

Call for the allocation of funding for Third Mission and Public Engagement activities carried out by students of the Scuola Normale Superiore

Art. 1 – Subject

A call is hereby announced for Third Mission activities (production of public goods and Public Engagements), to be carried out by the students of the Scuola Normale Superiore by 10th December 2023.

Art. 2 - Premises

On several occasions, students of the SNS have pointed out the need for the SNS to allow for greater openness to experiences parallel to scientific and academic ones, and to direct interventions by the student component outside the confines of the SNS. In effect, in recent years a considerable number of the SNS Third Mission initiatives have been conceived, promoted and in some cases carried out directly and spontaneously by its students. These are original Public Engagement initiatives on the Italian scene and beyond, involving local and national partners, that enhance the impact of the SNS on the territory by generating social innovation through culture, and increase awareness of the SNS and its structures.

For these reasons, and in continuation of the commitment undertaken with the 2019-2020 three-year programme, the SNS has initiated a formal promotion of student-led Third Mission projects, starting with the establishment of the Students' Working Group for the Third Mission. The objectives of the promotion of student-led Third Mission projects are: the design of innovative strategies for the production of public goods; the enhancement of empowered peer education tools, with a view to the acquisition of transversal skills and the promotion of psychological well-being in general; the strengthening of career choice and placement orientation initiatives.

With the aim of increasing sharing, participation and transparency in decision-making processes regarding the funding, design and organization of Third Mission activities, the Third Mission Commission, the Students' Working Group for the Third Mission, the Cultural Events and Career Services (SEC), the Events and Management Service of the Polo (SGF) and the Communications Office (UCO) are announcing a call for Public Engagement activities curated by the students of the SNS for the year 202, assigning institutional support and, where necessary and within the limits of the available budget, financial support for innovative initiatives conceived and designed by students of the SNS in the context of the Third Mission and Public Engagement.

Art. 3 - Types of activities admitted

All activities are admitted that are conceived and organized by undergraduate and/or PhD students of the Scuola Normale Superiore and that fall within the definition of Public Engagement provided by ANVUR (Italy's National Agency for the Evaluation of University and Research) in the document on the "Guidelines for the compilation of the Single Annual Third Mission and Social Impact Form SUA-TM/IS for Universities" (https://www.anvur.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/SUA-TM_Lineeguida.pdf): «Public Engagement means any set of activities organized institutionally by the university or by its non-profit structures with educational, cultural and societal development value and aimed at a non-academic audience».

The following types of activities can be attributed to the Public Engagement category, as described in the ANVUR call for the 2015-2019 VQR (https://www.anvur.it/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Bando-VQR-2015-19_25-settembre_2020_signed.pdf):

- i. the organization of cultural activities of public interest (such as concerts, theatrical performances, film showings, sporting events, museum activities, exhibitions and other events open to the community);
- ii. scientific dissemination (such as publications dedicated to the non-academic public, the production of radio and television programmes, the publication and management of websites and other social

communication and scientific dissemination channels, excluding the institutional website of the university);

- iii. initiatives to involve citizens in research (such as debates, scientific festivals and cafés, online consultations, citizen science and contamination labs);
- iv. activities of involvement and interaction with schools (such as simulations and hands-on experiments and other laboratory activities).

Also admitted are the following types of initiative (anvur.it/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Documento-GEV-TM.pdf):

- for the management of cultural heritage and cultural activities (museum activities, historical archives, historical libraries and newspaper libraries, theatres);
- for continuing education, lifelong learning and open teaching, at all levels of education;
- for the production of public goods of a social, educational and political nature for inclusion (such as the formulation of programmes of public interest, the participation in urban development and territory enhancement projects and in initiatives of participatory democracy, consensus conferences and citizen panels);
- activities connected to the UN 2030 Agenda and to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Online mode, blended mode and in person activities are admitted.

Initiatives in Italian or bilingual initiatives are admitted.

Exclusively academic initiatives are not admitted.

Art. 4 - Overall budget

The call provides for the allocation of up to a total of € 25,000 for the funding of Third Mission and Public Engagement activities carried out by the students of the SNS, to be allocated from the PRO_2021-2023 project funds of the 2021 budget. There is no maximum ceiling for the funding of each proposed activity; the amount of funding allocated for each project will be determined at the time of the selection of the winning projects.

No-cost Third Mission and Public Engagement initiatives may also be approved, which can in any case count on the institutional and organizational support of the SNS (Art. 9).

