

The Institute David Chiossone for blind and visually impaired - onlus

The University of Genoa – Department of Communication, Computer and System Sciences

The Municipality of Genoa

The Italian Union of Blind and Visually Impaired - onlus - Regional Liguria Council

On the occasion of the second centenary of Louis Braille's birth  
And after one year from the death of Prof. Vincenzo Tagliasco

A CALL FOR PROPOSALS  
FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP IN  
NEUROSCIENCES AND ARTIFICIAL VISION ENGINEERING  
"VINCENZO TAGLIASCO"

Art. 1

Call for applications for the scholarship "Vincenzo Tagliasco" is open for those holding a Ph.D. degree or for last year Ph.D. students.

The scholarship is addressed to students and researchers in the field of vision from a neuroscience, cognitive sciences and engineering perspective.

The amount of the grant is € 20.000 (twenty thousands).

The scholarship aims at providing a young researcher with the possibility of enriching his competence and research skills with interdisciplinary knowledge and experimental methodologies. The research project to be financed should have the objective of developing prostheses, equipments or tools for persons totally or partially visually impaired, to improve their opportunities of interactions and social integration and their capabilities in private, at work, in their study and in their social activities.

Art. 2

The call is open to applicants from any country who, at the date of the deadline of this call:

- Hold a Ph.D. or are last year Ph.D. students at a university within or outside Italy. Applications can also be submitted by researchers with equivalent qualifications as defined by Italian universities or by the Italian Ministry of University and Research, or having obtained the qualification of "Ph.D." after a significant research period. It is the responsibility of the applicants, under penalty of their exclusion, of demonstrating the "equivalence" through an official certificate. It's responsibility of the applicants, under penalty of exclusion, to demonstrate the "equivalence" through an official certification or through a declaration of the tutor in case of a person attending the last year of the Ph. D. course.
- Will not be older than 35 at the date of March 31st, 2010. This upper limit of the age is mandatory.

Art. 3

The grant will be assigned:

- to a researcher of the University of Genoa, submitting a research project to be carried out at a university, a research institute or an industry based in any part of the world outside Genoa;

or alternatively:

- to a researcher from any university in the world, Genoa excepted, submitting a research project to be carried at a university, a research institute or an industry based in Genoa.

#### Art. 4

The application should include:

- name and surname of the applicant;
- date of birth;
- citizenship;
- address, telephone number and e-mail address.

The following documents should be enclosed:

1. Ph.D. diploma or a certificate of enrolment to the final year of Ph.D. research;
2. curriculum vitae et studiorum;
3. two letters of reference;
4. a research and study project in the field of visual neurosciences and engineering, with a duration between 10 and 18 months, starting within the first nine months of 2010, and indicating the institute at which it will be carried out;
5. A letter of consent from the hosting institute, commenting on the feasibility of the research and appointing a supervisor of the project;
6. A declaration of non existence of emoluments incompatible with the study grant, or declaration of renunciation to these emoluments in case of adjudication of the grant;
7. Scientific publications and any other documents which could support the application.

Documents submitted will not be returned.

The documentation under points 2,3,4,5 and 6 must be in English.

By submitting the application, the applicants accept the regulations for the scholarship.

#### Art. 5

The candidatures will be examined by a specifically constituted committee which, according to its unobjectionable judgment, will select the most worthy study and research project. The selection will be based not only on the quality of the project, but also on its feasibility, considering the applicants' qualifications and the skills and the characteristics of the defined institute.

At the end of the selection process, the committee will make a priority list of the projects submitted.

In case the committee finds that no project is qualified, the grant will be withheld.

#### Art.6

The winner, within 15 days after having received the notification, will have to send a declaration accepting the grant and dating the beginning of the project.

The winner will have to start the research project at the selected institute within the following 60 days, and in any case not further September, 30th, 2010.

The winner who will not start the project according to the above mentioned rules, will lose the right to the grant.

If the award winner, within three months from the start of the project, renounces the grant or is found to be not qualified, the grant could be assigned, for the duration of the remaining period, to the next applicant on the priority list.

The recipient of the scholarship should every three months submit a short progress report to the committee. The report should be approved by the supervisor. A final report should be submitted within two months after the end of the research period, completed by an eventual proposal of publication issued by the scientific tutor.

#### Art. 7

The amount of the grant will be paid in four instalments of 5.000 € each (five thousands Euros) to the bank account indicated by the winner.

The first instalment will be paid within the start date indicated by the winner.

#### Art. 8

The application and other relevant documents in English should be submitted before March, 31st, 2010 to:

ISTITUTO DAVID CHIOSSONE – for blind and visually impaired - onlus  
Segreteria borsa di studio “Vincenzo Tagliasco”  
corso Armellini 11  
16122 Genova – Italy

The application can be also sent by mail to the address  
[bandi@chiossone.it](mailto:bandi@chiossone.it)

Any other communication related to the scholarship can be sent to the above mentioned addresses or to the following numbers:  
telephone 0039 010 83421 telefax 0039 010 8311414

#### Art. 9

The study grant is not compatible and cannot be drawn with other study grants nor with other similar grants or benefits, unless they foresee the possibility of an integration for subsistence abroad.

Moreover, the grant cannot be drawn with any salary coming from a public or private employment.

No other sum, insurance or reimbursement of expenses of any nature and entity will be paid to the winner.

The scholarship does not give any right of employment by the Institutions promoting the scholarship or the institute hosting the project.

If the winner, after having started the research interrupts it with no serious and documented motivation for the whole duration of the grant, or is responsible of serious and repeated faults or, finally, proves himself not sufficiently qualified for the job, according to a formal communication by the scientific tutor, will lose the right to benefit of the rest of the grant.

In case the winner, during the exploitation of the study grant incures in the incompatibility condition, or loses the right or abandons the project, he will be obliged to give back any sum received as an anticipation and not yet matured.

#### Art. 10

The information submitted by applicants will be treated according to the existing laws on privacy.

Applications missing the required information will not be admitted to the selection.