



L-Università  
ta' Malta

**Office for Human  
Resources Management  
& Development**

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**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS (Call ID: 01/2026)**

**Post/s of Full-Time Research Support Officer II (PhD Student)**

**Project entitled** *“Using Supercomputer Models and Data from the European Southern Observatory’s Very Large Telescope to Unravel the Milky Way Bar’s Growth.”*

**Funded by the Research Excellence Funds of the University of Malta**

And any other projects undertaken by the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science.

1. Applications are invited for a Research Support Officer (RSO) to carry out duties in relation to the Project entitled *“Using Supercomputer Models and Data from the European Southern Observatory’s Very Large Telescope to Unravel the Milky Way Bar’s Growth.”*, which is funded by the Research Excellence Funds of the University of Malta. The RSO may also be required to work on other projects undertaken by the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science.
2. Applicants must be in possession of a Master’s degree in any of the subject areas of Physics, Astrophysics, Mathematics, or a related field. Demonstrable experience in the field of galactic dynamics will be considered to be strongly advantageous.

**The University of Malta is an Equal Opportunity employer.**

**3. The selected candidate must be resident in Malta for the period of employment.**

4. The post is for a period of up to 24 months and the initial remuneration per annum, inclusive of any cost-of-living adjustments, shall be €30,327.
6. The successful candidate will be required to enrol in a full-time PhD related to the project.
7. Candidates must upload their covering letter, curriculum vitae, and certificates (certificates should be submitted in English) and contact details of at least two referees **through this form** <https://www.um.edu.mt/hrmd/workatum-projects> by not later than **Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2026**.

**Late applications will not be considered.**

8. Further information may be obtained from <http://www.um.edu.mt/hrmd/recruitment> and should you have any queries, please send us an email on [projects.hrmd@um.edu.mt](mailto:projects.hrmd@um.edu.mt).

Office of the University,  
Msida, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026



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**Further Information**

1. The project’s overarching aim is to investigate the growth of the Milky Way’s bar through a combination of simulations and observations using state-of-the-art facilities. Further information may be obtained by contacting Prof. Joseph Caruana at [joseph.caruana@um.edu.mt](mailto:joseph.caruana@um.edu.mt). The RSO may also be required to work on other projects undertaken by the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science.
2. The appointee will be responsible for carrying out research with the main duties including:
  - Enrol in a full-time PhD related to the project;
  - Participate in the project communication activities (e.g., scientific manuscript writing, conference presentation, public outreach activities);
  - Carry out research visits and attend meetings;
  - Keep detailed progress reports and abide to all the conditions imposed by the project; and
  - Perform any other project related task as instructed by the Project Coordinator.
3. The appointee will be expected to work at such places and during such hours as may be determined by the University authorities.
4. The selection procedure will involve:
  - a. scrutiny of qualifications and experience claimed and supported by testimonials and/or certificates (copies to be included with the application);
  - b. shortlisting; and
  - c. an interview and / or extended interview.
5. The post is for a period of up to 24 months, which will be subject to a probationary period and to the provisions of the Statutes, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the University of Malta which are now or which may hereafter be in force.