



Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica
OSSERVATORIO ASTRONOMIC
DI BRERA



Public selection procedure based on qualification and possible interview for one post-doctoral research fellowship (Assegno di Ricerca, tipologia C - Giovani Ricercatori), as part of the SOXS project, with the title “Support to the operations and science with the SOXS spectrograph – Coordination”.

The postdoctoral fellowship, within the research above project, does not mean to cover specific personnel needs of the Institute or of the project itself but rather offers the opportunity of undertaking research activity within the project to all those candidates that wish to acquire knowledge and skills for their professional advancement. Besides, the postdoctoral research fellowship offers the fellow the opportunity for professional growth by conducting their scientific or technological research activity within a highly qualified environment. This selection will be managed electronically both for the evaluation of qualifications and for the possible interview in compliance with the directive of the Minister for Public Administration.

Art. 1 – Research project

Within the SOXS project, it is possible to undertake research activity and higher education in the premises of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera located in Merate in at least one of the following topics: core-collapse supernovae, gamma-ray bursts, gravitational wave sources, X-ray binaries, tidal disruption events.

All interested participants are invited to respond to the public call for the selection based on titles and qualifications, possibly integrated by an interview, to award one research fellowship “Assegno di ricerca tipologia Giovani Ricercatori”, for 1 year and renewable for the other four years, following a favourable opinion of the scientific PI and funds availability to the SOXS project. The fellowship title is: **“Support to the operations and science with the SOXS spectrograph – Coordination”**. The successful candidate will work in the premises of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera located in Merate in collaboration with Dr Sergio Campana, scientific PI of the project.

Art. 2 – Requirements

Participation in the present selection is reserved for Italian or foreign citizens fulfilling the following requirements, under penalty of exclusion:

- PhD in Astronomy or Physics or equivalent foreign qualification and at least three years of documented research experience
- or
- Master's degree in Astronomy or Physics and at least six years of documented research experience.

It is required to have:

- Good command of oral and written English language.

For admission to this selection procedure, the equivalence of qualifications obtained in a foreign country will be ascertained by the “Examination Commission”. Before the start of the contract, the qualifications obtained in a foreign country shall be declared equivalent by the Italian Ministry of University and Research.

Additional optional requirements:

- Two letters of reference are to be sent via e-mail to: protocollo.oabr@inaf.it - with the subject **“Assegno di Ricerca SOXS – Coordinamento”**.
- The capability of analysing optical/nIR spectra.
- A short (~1 page) description of research interests.

Art. 3 – Application procedure

Applications for the selection process must be submitted in free format according to the attached template (Appendix 1), dated, signed by the candidate, and accompanied by the required documentation. They must be submitted by **11:59 PM on January 16, 2025**, as follows:

- By ordinary or certified email sent to the certified email address inafoamilano@pcert.postecert.it, in a non-modifiable "PDF" format, with a maximum size of 20 MB, within the deadline indicated, with the subject **“Assegno di Ricerca SOXS – Coordinamento”**
- By registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt addressed to the Ufficio Concorsi of INAF - Brera Astronomical Observatory, Via Bianchi 46, 23807 Merate, with the front page of the envelope and the application marked **“Assegno di Ricerca SOXS – Coordinamento”**. The postmark and date of the accepting post office will serve as proof of the submission date.
- By authorized express courier to INAF Brera Astronomical Observatory – Ufficio Concorsi - Via Emilio Bianchi 46 - 23807 Merate (LC), within the deadline indicated, with the front page of the envelope and the application marked **“Assegno di Ricerca SOXS – Coordinamento”**

Applications sent after the deadline or with incomplete documentation will not be considered.

According to “Art. 39 decreto del Presidente della Repubblica” of the 28th of December 2000, n. 445, it is not required that the applicant's signature is certified. However, the lack of the applicant's signature in the application form implies exclusion from the selection process. Similarly, applications

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with clear inconsistency between the applicant's declaration and the content of the application shall not be accepted. Applicants excluded from the selection procedure will be duly notified by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera.

INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera is not responsible for any possible delay or missing in receiving the application or all the following communications. It is under the applicant's responsibility to communicate to INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera promptly any modification in the applicant's address.

The applicant must clearly and precisely state in the application form, under his/her own responsibility:

1. name(s) and surname;
2. place and date of birth;
3. fiscal number (if applicable);
4. citizenship;
5. civil and political rights in the state of citizenship;
6. academic title(s);
7. present address;
8. list of papers and works presented as electronic attachments to the application;
9. e-mail address to receive all the communication related to the present selection process and, possibly, a telephone number.

In addition, the applicant must state in the application form, under his/her own responsibility:

- I. not to have or have had any pending process for any reason with the justice or, if any, to declare all of them;
- II. if he/she has signed, and if so for how long, any contract with public or private Italian enterprises.

For the evaluation of the qualifications and according to what was established by "Art. 2 Decreto 11 February 1998 by the Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica", the application must include what follows:

- a) curriculum vitae et studiorum (CV), where it is demonstrated that the applicant has obtained the PhD or the master's degree followed by a documented scientific or technological research experience of at least 6 years (including the PhD);
- b) full list of publications;
- c) any other work or publication that the applicant considers useful for the evaluation of his/her CV, including eventually an electronic copy of the master thesis and/or of the PhD thesis or equivalent degrees awarded by foreign institutions;

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- d) for foreign citizens without a PhD degree, copy of the master's degree certificate, or equivalent title, with the record of the exams;
- e) list of the qualifications and of any document attached to the application, mentioning the number of publications attached;
- f) declaration (under his/her own responsibility) that:
 - i. the copy of the thesis, publications or any other document attached to the application is compliant with the original versions;
 - ii. the applicant holds a master's degree in physics, astronomy or engineering or equivalent degree, compliant with international agreement or to the Art. 332 of the T.U. n. 1592/1933, awarded by a foreign institute;
 - iii. the applicant holds, if already awarded, a PhD in Physics, Astronomy or Engineer or equivalent degree awarded by an Italian or foreign institution;
 - iv. any other degree or certificate of schools and specialization course he/she has been taking in Italy or abroad and/or any contract he/she has been assigned in the form of fellowship by Italian or foreign research institutions or Universities, and/or any other contract or working experience he/she has had;
- g) self-declaration, under his/her own responsibility, compliant with the DPR 445/2000 which states the duration of the contracts as for the content of the Art. 22, paragraph 9 of Italian law 240/2010 (*“La durata complessiva dei rapporti instaurati con i titolari degli assegni di cui al presente articolo e dei contratti di cui all'articolo 24, intercorsi anche con atenei diversi, statali, non statali o telematici, nonché con gli enti di cui al comma 1 del presente articolo, con il medesimo soggetto, non può in ogni caso superare i dodici anni, anche non continuativi. Ai fini della durata dei predetti rapporti non rilevano i periodi trascorsi in aspettativa per maternità o per motivi di salute secondo la normativa vigente”*). Research fellowships ended before the promulgation of the law 240/2010 are excluded from this declaration.

The declaration as per point e) and the self-declaration as per point f) must be presented by filling out the attached form (Allegato 2), and they must be dated and signed. **A copy of an ID document under validity must be attached.** The applicant must mention in the self-declaration the degrees and qualifications owned as per point 6, providing all the information for the administration of INAF-Osservatorio di Brera to check the reliability of the declaration. Alternatively, the applicant can submit original certificates testifying to the declared qualifications.

Art. 4 – Ineligibility

The postdoctoral research fellowship cannot be held either by INAF employees holding both permanent and non-permanent contracts or by regular employees of research institutes, as listed in Art. 22, paragraph 1 of Italian Law 240/2010. Fellows are not allowed to enrol in a “Laurea Specialistica”, or “Laurea Magistrale” (Master Level), or to join a PhD program funded by

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fellowships, according to the Art. 22, paragraph 3 of Italian law 240/2010. For employees of the Italian Public Administration, compulsory unpaid leave is foreseen.

