

**PhD Programme Table - 39th cycle**  
**Call for Applications for the admission to the PhD programmes (39<sup>th</sup> cycle) A.Y. 2023/2024**  
**for scholarships funded by Next Generation EU – NRRP ex M.D. 117/2023 and M.D.**  
**118/2023 and from other sources**



PROGRAMME'S NAME	<b>EARTH, LIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES</b>
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2023 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	Italian, English
COORDINATOR	Prof. Maria Giovanna Belcastro ( <a href="mailto:mariagiovanna.belcastro@unibo.it">mariagiovanna.belcastro@unibo.it</a> )
CURRICULA	1. Geology 2. Biology
PhD POSITIONS	12
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications evaluation Oral examination

**Available Positions and Scholarships**

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Curriculum	Positions linked to research topics
1	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	BIO	Assessing the role of structurally complex forests as climatic refugia for plant biodiversity
2	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	BIO	Effects of climate change on the reproductive biology of angiosperms. Unravel the consequences of global warming on pollen performance, sterility mechanisms and crop yields
3	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	GEO	Integrated stratigraphy and paleobiology of late Quaternary sedimentary successions: a way to track environmental dynamics of coastal wetlands
4	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Biological, Geological, and Environmental Sciences	GEO	Study of the crystal-chemical and physical properties of mineral carbonates for specific applications in geology, biomineralogy, climate and raw mineral science
5	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Biological, Geological, and Environmental Sciences with funds made available by the project PRIN2020 - CUP J33C22000040001	BIO	MitoMicro - Mitochondrial MicroRNAs, a new perspective for mitochondrial function and their role in Eukaryotic evolution.

6	<b>PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 118/2023 - Public Administration</b>	Funded by the EU - NextGenerationEU with funds made available by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, Component 1, Investment 4.1 (M.D. 118/2023) - Public Administration	GEO	The first Italian dinosaur lagerstätte: a modern paleobiologic approach into the Mesozoic Adriatic Carbonate Platform system.
7	<b>PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 118/2023 - Green and digital transitions</b>	Funded by the EU - NextGenerationEU with funds made available by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, Component 1, Investment 3.4 (M.D. 118/2023) – Green and digital transitions	BIO	Springs as refugia and key ecosystems in the face of overdraft, pollution, and climate change
8	<b>PhD Scholarship PNRR ex M.D. 118/2023 - PNRR Research</b>	Funded by the EU - NextGenerationEU with funds made available by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP) Mission 4, Component 1, Investment 4.1 (M.D. 118/2023) – PNRR Research	GEO	Structural characterization of fluid pathways in subduction
9	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by CNR ISMAR - Istituto di Scienze Marine	GEO	Marine geology: study of the stratigraphic and structural evolution of the Italian continental margins
10	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the Department of Biological, Geological, and Environmental Sciences with funds made available by the framework project Horizon Europe - “Pushing the frontier of circular agriculture by converting residues into novel economic, social and environmental opportunities – AgriLoop” - Grant Agreement n. 101081776 - Ref: Prof. Annalisa Tassoni	BIO	Development of safe-and-sustainable-by-design bioconversion processes of plant biomass to obtain novel bioactive extracts in the frame of AGRILoop EU project
11	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the Department of Biological, Geological, and Environmental Sciences with funds made available by the framework project Horizon Europe - “Biodiversity Building Blocks for policy – B3” - Grant Agreement n. 101059592 - Ref: Prof. Duccio Rocchini	BIO	Deep learning per la modellizzazione di scenari attuali e futuri della biodiversità
12	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded in the framework of the research training projects “Territorio: Transizione tecnologica, culturale, economica e sociale verso la sostenibilità” (PR. FSE + 2021/2027– DGR n. 509 del 03/04/2023) - CUP J33C23000610006 	BIO	Cumulative impacts on the isolation of wildlife populations and habitat connectivity in Emilia-Romagna

All PhD positions winners shall fulfill the learning and research obligations decided by the Academic Board and the obligations foreseen in the relevant regulations, funding schemes and eventual agreements, and in the Call for Applications. Moreover, applicants awarded with PhD scholarships funded by Next Generation EU shall fulfill specific obligations foreseen in the relevant funding scheme, in the relevant regulations and in the Call for Applications.

## Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
<b>Qualifications evaluation</b>	Applicants' participation is not required	Available from <b>26/06/2023**</b>
<b>Oral examination</b>	<b>Date:</b> starting from <b>04/07/2023 – 9.00 a.m. CEST*</b> <b>Place:</b> In presence, Sala Lauree – First Floor, Via Selmi 3, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams	Available from <b>10/07/2023**</b>

\* In case that the oral examination cannot be completed in one day due to the large number of applicants, the oral examination detailed schedule shall be made available on the webpage [Studenti Online](#) together with the results of the qualifications evaluation. **During the oral examination, applicants may express their interest in one or more positions linked to specific research topics.**

\*\* The **results of the admission exams** will be available on the webpage [Studenti Online](#) (select “summary of the requests in progress” > “see detail” and open the .pdf file at the bottom of the page). **No personal written communication will be sent to applicants concerning the examinations results.**

## Required and Supporting Documents to be attached to the application

All the documents listed below **shall be drawn up in English or in Italian**. In case of documents originally issued in any other language (e.g. identity document, qualifications), an official translation is required.

Only qualifications obtained **during the last 5 calendar years** shall be taken into consideration, except for the University Degree. The Admission Board will assess the relevance of the supporting documents to the PhD Programme.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	
<b>Identity document</b>	Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)
<b>Curriculum Vitae</b>	No specific CV format is required
<b>Degrees</b>	Documents attesting the awarding of the first and second cycle degrees, the exams taken and the marks obtained (see Art. 3 of the Call for Applications)
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
<b>Thesis abstract</b>	Abstract of the <b>second cycle degree thesis</b> . Graduated applicants may submit the draft of the thesis. Abstracts cannot exceed 5,000 characters, including spaces and formula possibly used. The above figure does not include: the title of the thesis, the outline, references, and images such as graphs, diagrams, tables etc.
<b>Reference letter/s</b>	<b>No more than 2 reference letters</b> signed by Italian and international academics and professionals in the research field, which do not form part of the Admission Board, attesting the suitability of the applicant and his/her interest in the scientific research. Letters shall be uploaded following the procedure detailed in the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2).
<b>Personal Statement</b>	The statement shall include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and <b>those relevant experiences and research interests</b> , that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3,000 characters maximum, including spaces).
<b>Publications</b>	Lists of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals), minor publications (conference papers, etc.), abstracts and posters presented during national and international conferences, etc.
<b>Other documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Postgraduate vocational programmes and/or specialisation programmes relevant to the PhD Programme</li> <li>- Specialisation thesis abstract (max 5,000 characters)</li> <li>- Teaching activity carried out at academic level</li> <li>- Research activity of any kind - whether basic, applied, translational, etc. - carried out in any capacity, including when covered by research grants, and as a staff member of research projects</li> <li>- Work activity</li> <li>- Curricular and non-curricular training internships</li> <li>- Documents attesting the applicant's foreign languages proficiency</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Periods of study abroad, completed by applicants outside their countries of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes)</li> <li>- Other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants (scholarships, prizes, etc.)</li> </ul>
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## Evaluation criteria\*

Scores will be expressed in points out of 100, as follows.

### 1. Qualifications evaluation

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 30 points, Maximum score: 50 points

Second cycle degree (Master's) final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM)	25 points max
Publications	5 points max
Personal statement	10 points max
Reference letter/s and other evaluable documents	10 points max

### 2. Oral examination

Minimum score for eligibility: 30 points, Maximum score 50 points

English language proficiency	10 points max
General knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions	40 points max

Oral examination aims to assess the suitability of the applicant for scientific research as well as the general knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions. **During the oral examination, the applicant's English proficiency shall be assessed.**

The oral examination is carried out in Italian or English.

\* Possible further evaluation criteria will be available on the [University website](#), selecting the relevant PhD Programme > "More information".