

A PhD position is available at Gran Sasso Science Institute (GSSI), L'Aquila, Italy, in the **Distributed Graph Algorithms** group of Prof. Alkida Balliu. The position is funded by the **FIS Project (Computer Science)** 2024-03606 "A Robust Theory of Distributed Computation".

The ideal candidate has an excellent academic qualification in computer science or a related discipline. We expressly encourage talented students from mathematics—especially pure mathematics—to apply if they have an interest in algorithmic questions. It is not required any background in distributed or parallel algorithms.

REQUIREMENTS

Applications are open to candidates in possession of one of the following degrees:

- “Laurea Magistrale” or “Laurea Specialistica” or a four or five years degree.
- A foreign University degree (minimum legal duration of the University course: four years). The eligibility of foreign degrees is assessed by the Selection Committee.

Applicants **obtaining their degree by no later than October 31, 2026** may apply (they will however have to **send a copy of their degree certificate** at *phd.secretariat@gssi.it* **within November 20, 2026** (for Italian degrees a “self declaration” can also be accepted)).

TIMELINE

Deadline: Applications are open until **May 4, 2026, 3:00 p.m. (Italian time zone)**.

Shortlist: The shortlist of the eligible candidates will be published **within May 8**.

Interviews: Interviews will take place remotely on **May 11** (the list of the candidates admitted to the interview will be published on the GSSI website).

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must fill out the **online application form** at <https://applications.gssi.it>, where it is possible to find all the necessary information for the submission, and attach the required documents.

In the application form there is a field where applicants may indicate emails addresses of persons that could provide a reference letter; once you apply, the referees will automatically get notified and be asked to send a reference letter within May 6.

ACTIVITIES AND DURATION

The Ph.D. Programme lasts **four years**. Nevertheless, it is possible to be awarded the Ph.D. degree after the completion of the third year. The Academic Year will **start on November 1st 2026**.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BENEFITS

GSSI awards scholarships until the dissertation defense and for a maximum of four years. The **net monthly scholarship** amounts to more than **€ 1.600,00**, divided as follows.

Salary: The **monthly net** amount of the scholarship is roughly **€ 1.200,00** (yearly gross amount is € 16.243,00). An additional 50% on a monthly basis may be awarded for research periods abroad if approved by the GSSI.

Accommodation: All Ph.D. students normally benefit from free accommodation at the guest house during the first year; starting from the second year, all Ph.D. students are provided with a financial substitute of **€ 305,00 net/month**.

Luncheons: All Ph.D. students will have free luncheon vouchers (1 per day, working days, except school closures, abroad visits, conference attendances, and other situations contemplated by the GSSI rules).

No Tuition Fees: All Ph.D. students will have tuition fees waived.

Insurance: All Ph.D. students will be covered by insurance against any accident and/or injury that may occur while carrying out their Ph.D. activities.

Laptop: All Ph.D. students are entitled to a contribution of up to **€ 1.200,00 (net)** for the purchase of a laptop for study and research purposes. The contribution will be paid upon the presentation of the fiscal receipt headed to the applicant.