



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

AREA
FORMAZIONE E DOTTORATO

PHD PROGRAMME TABLE

Call for applications for the admission to the PhD programmes (41st cycle) - A.Y. 2025/2026
Second round

PROGRAMME'S NAME	AGRICULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2025 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	English
COORDINATOR	Prof. Diana Di Gioia (diana.digioia@unibo.it)
PhD POSITIONS	41
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Positions linked to research topics
1	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
2	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
3	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
4	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
5	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
6	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
7	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
8	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
9	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
10	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
11	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	
12	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget	Improvement strategies for the shelf life of fats/oils and processed foods
13	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	
14	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	
15	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences	

16	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences	Modulation of pig gut health using natural bioactive compounds
17	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences	Technical Solutions for Using Real-World CAN-Bus Data to Optimize Agricultural Machinery and Farm Operations]
18	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences	Implementation of Multi-Criteria Analysis to evaluate the benefits of advanced powertrains for agricultural tractors.
19	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	Water-Food-Energy-Sustainable Agriculture
20	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	Water-Food-Energy-Sustainable Agriculture
21	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	Water-Food-Energy-Sustainable Agriculture
22	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	Water-Food-Energy-Sustainable Agriculture
23	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	Water-Food-Energy-Sustainable Agriculture
24	PhD Scholarship	Funded by MUR in the framework of the "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" initiative	Water-Food-Energy-Sustainable Agriculture
25	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2023 IASIS GA. N. 101157430 CUP N. J33C24001970006	Curing contaminated and saline land with Industrial crops and producing biomass for high-value applications
26	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences partly with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2022 POLLINERA GA N. 101135005 CUP J33C23003520005	Impact of pesticides on non-target insects via a multi-trophic approach
27	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe REDESIGN GA N. 101182261 CUP J33C24002540006	Applying the New European Bauhaus core principles to foster urban food systems transformation: a multi-scalar, value-based analysis of governance and spatial integration of three urban agriculture initiatives in Europe and UK
28	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe REDESIGN GA N. 101182261 CUP J33C24002540006	Experimental validation of vertical farming and Building-integrated Agriculture as transformative urban food systems: sustainability metrics, architectural integration, and participatory approaches in the

			context of the New European Bauhaus
29	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2022 ARCADIA GA N. 101112737 CUP J33B23000040006	Transformative climate resilience by nature-based solutions in the continental bio-geographical region
30	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project HEU_2023_WASTEWISE_FALASC_L_01 - Waste Avoidance Strategies for Environmental Sustainability GA N. 101181915 CUP J53C24002440005	Grassroot strategies to reduce food losses and waste and preserve biodiversity in rural areas
31	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project ALTRIPN_2024_WHEAT_INITALY_MACCAF_M_01 Wheat_Intaly: Valorizzazione delle attività di ricerca italiana nell'ambito di Wheat_Initiative, contract no. DM Prot. n. 0672983 of 20/12/2024 CUP C13C24001040001	Structural and functional genomics of durum and bread wheat for resilience and sustainability breeding targets
32	PhD Scholarship	Funded by Caviro S.C.A.	Physiological, productive and quality responses of adult and young vines under agrivoltaic system
33	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2023 BIOMEHEALTH GA N. 101159978 CUP N. J33C24000970006	Interaction between apple plants, <i>Erwinia amylovora</i> and the phyllosphere microbiome under the RC P8.5 climate change scenario
34	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project PRIMA SEZ 1 WATERMELLON GA N. 2412 CUP N. J33C25000470006	Development of novel farming systems coupled with water harvesting techniques
35	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences	Development of innovative management practices in orchards
36	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2022 BREADCRUMB GA N. 101136701 CUP J33C23003890006 and by the project Horizon Europe 2023 EUAQUA GA N. 101181589 CUP J53C24002390006	Understanding food choices through behavioural economics approaches: targeting food waste prevention and the promotion of healthy diets
37	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences partly with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2022 BREADCRUMB GA N. 101136701 CUP J33C23003890006	Exploring strategies to influence food behavior in public catering environments
38	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences partly with funds made available by the project Horizon Europe 2022 BREADCRUMB GA N. 101136701 CUP J33C23003890006 and by the project Horizon Europe 2023 EUAQUA GA N. 101181589 CUP: J53C24002390006	Assessing the environmental, economic, social, and nutritional impacts of losses and waste in targeted food chains
39	PhD Scholarship	Funded by the Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences with funds made available by the project Horizon	Economic evaluation of biosecurity measures

