

Call for admission to the integrative course “Virgilio Program”

Academic Year 2026-2027

Mission

We announce, for the academic year 2026/2027, a document-based selection procedure for admission to the integrative training course "Virgilio Program Track".

The course is open to talented, curious students enrolled in the course of Medicine and Surgery or the MEDTEC School run by Humanitas University, who are interested in integrating their studies with a program aimed at sampling the relationship between basic research and clinical practice. Therefore, within this course, students will be trained in the use of basic research methodologies, within the context of **3 different basic research laboratories**, as well as in **dedicated training courses/lectures** applicable to the context of preclinical and clinical research, in order to provide them with the necessary skills to actively cooperate in the conduction of research projects that may be object of experimental degree thesis. The end result is to educate the student with methodological skills facilitating them to participate in the development of knowledge in the field of translational medicine.

The distinguishing feature of the course is the promotion of the active participation of students to perform research projects under the guidance of tutors, which may result in the development an experimental final year thesis, in a manner **distinct from standard clinical practice**. The core element of the course, lab experience, is performed in real-world labs; the Virgilio course, thus, acts as a promoter, arranging the hosting of students in the labs. The lab experience rotation is an educational experience, and it is logged and recorded, but it is not an extension of lectures or exams – students will be immersing themselves in real-world, working research laboratories.

Alumni of the Virgilio course in Humanitas University have become physician scientists; thus the course can aid *de facto* in this career path, though it is not the only path to become a physician scientist.

1. Admission requirements - Applicants are students who, in academic year 2025/2026, are enrolled for the first time in the third year of the degree course in Medicine and Surgery/MEDTEC School of the Humanitas University and that, at the closure date of this announcement, have acquired all of the credits (CFU) expected in the first two years of the Course, with a passing rate of at least 27/30 (twenty-seven/thirty).

2. Application modalities - To participate to the selective procedure, students who meet the requirements listed above must fill in Annex A and send it to virgilio@hunimed.eu by May 8th 2026 by the end of the day, together with a motivational letter (1 page max). The motivation letter should be an honest explanation of why each student would like to apply to the Virgilio course (as opposed to, for example, the clinically-oriented Honours Track courses).

3. Number of available positions - The number of Humanitas University students who will be admitted to the Virgilio program for the academic year 2026/2027 is 15, nominally 10 for the Medicine and Surgery degree course and 5 for the MEDTEC School. The committee reserves the right to increase or redistribute the number of places available.

4. Selection interview - In order to select eligible students among those who achieve the requirements listed above, a selective interview with the Virgilio Program coordination Commission will take place. The interview date will be the 14th of May 2026.

5. Ranking list – To assign the available positions for Humanitas University students, the Virgilio program coordination Commission will draft a ranking list based on the indicated requirements, the average exam score, and the oral interview. In case of equal points, a further evaluation of documentation submitted and/or a further interview will be used to determine selection for the program.

6. Publication of the ranking list – the final ranking list will be published on www.hunimed.eu, Medicine and Surgery degree course section, by May 21st 2026.

Pieve Emanuele, Apr 1st 2026.