The fellowship cannot be held concurrently with other fellowships of whatever kind, except those awarded to integrate the training or research activity of the fellow through a period spent abroad. Aggregation of income from working activities, also part-time, carried out continuously is not accepted. Instead, limited self-employed occasional work is compatible with the fellowship, only if this is not prejudicial to the research activity carried out for INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. This must be authorized in advance by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. Retired persons are not eligible for research fellowships. When formally accepting the fellowship, the successful candidate will issue a declaration of absence of simultaneous fellowships.

Art. 5 – Duration of the Research Fellowship

The starting date of the fellowship can be arranged with the candidate, but it would preferentially start before summer 2025. The research fellowship of the present call is offered for 1 year, with the possibility of being renewed for another four years, following a favourable opinion (after each year) of the scientific PI and SOXS fund availability.

In agreement with Art. 22 of Italian Law 240/2010, the overall duration of fellowships cannot exceed six years (even not in continuous form). In this count are excluded those periods of possible overlap of the fellowship with a PhD course, but still within the limit of the legal duration of the PhD, as well as the periods of maternity leave or health problems according to the current laws. Are excluded in this count also the fellowships ended before the promulgation of law 240/2010.

Art. 6 – Host Institution

The candidate will conduct his/her research activity on the premises of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera located in Merate.

Art. 7 - Salary

The gross salary for this position is 38.000,00 euros (Thirty-eight thousand/00) euros per year (indicatively and under the current regulations, ~2.750 euros net salary per month). This amount is net of burdens to be charged to INAF and will be paid in deferred monthly instalments. Applicable fiscal rules are provided by Art. 4 of Italian law 476/1984 and subsequent modifications and integrations. Applicable social security rules are provided by Art. 2, paragraph 26 and the following paragraphs of Italian Law 335/1995 and subsequent modifications and integrations. Applicable rules for obligatory maternity leave are provided by the Decree of the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Security dated 12th July 2007, published in the “Gazzetta Ufficiale” n. 247 on the 23rd of October

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2007. Applicable rules for sick leave are provided by Art. 1, paragraph 788 of Italian law 296/2006, and subsequent modifications. During the period of obligatory maternity leave, the allowance paid by INPS (Italian National Institute for Social Security) according to Art. 5 of the above Decree dated 12 of July 2007 is supplemented by INAF up to the total amount of the fellowship. The period of obligatory maternity leave will not contribute to the duration of the fellowship foreseen by the contract.

Art. 8 – Selection Committee

The selection will be performed by a Selection Committee appointed by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. The selection committee is composed of three members, selected among the research personnel of Italian or foreign institutions experts on the research topics of the proposed project, and usually includes the scientific PI of the project. In compliance with the current rules, the committee should, if possible, guarantee the gender balance of its members. The president of the selection committee is designated among the members of the committee by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. The president will then designate, among the other members of the committee, the secretary of the selection procedure.

Art. 9 – Selection procedure and final ranking list

The comparative selection will be based on the evaluation of the CV and qualifications presented by the candidates and can be integrated with an interview if the committee considers it necessary. The candidates eligible for the interview must provide at the time of the interview a valid ID document to be identified by the committee. The committee has a total of 100 points, to be attributed as follows: up to 60 points can be awarded for the CV and qualifications presented by the candidates in the application, and the other 40 points can be awarded in case the interview is necessary for the evaluation process. The evaluation of the CV and qualifications is completed before the possible interview. The maximum of 60 points reserved for the evaluation of the CV and qualifications are attributed as follows:

1. up to 35 points for the research activity carried out within Italian and foreign institutions as described in the CV, giving specific weight to its compliance with the research topics of the present call;
2. up to 25 points for publications in refereed journals and conference proceedings, considering their compliance with the topics of the present call.

