



Università  
degli Studi di  
Messina

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - VISITING PROFESSOR 2026

### THE RECTOR

**WHEREAS** the internationalization of the Italian university system is considered by the Ministry of University and Research (MUR) a strategic objective to be pursued in accordance with the commitments undertaken within the framework of the Bologna Process and the guidelines of the European Commission;

**HAVING REGARD TO** the Statute of the University of Messina (UniME), issued by Rectoral Decree no. 1244 of May 14, 2012, as amended by Rectoral Decree no. 3429 of December 30, 2014, and published in the Official Gazette – General Series no. 8 of January 12, 2015;

**HAVING REGARD TO** the Regulation governing the teaching and research activities of Visiting Professors and Researchers, which, inter alia, sets out the procedures for the selection and tenure at UniME's academic and scientific facilities of professors, researchers, and experts of high standing affiliated with foreign universities, research institutes, or higher education institutions, who are invited to carry out teaching and/or research activities at UniME, issued by Rectoral Decree no. 1155 of May 4, 2020;

**WHEREAS** the Regulation governing business travel of teaching staff and technical-administrative personnel, issued by Rector's Decree No. 1278, Prot. No. 69364 of May 15, 2025;

**CONSIDERING** that the ability to attract professors, researchers, and experts of high standing affiliated with foreign universities, research institutes, or higher education institutions to carry out teaching or research activities at UniME contributes to fostering the cultural and scientific development of the University at the international level;

**HAVING REGARD TO** the University Unified Budget Forecast for 2026/2027;

**HAVING REGARD TO** the availability of financial resources under CA.04.41.10.11, Project VISITING\_PROFESSOR\_2026\_27;

**HAVING REGARD TO** the resolutions of the Academic Senate, rep. no. 61 – protocol no. 46859 of 09/04/2026, and of the Board of Directors, rep. no. 78 – protocol no. 47119 of 09/04/2026, approving the issuance of this Call for Applications.

### HEREBY DECREES

#### Article 1 – Purpose of the Call

A selection procedure is hereby launched for the funding of mobility programs for experts and scholars of high scientific standing affiliated with foreign universities, research institutes, or higher education institutions who, in the academic year 2026/27, will carry out teaching activities as Visiting Professors within the structured educational offerings of UniME.

#### Article 2 – Definitions, Eligible Applicants, and General Requirements

1. The "Proposing Department Member" refers to a Professor or Researcher at UniME who submits an application to invite a foreign Visiting Professor to carry out teaching activities at UniME. Each Proposing Department Member may submit only one application under this Call.



2. The "Visiting Professor" refers to a scholar or expert of high scientific standing, affiliated with foreign universities, research institutes, or higher education institutions, who is invited to conduct teaching activities (lectures, seminars, conferences, etc.) within a degree program offered by UniME.
3. The "Host Department" refers to the UniME Department where the Visiting Professor will carry out their activities. If the teaching activities involve multiple degree programs with an interdisciplinary character, more than one Host Department may be involved.
4. Appointments as Visiting Professors cannot be granted to retired Department members or scholars. Therefore, applications from individuals who are retired at the time of submission will not be considered eligible. Furthermore, appointments will not be granted to Department members who retire during the period of their visit at UniME.
5. Individuals who, during the same period, are already recipients of a Visiting Professor appointment at other universities shall not be eligible for funding under this Call.

### **Article 3 – Type and Duration of the Visit**

1. Under this Call, the minimum required duration of stay for a Visiting Professor (hereinafter "VP") is set at 30 consecutive days. For VPs engaged in teaching activities within the Italian CUN areas 06-07 (Life and Health Sciences and Veterinary Sciences, respectively), the minimum required duration of stay is 10 consecutive days. Travel days shall not be included in the duration of the visit.
2. The VP's activities shall consist of teaching modules that form an integral part of one or more bachelor's, master's, or single-cycle master's degree programs, first- and second-level university master's programs, specialization courses, and PhD programs included in UniME's educational offerings.
3. Visits must take place between October 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027, on a continuous basis (except for academic breaks) and must coincide with an academic calendar period during which teaching activities are scheduled.
4. The VP shall be entitled to the rights and duties set forth in Article 5 of the "Regulation on Teaching and Research Activities of Visiting Professors and Researchers."
5. Upon arrival, the VP must demonstrate that they possess valid health insurance and third-party liability insurance (RCT) that are valid in Italy for the entire duration of their stay.