		Europe 2022 BIOSECURE GA N. 101083923 CUP N. J33C22003320006	and strategies in animal farming
40	PhD Scholarship	<p>Funded by Regione Emilia-Romagna in the framework of the research training projects for PhD programmes 41st cycle “High skills for resilience and sustainability of land and communities - ESF+ PR 2021/2027 Priority 2. Education and Training Specific Objective e) - Action No. 2 - Ecological Transition” - under the public notice approved by resolution of the Regional Council n. 344 of 10/03/2025 – funding approved by resolution of the Regional Council n. 732 of 19/05/2025 – CUP J33C25000520006</p> 	Regenerative agricultural systems for the ecological transition: integrated circular models for climate and natural resource protection
41	PhD Scholarship	<p>Funded by Regione Emilia-Romagna in the framework of the research training projects for PhD programmes 41st cycle “High skills for resilience and sustainability of land and communities - ESF+ PR 2021/2027 Priority 2. Education and Training Specific Objective e) - Action No. 1 - Digital Transition” - under the public notice approved by resolution of the Regional Council n. 344 of 10/03/2025 – funding approved by resolution of the Regional Council n. 732 of 19/05/2025 – CUP J33C25000520006</p> 	Digital transition as a driver for sustainable innovation in agri- food systems

The yearly gross amount of the scholarships awarded for the PhD Programme in “Agricultural, Environmental and Food Science and Technology” is €16,243.

All winners of PhD positions must fulfil the study and research obligations decided by the Academic Board, as well as the obligations set out in the relevant regulations, in the call for applications, in the funding schemes and in any agreements relating to specific positions.

Admission Exams

	DATE AND TIME	RESULTS
Qualifications and research proposal evaluation	Applicants’ participation is not required	Available from 18/07/2025
Oral examination	Date: starting from 23/07/2025 – 9.00 a.m. CEST Place: Remotely, using Microsoft Teams	Available from 01/09/2025

The results of the qualifications and research proposal evaluation, as well as the oral examination detailed schedule, shall be available on the webpage [Studenti Online](#) (select “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.

During the oral examination, applicants may express their interest in one or more PhD positions linked to specific research topics.

Required and Supporting Documents to be attached to the application

Only documents in Italian or English will be considered valid and will be assessed by the Admission Board. Identity documents and diplomas/degree certificates issued in a language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by an official translation. The translation must be carried out by an authorized body or by the awarding university. Only qualifications obtained in the last 5 years will be taken into account, with the exception of university degrees. The Admission Board will assess the relevance of the supporting documents to the PhD programme.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	
Identity document	Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)
Curriculum Vitae	<p>The Curriculum Vitae shall contain on the first page a Summary, duly filled, downloadable in .docx from the University website (select the PhD Programme → “More information”, then check “Notices” at the bottom of the page). A 5 points penalty on the total qualification evaluation score shall be applied to applicants not attaching the summary.</p> <p>The following experiences will be evaluated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Postgraduate vocational programmes and/or specialisation programmes relevant to the PhD Programme - 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 - Study periods completed by applicants outside their countries of origin for research purposes
Degrees	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)
Research proposal	<p>Multi-annual research proposal, with special emphasis on the activities to be completed during the first-year course. The proposal must meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It must be written following the Research proposal Template, downloadable in .docx from the University website (select the PhD Programme → “More information”, then check “Notices” at the bottom of the page). - It must mention on the cover page the PhD programme’s research topic (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 – the main research topics of the PhD programme are listed on the PhD programme’s website: Research Topics) the applicant is interested in and that covers the research project proposal. <u>Research proposals written without mentioning the PhD programme’s research topic on the cover page and/or without following the template will receive 0 points;</u> - it cannot exceed 20,000 characters, including spaces and formulas, if present. This figure does not include: the title, the outline, references and images (such as graphs, diagrams, tables etc - where present); - It must include: the state of the art and consistency with the applicant study and research path; description of the project; expected results; articulation of the proposal and implementation times; outlining of the criteria meant to be used to assess the research results; references. <p>The research proposal will not necessarily be the topic of the candidate’s doctoral research, if admitted; the research project to be carried out during the PhD Programme will be agreed upon with the Supervisor and approved by the Academic Board.</p>
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
Thesis abstract	Abstract of the second cycle degree thesis . Graduands applicants may submit an abstract of the thesis to be defended. 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.
Reference letter/s	No more than 2 reference letters 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).
Publications	Lists of publications (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals) and minor publications (conference papers, etc.)

Evaluation criteria*

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

1. Qualifications and research proposal evaluation

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

Qualifications evaluation	Second cycle degree (Master's) final mark. Graduands shall be evaluated according to the Weighted Average Mark (WAM)	14 points max
	Publications	3 points max
	Research activity, study periods abroad, reference letter/s, other evaluable documents, relevant to the PhD programme's main research areas	5 points max
Research proposal evaluation	Scientific value and ground-breaking nature of the proposal	14 points max
	Consistency with the applicant's study path	4 points max
	Structure of the proposal	6 points max
	Proposal feasibility	4 points max

2. Oral examination

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

English language proficiency	10 points max
Research proposal presentation	25 points max
General knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions	15 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".