Art. 5 - Co-planning and co-funding

1. Activities planned by students of the SNS in collaboration with external, public and private subjects (associations, cultural promotion groups, etc.) and internal subjects under student management (formal or informal groups of students) will also be admitted. All applications must state any external co-planning contributions, and their specific nature (Art. 8, point 1.l). Under no circumstances will co-planned activities with external parties in which the SNS is not the main organizer be eligible for funding.

2. Activities planned by students of the SNS who have received, or aim to receive, external co-funding will also be eligible for funding. Applications must state any co-funding already received or requested, the amount already received or requested and the source of co-funding (Art. 8, point 1.m).

Art. 6 - Deadlines for applications and selections

1. The proposed activities must have been completed no later than 10 December 2023.
2. Applications for participation in the selection process must be submitted, in compliance with the procedure described in Art. 8, point 2, by 23:59 (CET) of the 20th day from Publication in the of the bulletin board of the SNS. Any applications submitted after the aforementioned deadline will not be considered, whatever the cause of the delay.

3. The results of the selection procedures will be published on the web site of the SNS within 20 days of the application submission deadline.

Art. 7 – Eligibility

Applications must be submitted by groups of at least two students of the undergraduate course and / or the postgraduate course of the Scuola Normale Superiore. Applicants must all be up to date with their studies at the time of submitting the application as well as when carrying out the activity. The application (Art. 8, point 1.b) must be accompanied by the names of at least five members of the SNS community willing to declare their support for the project.

Art. 8 - Presentation of applications

1. Applications must contain:
 - a. The name and surname of the proposing applicants, their faculty, and course year.
 - b. The name, surname and role in the SNS of at least five people (other than the proposing applicants) who declare their support for the project.
 - c. An indicative number of the students who are expected to be involved in the operational implementation of the project.
 - d. The title of the project proposal.
 - e. A general presentation of the project (max. 350 words).
 - f. A detailed programme of the event, or of the implementation of the project..
 - g. General and specific objectives and expected impact of the project (max. 350 words).
 - h. Project targets (lower or upper high school students; university students; teachers; other, non-academic users; general public, etc.).
 - i. An indication of the funding requested from the SNS even if it is equal to 0€. The SNS reserves the right, during the assessment of the projects received, to adjust the amount requested based on the number of deserving applications received. The funding may concern only out-of-pocket expenses for the organization of the initiative or initiatives proposed; in no case can it be used to pay any form of recompense to the students involved in the organization. Based on their typology, the costs incurred will be subject to the current fiscal and social security legislation. Projects that do not require funding are also admitted to the selection process.
 - j. In the event of a request for funding, an analytical indication of the expense items.
 - k. An indication of the method of delivery of the initiative (in person, online, blended mode). The SNS reserves the right to request, even for projects already approved, changes in the delivery methods based on developments in the current health crisis.
 - l. An indication of any external and/or internal subjects with whom the initiative is co-planned (Art. 5, point 1). In the case of co-planning, the SNS reserves the right to ask the proposers for a declaration of effective collaboration by the parties involved.
 - m. An indication of any co-funding already received or requested (Art. 5, point 2). The source or sources of co-funding and their amount will need to be indicated. In the case of co-funding, the SNS requests from the co-funding partners a prior formal commitment to the co-funding, or else reserves the right to contact the co-funding partners directly to determine the specifics of the funding.
 - n. An indication of any general or specific training needs for the implementation of the project or part of the project (see Art. 10).
2. Applications must be submitted either in digital format (.pdf), using the attached form A, signed by the interested parties, or the original form may be scanned and submitted, or the system <https://www.firmosemplice.it/> can be used (a system for which you need to be in possession of the SPID). A digital copy of a personal identity document must be attached.

3. Applications must be submitted, by the deadline specified in Art. 6, point 2, by e-mail, using the attached Form A. Applications must be sent exclusively in .pdf format from an SNS mailbox to protocollo@sns.it.

