



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

AREA  
FORMAZIONE E DOTTORATO

## PHD PROGRAMME TABLE

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

PROGRAMME'S NAME	ONCOLOGY, HEMATOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2025 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	Italian, English
COORDINATOR	Prof. Manuela Ferracin ( <a href="mailto:manuela.ferracin@unibo.it">manuela.ferracin@unibo.it</a> )
PhD POSITIONS	13
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications evaluation Oral examination

### Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Positions linked to research topics
1	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Elena Zamagni)	Optimal management of real-life use of T cell redirecting therapies in multiple myeloma
2	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Pier Luigi Zinzani)	Biology and therapy of Philadelphia-negative chronic myeloproliferative neoplasm
3	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Pier Luigi Zinzani)	Targeted pharmacological and cellular approaches to chronic graft versus host disease after allogeneic stem cell transplantation
4	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences with funds made available by the project "Functional dissection and therapeutic targeting of novel oncogenic pathways in cancer of unknown primary" funded by the Call AIRC 2021 IG 2579 (Ref. Prof. Manuela Ferracin)	Functional and prognostic characterization of conventional and unconventional CTCs
5	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Stefano Salvioli)	Role of Perlipin 2 in adipogenic differentiation and as a marker of adiposity in aging and age-related diseases
6	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Riccardo Masetti)	New predisposition syndromes to myeloid/plastic/myeloproliferative disease of childhood

7	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Maria Pantaleo)	Innovative therapies in neuroendocrine tumors
8	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Andrea Ardizzoni)	Predictive factors of efficacy of supportive therapy in patients with pancreatic carcinoma and other poor prognosis solid tumors
9	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Prof. Andrea Ardizzoni)	Predictive factors of efficacy of precision therapy in frequent solid tumors
10	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by the Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences (Ref. Katia Scotlandi)	Biomolecular research and model development on primary bone sarcomas
11	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by Sanofi (Ref. Prof. Pier Luigi Zinzani)	New approaches to chronic GvHD after allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation: from nanovesicles to patient-reported outcomes (PROs)
12	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	Funded by IRCCS Istituto delle Scienze Neurologiche (AUSL, Bologna) (Ref. Prof. Maria Pantaleo)	Clinical research in brain neoplasms
13	<b>PhD scholarship</b>	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. 3 – Health and Well-being” - 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 (Ref. Prof. Maurizio Brigotti)	Thrombotic microangiopathies: diagnosis and treatment of haemolytic uremic syndrome



The yearly gross amount of the scholarships awarded for the PhD Programme in “Oncology, Hematology and Pathology” is €17,805.

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
<b>Qualifications evaluation</b>	Applicants' participation is not required	Available from <b>17/07/2025</b>
<b>Oral examination</b>	Date: starting from 24/07/2025 – 9.00 a.m. CEST Place: In presence, Aula Piccinini - Policlinico S. Orsola Malpighi - Padd. 25-27, Via Massarenti 9, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams	Available from <b>28/07/2025</b>

The results of the qualifications 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 will 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	
<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). <b>Please, upload together with the second-cycle degree certificate, the <a href="#">Attachment 1 form</a>, duly filled, including the weighted average of the exam marks (WAM) for all the University cycles.</b>
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
<b>Thesis abstract</b>	Abstract of the <b>second cycle degree thesis</b> . 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.
<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 drawn up according to the <a href="#">attached form n.2</a> (the same form can be downloaded in .docx from the <a href="#">University website</a> , selecting the relevant PhD Programme > “More information”, section “Notices” at the bottom of the page) and shall be uploaded following the procedure detailed in the Call for Applications (Art. 3.2). <b>Holographically or digitally signed .pdf letters must be sent from an institutional or corporate e-mail address.</b>
<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 (3000 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>	Documents attesting the applicant’s foreign languages proficiency

## Evaluation criteria\*

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

### 1. Qualifications evaluation

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 35 points, Maximum score: 50 points

Weighted Average Mark (WAM) referred to academic programmes (first and second cycle) (for the evaluation of foreign degrees the Admission Board will refer to the <a href="#">ECTS Tables and Grading Scale</a> , for degrees awarded in the countries of the European Higher Education Area, and to the guidelines for the evaluation of foreign degrees)	25 points max
Publications consistent with the PhD programme main research areas	7 points max
Consistency of the master’s degree thesis with the topics covered by the PhD programme	10 points max
Reference letter/s	5 points max
Personal statement	3 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.

The research topics of the PhD programme are available on this webpage: [Tematiche di ricerca - Research topics](#).