### **Article 4 – Application Submission Procedures and Deadlines**

1. The VP application must be submitted by one or more UniME Proposing Department Members to their respective Department by completing, in its entirety, Annex 1.a attached to this Call. To document the interdisciplinary nature of the application, and where the activities to be carried out by the VP at UniME involve multiple academic departments, the application (Annex 1.a) must be accompanied by resolutions from all the relevant Departments.
2. The Department Council, after assessing the quality and impact of the proposed research, shall deliberate on the applications received from one or more Proposing Department Members, deciding on the appropriateness of the visit and the allocation of



- funding in favor of the VP. In the event that the Department Council cannot convene in time for the application submission deadline, the application may be accompanied by a Decree from the Department Director, which shall be ratified by the Department Council at the first available meeting.
3. The Department Management Offices of the Proposing Department Member shall submit all VP applications through the "Titulus" electronic protocol system (classification III/14), in a single submission and under a single protocol number, indicating in the subject line "Call for Visiting Professor 2026: Application Submission." The submission of applications must include the resolution(s) of all relevant Departments or the corresponding Departmental Decrees, along with a valid identity document for each VP candidate, and a list of the proposed Visiting Professors. Applications must be received by the International Cooperation Unit – Management Offices of Scientific Research and Internationalization, no later than 11:59 PM on the 30th day following the publication of this Call.
  4. In the event of a successful application, the Proposing Department Member shall ensure that the Host Department provides the VP with adequate space and equipment necessary for the planned activities, as well as access to IT resources and libraries. The International Cooperation Unit shall oversee logistical support and assist with entry procedures.

#### **Article 5 – Selection Committee and Selection Process**

1. The evaluation of applications will be carried out by a Selection Committee specifically appointed by Rectoral Decree.
2. The Committee will assess the applications submitted in accordance with the procedures and deadlines outlined in Article 4 of this call, based on the criteria set out in Article 3 of the "Regulation on Teaching and Research Activities of Visiting Professors and Researchers," assigning scores as specified in Annex 1.a, without the possibility of tied rankings:
  - a) Curriculum vitae and scientific profile of the Visiting Professor (VP);
  - b) Educational and scientific reasons presented by the requesting structures, and the teaching activities the VP will be required to carry out at UniME, with particular attention to the interdisciplinarity of the proposed activities (understood as the involvement of multiple study programs and/or Departments);
  - c) Type of visit (lecture series, seminars);
  - d) Whether this is the VP's first visit to the University of Messina.
3. The Committee will compile a ranking of all applications reviewed, with the corresponding scores assigned and without the possibility of tied rankings, awarding financial support to eligible applications until the available funds are exhausted. The ranking established by the Committee will be approved by Rectoral Decree.
4. The Committee reserves the right to allocate a lower number of grants than the available budget if the submitted applications do not meet the required standards of excellence. If the funds allocated for teaching activities are not fully assigned, the Committee may allocate some or all of these additional resources to finance applications and research activities pursuant to Article 1, paragraph 1 of the Visiting Researcher 2026 Call.



## Article 6 – Notification and Acceptance of Selection

1. The Rectoral Decree approving the selection process will be published on the University portal:
  - o <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi>
2. The International Cooperation Unit will notify the VP of their appointment and the allocation of UniME funding, specifying the amount.
3. The VP must formally accept the funding, even via email, indicating the preferred tax regime within the deadline set by the Administration.
4. In the event of withdrawal or inability to undertake the visit, the proposing professor must promptly inform the International Cooperation Unit, which will proceed with the possible reassignment of the funding to the next eligible candidate on the ranking list, within the limits of the available budget. If the VP ranking is fully exhausted, any unallocated funds resulting from a withdrawal may be used to fund eligible candidates from the approved ranking for the Visiting Researcher 2026 Call.

## Article 7 – Entry and stay in Italy

1. It is the responsibility of the VP to obtain the visa and any other authorization required to carry out the mobility period in Italy and to receive the financial contribution referred to in Art. 8 of this call. In this regard, it should be noted that for candidates who are non-EU citizens, the time required for visa issuance by the competent Consulates may be long. Candidates are therefore advised to plan the visa application well in advance, taking into account the time needed to obtain the required documentation. The main information regarding visas and the required documentation is available at <https://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/> and on the website of the competent Italian Consulate.
2. Further information regarding all the procedures necessary for carrying out the mobility period will be provided by the International Cooperation Unit.