Only candidates with more than 40 points in the above evaluation can be admitted to the possible interview. If the committee needs to integrate the evaluation with an interview, the eligible candidates will be notified through e-mail or ordinary mail at least 15 days in advance. In this notification, the

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candidates eligible for the interview will also be notified of their score after the first step of the evaluation. After the conclusion of the evaluation process, including the possible interview, the list of candidates which were examined, and the final ranking are published. The committee declares the appointed candidate and establishes a ranking list according to the decreasing total score (sum of the evaluation of the qualifications and possible interview). This ranking list and the evaluation comments of the committee are published in the “Albo Ufficiale” of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. The documentation of the selection procedure and the ranking list will be approved by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. The final approved documents will be distributed through the “Albo dell’Osservatorio”. The final ranking can be used, if the appointed candidate resigns from the offer of the position, to offer the position to the following candidate in the same ranking list.

Art. 10 – Awarding the fellowship

Within one month from the publication of the ranking list, the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera will notify the highest-ranked candidate that he/she has been appointed for the fellowship. The appointed candidate, within 10 days from the receipt of the offer, must provide a formal declaration of his/her acceptance of the fellowship or its withdrawal, together with a formal declaration that none of the conditions for ineligibility stated in Art. 4 above are applicable. The insurance for workers should be subscribed by the appointed candidate before the official start of the fellowship. Concerning the third-party risks, the fellow will be covered by the global insurance of INAF. This does not cover the risks of the fellow towards INAF. The fellow can resign from the contract with a written formal communication to be sent at any moment to the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera with at least 30 days’ notice. This communication should however be sent within the 1st or 16th day of the month. In case of no communication, the administrative office can retain the payment of the fellowship for the month (30 days) expected for the formal communication. In case of resignation from the contract, the remaining amount of the fellowship can be offered to the following candidate in the ranking list (within the first year). The appointed candidate must sign the contract by the date appointed in the notification received from the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. Exceptions to this are only under exceptional circumstances that prevent the candidate from being present at the appointed date and should be formally communicated and justified. The fellow is required to provide yearly reports of his/her scientific activity according to the rules mentioned in the signed contract. The scientific PI of the project is entitled to evaluate and approve these reports and to communicate to the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera the outcome of the evaluation. In case of motivated non-approval of the scientific activity by the scientific PI, the contract can be resigned by the Administration office. Under no circumstances the signing of the contract start a subordinate employment relationship or ensure any rights to access to permanent INAF staff positions.

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Art. 11 – Starting date and fellowship obligations

The expected starting date of the fellowship is established and communicated by the Director of the INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera in the communication and appointment for the signature of the contract. The scientific PI of the project and supervisor and coordinator of the scientific and research activity of the fellow is Dr Sergio Campana.

The fellow has the following obligations:

- A. to sign the contract before the starting date, accepting all the rules and regulations included;
- B. to subscribe an insurance for workers according to Italian regulations before the starting date;
- C. to start the research activity within the date appointed in the contract with INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera, unless prevented by exceptional circumstances, of which the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera must be duly informed;
- D. to continue without interruptions the research activity during the whole duration of the fellowship;
- E. to follow all the rules of the Institute and communications that will be issued to the personnel by the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera and by the scientific PI of the project;
- F. to issue yearly activity reports as established in the contract. The activity reports will be subject to approval by the project PI.
- G. to keep confidential information secret;
- H. to keep the Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera informed about changes in his/her contact details for a period of three years following the conclusion of this research grant.

The fellow who fails in carrying out his/her regular research activity, without producing justified reasons or fails repeatedly in fulfilling requirements or, according to the evaluation of the scientist in charge, shows an evident lack of skills at the planned research activities, will incur in the termination of the contract. In this case, the fellow will be duly notified, and he/she will be allowed to defend him/herself with a written statement addressed to the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. The fellow will also be notified of the final decision, both in case of acceptance of his/her defence and in case of effective termination of the contract. Temporary suspensions of the research fellowship are due in case of obligatory maternity leave, in case of illness lasting longer than one month, or for any other serious reason. The reasons for suspending the research fellowship must be proved and certified and promptly sent to the Director of INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera. INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera can use anytime any adequate method to check on the development of the research activity of the fellow.