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

## ATTACHMENT N. 1

### REQUIRED INFORMATION

(to be attached to the second level degree's certificate)

Surname \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

#### EDUCATION

##### **Bachelor's Degree** (or equivalent first cycle degree)

Programme's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Programme's type (es. Bachelor's degree, ...): \_\_\_\_\_

Awarding institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree final mark: \_\_\_\_\_ (Highest possible mark: \_\_\_\_\_)

Weighted average mark (WAM) (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

##### **Master's Degree or Single cycle degree** (or equivalent second cycle degree)

Programme's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Programme's type (es. Master's degree, ...): \_\_\_\_\_

Awarding institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree final mark: \_\_\_\_\_ (Highest possible mark: \_\_\_\_\_) (except for graduands)

Weighted average mark (WAM) (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

#### **WEIGHTED AVERAGE MARK (WAM):** \_\_\_\_\_

##### **Please, consider marks obtained during the whole university career**

(i.e. Exams passed during the First cycle programme + exams passed during the Second cycle programme  
OR Exams passed during the Single-cycle programme)

only for applicants submitting degrees awarded by Italian Higher Education Institutions the overall weighted average mark is required

To calculate the **media ponderata** (weighted average mark):

1. Multiply the marks obtained by the number of CFUs (please, note that "30 e lode" is regarded as 30);
2. Add up all the obtained results;
3. Divide the result by the total of the CFUs;
4. Multiply the obtained average by 110 and then divide by 30.

Riferimento del Candidato/a e del Referente Applicant and Referee details			
<b>Nome del Candidato</b> <i>Name of Applicant</i>			
<b>Corso di Dottorato per cui ha presentato domanda</b> <i>PhD Course for which the applicant has applied</i>			
<b>Nome del Referente</b> <i>Name of Referee</i>		<b>Titolo</b> <b>Title</b>	
<b>Affiliazione</b> <i>Institution /Organisation</i>			
<b>Email</b>			
<b>Phone</b>			

Reference for graduate application						
<i>Il Coordinatore del Corso di Dottorato apprezzerrebbe una sua valutazione del candidato</i> <i>The Coordinator of the PhD Course will appreciate your evaluation of the applicant's capacity.</i>						
<b>Per quanto tempo ha supervisionato il Candidato/a</b> <i>How long have you known the applicant?</i>						
<b>In quale veste ha conosciuto il candidato</b> <i>In what capacity have you known the applicant?</i>						
Per favore, valuti il Candidato confrontandolo con altri studenti da lei supervisionati (laureandi dal vostro istituto o attuali studenti senior presso l'istituto): <i>Please rate the applicant in comparison with other students known to you (either undergraduates from your institution or current senior students at your institute):</i>						
<b>ATTITUDINE ALLA RICERCA/RESEARCH SKILLS</b>	Top 2%	Top 5%	Top 10%	Top 25 %	Top 50 %	Bottom 50%
<b>Potenziale Accademico / Academic potential</b>						
<b>Capacità di ragionare in modo indipendente: creatività, curiosità, fiducia nelle proprie idee</b> <i>Intellectual independence: creativity, curiosity, self-confidence</i>						
<b>Capacità di giudizio: capacità di valutare una problematica, consapevolezza, determinazione</b> <i>Capacity for analytical thinking: ability to analyse a problem, consciousness and determination.</i>						
<b>Attitudine alla ricerca: capacità pratiche e di comunicazione</b> <i>Research skills: bench work, scientific communication</i>						
<b>Motivazione / Motivation for graduate study</b>						
<b>SOCIALE/SOCIAL</b>	Top 2%	Top 5%	Top 10%	Top 25%	Top 50%	Bottom 50%
<b>Maturità / Maturity</b>						
<b>Affidabilità: senso di responsabilità</b> <i>Reliability: dependability and responsibility</i>						
<b>Capacità di lavorare in gruppo</b> <i>Ability to work with others</i>						
Note: Non compilare se impossibilitati ad esprimere un giudizio Note: leave blank if unable to assess						

Firma/Signature:

Data / Date:

**Per favore, scriva un giudizio sul Candidato/a e sull'esperienza nell'ambito della ricerca (se preferisce può scrivere una lettera su carta intestata e allegarla al presente modulo)**  
*Please write an assessment of the Candidate and his/her research activity (you may write a separate letter and attach it to this form):*

**Firma/Signature:**

**Data / Date:**

**La ringraziamo per la sua valutazione**

*Thank you for completing this evaluation.*

**Per favore, inviare la valutazione entro il..**

*Please return this form within ...*

La valutazione deve essere caricata sul sito tramite il link ricevuto via email.

You must upload the reference letter on the website through the link received in the email