

Call for the "Pedro Lagomarsino de Leon Roig"

Doctoral Prize in Neuroscience

Article 1. Goal

The "Pedro Lagomarsino de Leon Roig" Prize recognizes the PhD thesis in Neuroscience and related subjects in Italy that best combines excellent scientific results with excellent methods for data analysis, data management, and open science. The goal is to honor the memory of the Argentine researcher Pedro Lagomarsino de Leon Roig, who died at a young age. Pedro Lagomarsino de Leon Roig was a staunch supporter of the need to conduct science in a way that is fully documented, open, transparent, and reusable by and for everyone.

Article 2. Participation criteria

Young researchers are eligible to participate if they meet the following criteria:

- have obtained, by the Call deadline, the title of PhD in Neuroscience and related subjects in Italy within the XXXVII and XXXVIII cycles;
- have produced a thesis that meets one of the following definitions:
 - ✓ an experimental thesis on the central nervous system that pays particular attention to data analysis, especially with innovative algorithms, or that reports the sharing of large and original *datasets*;
 - ✓ a theoretical thesis that focuses on generating new computational models of the central nervous system or its components, where the code is documented and made available.

This Call does not require the applicant to make their doctoral thesis or any other related research products (e.g. *datasets*, source code) available in open access when submitting their application. However, within the *extended abstract* referred to in Article 3, the candidate will be required to present a reasoned plan for the management and sharing of research products (in which he/she may have to explain why certain products have not been and/or cannot be shared openly at the time of submission). The candidate will also be required to share the products with the Prize's Scientific Evaluation Committee (e.g. via private URLs).

Article 3. How to participate

Applications can be submitted to the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia Foundation. Interested researchers must submit their application using the [online form](#) no later than 24:00 on **20 July 2026**.

To apply, the following documents must be attached to the online form:

- copy of a valid identity document (in .pdf format, max 2 MB);
- final version of the doctoral thesis (in .pdf format, max 10 MB) or the unique and persistent identifier (e.g. DOI or Handle) of the final version of the thesis deposited in open access in a digital archive; if the thesis has not been deposited or it is not openly accessible, and the doctoral thesis file exceeds 10 MB, please write to neuroscience_phd_prize@iit.it to arrange sending via email;
- *extended abstract* (maximum 2 pages, 10 pt Times New Roman font, in .pdf format, max 2 MB), with a description of the thesis objectives, methods, and results, highlighting their innovative nature and illustrating the data management practices used, with particular reference to the sharing of the research products listed in Art. 2; **texts longer than 2 pages will not be taken into consideration**;
- any other links (private URLs) or unique identifiers (e.g. DOI or Handle) of products (*dataset*, source code, etc.) related to the research presented in the thesis.

The competition language is English in order to allow the participation of eligible students (see Art. 2) whose first language is not Italian.

Article 4. Selection

The best doctoral thesis will be selected by the Prize's Scientific Evaluation Committee (hereinafter, the "Committee"). The selection criteria will be as follows:

- The innovative value of the research;
- The methodological rigor, particularly the analysis and management of data in a way that makes the results *Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable* (FAIR).

The Committee will comprise researchers both internal and external to the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia Foundation, with documented experience in the field of Neuroscience and the analysis and management of research data. For products related to research in the thesis that is shared by the candidates on a confidential basis, the Committee will be required to maintain strict confidentiality about these products and to not use them for any purpose other than awarding the Prize. The Committee's membership will be published on the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia website after the Call closes. The Committee's judgment is unquestionable and

unappealable. The name of the winning candidate will be published on the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia website by **31 October 2026**.

Article 5. Awards and recognitions

The Prize winner will receive a cash reward of **1500 Euro**, paid in the form of bank transfer. Applicants are hereby informed that, pursuant to Italian law, the prize paid to the winner will be considered taxable. Tax withholdings will not be applied at the time of payment. When filing their tax return, the winner must comply with the declaratory obligations and payment of taxes deriving from receipt of the prize.

The award ceremony will be held by the end of 2026 at the headquarters of the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia in Genoa (via Morego 30, 16163). As part of the award ceremony, the winner will be invited to illustrate their research results with a presentation and will have the opportunity to visit the laboratories. The final date of the award ceremony will be communicated to the winner at least **30** days in advance. Travel expenses for participation in the award ceremony will be covered by the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia Foundation, considering the cost of food, accommodation for 1 night, and transport within the national territory.

Article 6. Processing of personal data

The personal data provided for participation in the competition for the Prize assignment (hereinafter the "Competition") will be processed exclusively for the purposes of the Competition itself and, in any case, in compliance with all the provisions dictated by EU Regulation 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016, concerning the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data, as well as the free circulation of such data (hereinafter, the "Regulation" or the "GDPR"). The information on the processing of personal data is present in the registration form for the Competition.

Article 7. Call

This Call is available on the following website <https://www.iit.it/phd-neuroscience-prize> in Italian and English. Participation in this Competition implies full and unconditional acceptance of the provisions of this Call.

Please direct requests for clarification and/or information to the following email address neuroscience_phd_prize@iit.it.

Article 8. Jurisdiction

Via Morego 30
16163 Genova Italy
Tel +39 010 28961

www.iit.it

The Court of Genoa shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any controversy deriving from and/or in any way connected to the Competition and/or to this Call.