## Article 8 – Financial Contribution

1. The financial support for the VP will be:
  - o €3,000.00, gross of applicable taxes and social security contributions, for visits lasting 30 consecutive days;
  - o €2,000.00, gross of applicable taxes and social security contributions, for VPs working in Italian CUN Areas 06-07 (Life and Health Sciences and Veterinary Sciences, respectively), for visits lasting 10 consecutive days;
  - o €600.00 as an expense reimbursement (covering airfare, public transportation, meals, and accommodation) for VPs from European institutions;
  - o €1,200.00 as an expense reimbursement (covering airfare, public transportation, meals, and accommodation) for VPs from non-European institutions.
2. The financial support, funded by the budget approved by the Board of Administration, is subject to current tax, social security, and welfare regulations.



## **Article 9 – Payment of Financial Support**

1. The financial contribution to the VP, according to the indicated tax regime, will be paid in a single installment upon completion of the assigned activities and after submission to the Department(s) where the visit took place of:
  - o The activity log
  - o A final report providing a detailed overview of the activities performed. The Department Administration will forward this documentation to the International Cooperation Unit within the Administrative Department for Scientific Research and Internationalization, the Department of Human Resources Management, and the Administrative Department of Budget and Finance for payment processing.
2. The financial support will be paid via bank transfer to the VP's designated bank account at the end of the month following the completion of activities. No advance payments are allowed.
3. The expense reimbursement must be fully documented, following the procedures outlined in Articles 7-9 of the Regulations for Missions of Teaching and Administrative Staff (latest amendment: Rectoral Decree No. 1395 of May 27, 2014) and in compliance with current national legislation.

As of January 1, 2025, reimbursements for expenses related to meals, accommodation, travel, and transport using non-scheduled public services (e.g., taxis and chauffeur-driven rentals) incurred during business trips or missions will not be considered taxable income, provided that payments are made via bank transfer, postal transfer, or other traceable payment methods as per Article 23 of Legislative Decree No. 241/1997 (Article 1, paragraphs 81-86, "Measures on Expense Traceability," Law No. 207/2024).

## **Article 10 – Privacy Notice pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 101/2018**

1. Pursuant to Article 13 of EU Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR), the University will process personal data exclusively for institutional purposes and for carrying out the selection procedure.
2. The Data Controller is the University of Messina, Piazza S. Pugliatti No. 1, 98122 Messina, email: protocollo@pec.unime.it.
3. Data processing will be conducted in paper and/or electronic format, by authorized personnel, ensuring compliance with lawfulness, fairness, transparency, adequacy, relevance, and necessity principles.
4. Data may be shared with other entities as required by applicable law.
5. Data will be retained only for the time necessary to complete the selection process and comply with legal obligations.
6. Candidates may exercise their rights under Articles 15 et seq. of the GDPR by contacting the Data Protection Officer at rpd@unime.it.

The full Privacy Policy is available at: <https://www.unime.it/privacy-e-cookie-policy>.



### Article 11 – Procedure Officer

1. The Procedure Officer, pursuant to Law 241/90 and subsequent amendments, is Dr. Simona Fazio, Head of the International Cooperation Unit (simona.fazio@unime.it, tel. +39 090-6768613).
2. For further information regarding this call, please contact [visiting@unime.it](mailto:visiting@unime.it).

### Article 12 – Final Provisions

1. For matters not expressly specified in this Call, reference shall be made to the applicable legislation in force, to the Regulation governing the teaching and research activities of Visiting Professors and Researchers (Rector's Decree No. 1155 of May 4, 2020), available at the following link: <https://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/2022-07/Regolamento%20visiting.pdf>, to Presidential Decree No. 62/2013 containing the "Regulation laying down the Code of Conduct for public employees," to the "Code of Conduct adopted by the University," as well as to the provisions set out in the "Code of Ethics," published at the following link: <https://archivio.unime.it/it/ateneo/amministrazione/normativa/codice-di-comportamento-dei-dipendenti-pubblici>, and to the Regulation governing business travel of teaching and technical-administrative staff pursuant to Rector's Decree No. 1278 of May 15, 2025, available at the following link: <https://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/2025-05/Regolamento%20missioni%20personale%20docente%20e%20tecnico-amministrativo.pdf>, as well as to the applicable tax legislation.
2. This Call, including all attachments, is published on the Official University Register at:
  - o <https://www.unime.it/it/ateneo/amministrazione/albo-online>
  - o <https://www.unime.it/bandi-e-concorsi>.
3. By submitting an application, the Visiting Professor candidate fully accepts the provisions contained in this Call and in the relevant regulations. Participation in the selection process implies prior consent to the release of submitted documents and competition records in the event of requests from other applicants, in accordance with the applicable regulations on access to official documents.

**THE RECTOR**  
**(Prof. Giovanna Spatari)**