.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 46 of D.P.R. No. 445/2000, the winner is asked to self-certify the following status, facts, and personal qualities:

- a) birth certificate;
- b) residence;
- c) citizenship;
- d) possession and details of tax code.

The recipient of the research contract will be required, at the time of signing the contract, to declare that they meet the required qualifications for admission to the selection process. If they are employed by Public Administrations, they must also declare that they have been placed on unpaid leave. The status, facts, and personal qualities self-certified by the winner of this selection procedure shall be appropriately verified by the University of Gastronomic Sciences through random checks to verify their accuracy.

The personal data provided by candidates with their application for the selection process, pursuant to GDPR and Legislative Decree 196/2003, will be processed exclusively for the purposes of managing this procedure and any related contract conferrals.

The winner of this selection procedure will be required to comply with the obligations set out in the “Regulation of the University for the conferral of research contracts,” which is available on the university’s website: https://www.unisg.it/assets/Regolamento-contratti-di-ricerca_L240-2010_L76-2022_CE_17-04-2025-1.pdf.

The research contract begins from the date indicated in the contract.

Recipients who do not declare their acceptance or assume service within the time determined by the administration shall lose their right to the research contract. Any deferral of the start date or interruption of the research contract period may be granted to the winner if they demonstrate eligibility under the conditions provided for working mothers, pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 151 of March 26, 2001.

Article 13 – Activities of the research contract holder

The holder of the research contract is required to carry out their activities in accordance with the provisions of Article 13 – Rights and Duties of the Contract Holder, of the Regulation for the conferral of research contracts, available at: https://www.unisg.it/assets/Regolamento-contratti-di-ricerca_L240-2010_L76-2022_CE_17-04-2025-1.pdf.

Article 14 – Intellectual property of research results

All research results, whether or not eligible for exclusive rights, shall be the property of the University, which shall have the full and exclusive right to exploit, use, and/or publish them, without prejudice to the moral rights of the inventor or author.

Article 15 – Evaluation of the contract holder’s activity

The contract holder is required to submit a detailed semiannual report on the activities performed and results achieved to the Academic Council, accompanied by the opinion of the Scientific Director. Based on this report, the Academic Council will give an opinion on the research activity carried out by the contract holder, which will be reviewed by the Executive Committee for the purpose of deciding on any renewal of the research contract.

Article 16 – Compatibility, incompatibility, and prohibition of overlapping

Research contracts are incompatible with:

- any other subordinate employment relationship, including part-time or fixed-term, with public or private entities;
- possession of research grants even at other universities or public research institutions;
- scholarships or research fellowships of any kind awarded by national or foreign institutions, except those exclusively aimed at international mobility for research purposes, including doctoral research scholarships and related remuneration during medical specialization.

The research contract is not compatible with enrolment in, or attendance of any degree courses, specialized degree/graduate degree courses, or PhD programs, whether in Italy or abroad. For employees of public administrations, the conferral of the research contract entails placement on unpaid leave.

In any case, the holder of the research contract cannot perform activities that could create a conflict of interest with the activities of the university or that could hinder the regular conduct of the research activity.

For the purposes of the prohibitions on overlapping activities and incompatibilities mentioned above, at the time of signing the contract, the winner must submit a specific substitutive declaration of notoriety (self-certified affidavit), undertaking to communicate any changes compared to what has been declared, simultaneously with the occurrence of such changes.

Article 17 – Termination of the contract

The contract shall be terminated in the event of non-performance by the holder of the research contract, pursuant to Articles 1453 et seq. and Article 2119 (just cause) of the Civil Code, where such non-performance is reported and substantiated by the Scientific Director to the Academic Council.

The termination decision is adopted by the Executive Committee.

The collaboration automatically terminates upon the expiration of the contract's term or in the event of non-renewal of the research contract by the Executive Committee.

Additional causes for termination of the research contract include the annulment of the comparative evaluation procedure and the supervening impossibility of continuing the research activity.

For matters not expressly regulated by this article, the provisions of Article 16 – Causes of employment termination of the Regulation for the conferral of research contracts shall apply.

(https://www.unisg.it/assets/Regolamento-contratti-di-ricerca_L240-2010_L76-2022_CE_17-04-2025-1.pdf)

Article 18 – Publishing of the call

The call relating to this selection procedure shall be published on the University website – <https://www.unisg.it/contratti-di-ricerca/> – on the Ministry website, and on the European Union portal.

Article 19 – Restitution of documentation

Candidates must collect their publications and documents deposited at the University of Gastronomic Sciences within 3 months after the completion of the comparative evaluation procedure.

The Administration will return the documents and publications unless there is an ongoing dispute.

The interested party must personally visit the University – Office of Comparative Evaluations – at piazza Vittorio Emanuele, 9 – Loc. Pollenzo – 12042 – Bra, to pick up the documentation, or may authorize, at their own expense, a courier or another person to collect it on their behalf. Any form of return at the university's expense is excluded.

After the deadline, the university will dispose of the material according to its needs, without any liability.

Article 20 – Personal data processing

The processing of personal data provided by candidates is governed by European regulation, Reg. (EU) 2016/679, and Italian law, Legislative Decree No. 196 of June 30, 2003, and subsequent amendments and integrations, as well as applicable measures issued by the Data Protection Authority.

Personal data provided by candidates are processed solely for the purposes of managing this call and are collected by the University of Gastronomic Sciences – Comparative Evaluations Office, through electronic procedures and paper archiving of the relevant documents.

Providing this data is mandatory for the assessment of participation requirements; otherwise, candidates will be excluded from the selection process.

The data subject may exercise the rights specified in the aforementioned regulations, including the right to access their data, as well as some complementary rights such as the right to rectify, update, complete, or delete incorrect, incomplete, or unlawfully collected data.

Article 21 – Person in charge of the procedure

Pursuant to Article 5 of Law No. 241 of August 7, 1990, the Director General of the University of Gastronomic Sciences – piazza Vittorio Emanuele, 9 – Loc. Pollenzo – 12042 – Bra, is appointed as the person in charge for the procedure.

Article 22 – Regulatory Reference

For all matters not expressly provided for in this call, the provisions of the laws cited in the preamble, as well as, where compatible, the rules of the Civil Code, shall apply.

Art. 23 - Official language of the call

The official language of this call is Italian. The Italian-language text constitutes the only legally valid text and prevails, in any case of discrepancy or inconsistency, over any translation.

In order to facilitate the participation of foreign candidates, the University of Gastronomic Sciences provides, for purely informational purposes and without any legal value, an English-language translation of this call, available at the page <https://www.unisg.it/contratti-di-ricerca/>.

The provisions of Art. 8 of this call regarding documentation produced in a foreign language remain unaffected.

Pollenzo, 5/08/2026

The Rector
Prof. Nicola Perullo