The fellow's duties are:

- support and oversight of the coordination of the SOXS operations at the SOXS Consortium level;

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- participating in the team on duty for the SOXS operations during the OAB week (daily schedule preparation, classification of new transient sources, activation of urgent ToO observations during the Chilean night and on-call for urgent instrument problems);
- data analysis and interpretation of the SOXS data concerning the scientific cases of interest of the OAB research group (core-collapse supernovae, gamma-ray bursts, gravitational wave sources, X-ray binaries, tidal disruption events).

Art. 12 – Responsible for the selection procedure

According to Art. 8, paragraph 3 of “Disciplinare per il conferimento di assegni per lo svolgimento dell'attività di ricerca dell'INAF” of the 22nd of June 2011, the referent for this selection procedure is Dr Sergio Campana.

Art. 13 – Publication of the call

The present call is distributed to all the Astronomical and Astrophysical Observatories and all interested research institutes in general and is published on the following websites: <http://www.inaf.it> and <http://www.brera.inaf.it>, on the web pages of the Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca (MIUR) and of the European Union, according to the guidelines defined by MIUR.

Art. 14 – Applicable regulations

INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera shall abide by provisions in force promoting equal opportunities for women and men, non-discrimination and respect for privacy in processing personal data. For what is not explicitly mentioned in this announcement, INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera shall act in compliance with the regulations in force concerning Italian public selection procedures, when applicable by analogy.

ANNEX 1: APPLICATION FORM

All'Ufficio Concorsi dell'INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera

Sede di Merate

Via Bianchi, 46

23807 Merate

I, the undersigned (Forename(s)).....,(Surname).....,
Place of birth (Town/State)....., Date of birth (dd/mm/yy)
Permanent residence address (number/street/town/postal code/Country).....,
asks to be admitted to the selection procedure for an “Assegno di Ricerca” (research fellowship) titled:
**“Attività di supporto alle operazioni di SOXS e alla scienza collegata -
Coordinamento”**

I, the undersigned, declare under my own responsibility:

- a) to have Nationality;
- b) to have political and civil rights;
- c) to have fulfilled the obligations of military service, or to be exempted (if not, please specify:);
- d) not to have or have had any pending process for any reason with the justice (alternatively, please declare all of them);
- e) to own the following degree:, obtained:
- f) to have obtained the following fellowships (please include the period, duration and Institution):;
- g) to have the following contract ongoing (please include the period, duration and Institution):;

I, the undersigned, am attaching to this form:

- 1) Curriculum vitae, signed and dated, detailing experience and fellowships;
- 2) statement of research interests (~1 page);
- 3) list of publications;
- 4) any other work or publication useful for the application;
- 5) for foreign citizens and without a PhD, copy of the Master's Degree certificate, or equivalent title, with the record of the exams;
- 6) list of the qualifications and any document attached to the application, mentioning the number of publications attached;
- 7) declaration according to the form Allegato 2.

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I, the undersigned, declare my consensus for my personal data to be treated respecting the Italian Law 196/2003 and subsequent modifications and integrations, in order to fulfil the procedures necessary for the present call.

I, the undersigned, ask to receive all the communications concerning the present call to the following address (please include the full address, including an e-mail address):

.....

Place and Date

Signature

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ANNEX 2: DECLARATION

I, the undersigned (Forename(s))....., (Surname).....,
Place of birth (Town/State)....., Date of birth (dd/mm/yy),
Permanent residence address (number/street/town/postal code/
Country)....., as candidate for a selection procedure for an “Assegno di
Ricerca” (research fellowship) titled: **“Attività di supporto alle operazioni di SOXS e alla
scienza collegata – Coordinamento”** at INAF-Osservatorio Astronomico di Brera, aware that
false declarations are punishable by law

DECLARE UNDER MY OWN RESPONSIBILITY THAT

1. the attached copy of the Thesis or any other publication and qualification/certificate attached to this application are conformal with the original version;
2. the Master degree in was awarded by the (date) with the final mark/score
3. I possess the following qualifications (please include the period, duration and Institution):
 - a. Ph.D. degree:
 - b. certificate of school or course attendance:
 - c. fellowships:
 - d. research contracts for public or private companies:
 - e. anything else:

Date

Signature

The declaration must be delivered together with a copy of a valid document of the applicant (ID or passport).