Art. 9 - SNS support for approved projects

For all approved projects, the SNS is committed to providing institutional, logistical and promotional support:

1. The approved activities will have the patronage of the SNS, whose logo they can use.
2. The activities will receive the organizational and logistical support of the structures of the SNS, through the mediation of the Servizio Eventi culturali e Career services (Cultural Events Service and Career Services) (SEC) (for any purchases, hospitality, etc.) and of the Events and Management Service of the Polo (SUF) (again, for any purchases, hospitality, etc.), and the intervention of the Communications Office (UCO) for any activities in its remit (site, social networks, graphics etc.). Any spaces of the SNS that are needed for the implementation of the approved activities will be granted free of charge, subject to authorization by the relevant offices. Any tools in the possession of the SNS that become necessary for the implementation of the approved activities will be granted free of charge, subject to the authorization of the relevant offices.
3. Any funds granted will be managed directly by the SNS, through the Servizio Eventi culturali e Career services (Cultural Events Service and Career Services) and the Events and Management Service of the Polo, in close collaboration with the proposing applicants.
4. The approved activities will be promoted on the official channels of the SNS (website, social networks, mailing lists) by means of and with the co-ordination of the Communications Office. Proposing applicants will be able to collaborate with the services indicated above for the preparation of promotional materials (posters and other graphic materials; promotional videos; filming).
5. Any changes in the composition of the group that submitted the project proposal (both in terms of replacing members and adding new members to the original group) must be promptly communicated to the Unit responsible for the procedure (as stated in the following article 12).
6. At the termination of the initiative, proposing applicants will be required to fill in and send to the Servizio Eventi culturali e Career services (Cultural Events Service and Career Services) the designated surveying form of the Public Engagement activities.
7. If, owing to *force majeure* or for any other reason, the approved initiatives do not take place by the deadline agreed, they will be considered cancelled.

Art. 10 - Selection of the applications and criteria

1. The applications received will be evaluated by the Third Mission Commission on the basis of the document review carried out jointly by the Students' Working Group for the Third Mission and by the Servizio Eventi culturali e Career services (Cultural Events Service and Career Services), the Events and Management Service of the Polo and the Communications Office. The Third Mission Commission will examine all the projects and the document review, and will decide on the approval and allocation of the budget, by the deadlines set out in Art. 6, point 3, the winning projects and the allocated amount of funding.
2. For each project, the Third Mission Commission will establish whether or not it is eligible for funding, and if so what portion of the budget it will be allocated. The Commission may reserve the right to adjust the requests for funding received. Each project will receive a score in hundredths, taking into account the aspects indicated in the following point 4. Projects that have achieved a score of at least 60/100 will be approved and, among these, only the projects for

which the Commission has approved (in whole or in part) the request for funding, on the basis of the availability of places according to a ranking in descending order, will be funded.

3. Should a lower amount of funding be allocated than that requested, the proposing group will be asked to send a proposal for the redefinition of the activities and related costs which will be subjected to the evaluation and approval of the Commission once again.
4. Where it deems it appropriate, the Commission may approve the project but not disburse any funding for its implementation.
5. In its evaluation, the Commission will take into account, among others, the following aspects:
 - a. The feasibility of the initiative: the project presented is consistent with the disbursable funding, the number of students involved in the implementation is adequate, and the initiative appears to be achievable within the schedule set.
 - b. The impact of the initiative: the project presented promises to have an effective impact on society, or on a specific sector or target, producing value through culture.
 - c. The interest of the initiative: the project presented demonstrates a proven cultural interest in the object, methodologies and content.
- d. The innovativeness of the initiative: the project presented appears clearly innovative, thanks to the methodologies used and the content, and guarantees effective progress of the SNS Third Mission and Public Engagement offer.
- e. Consistency with the SNS Third Mission offer: the project presented clearly fits within the Third Mission and Public Engagement offer of the Scuola Normale Superiore, regarding the subject, methodologies and content.
- f. Scientific relevance of the initiative: the project presented also arises from a methodological and scientific reflection and analysis, and is guided, in its conception and implementation, by proven and solid theoretical assumptions.
- g. Inclusiveness of the initiative: the students involved in the implementation of the project are of differing age, gender and faculty appurtenance; the project guarantees full inclusion, breaking down linguistic, social and physical barriers.
- h. All other criteria being equal, priority will be given in funding to proposals submitted for the first time.

Art. 12 - Final provisions

For matters not covered by the announcement, the provisions of the Statute of the Scuola Normale Superiore apply.

For further information, please contact the Servizio Eventi culturali e Career services (Cultural Events Service and Career Services) at the following e-mail address: eventiculturali@sns.it.

The person in charge of the procedure is the head of the Servizio Eventi culturali e Career services (Cultural Events Service and Career Services).