



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

AREA  
FORMAZIONE E DOTTORATO

## PHD PROGRAMME TABLE

### Call for applications for the admission to the PhD programmes (42<sup>nd</sup> cycle) - A.Y. 2026/2027 Second round

Section "Available Positions and Scholarships" integrated on 27/05/2026

PROGRAMME'S NAME	FUTURE EARTH, CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIETAL CHALLENGES
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2026 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	English
COORDINATOR	Prof. Silvana Di Sabatino ( <a href="mailto:silvana.disabatino@unibo.it">silvana.disabatino@unibo.it</a> )
CURRICULA	1. One Health 2. The Earth System 3. Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability 4. Technological Innovations for a Decarbonized Society 5. Socio-economic and Legal Studies for Mitigation of Climate Change
PhD POSITIONS	6
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications and research proposal evaluation Oral examination

### Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description	Curriculum	Positions linked to research topics
1	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Dept. of Physics and Astronomy "Augusto Righi" with funds made available by the project OCEANITY HORIZON-MISS-2025-03 Proposal number: 101295787 Ref. Prof. Paolo Oddo	2	Large Language Model-based agents for multi-hazard coastal risk assessment and management
2	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Dept. of Physics and Astronomy "Augusto Righi" with funds made available by the project OCEANITY HORIZON-MISS-2025-03 Proposal number: 101295787 Ref. Prof. Paolo Oddo	2	Marine soundscape characterization and acoustic modeling for underwater noise assessment

<b>3</b>	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Dept. of Physics and Astronomy “Augusto Righi” with funds made available by the projects H2020 I-CHANGE Prof.ssa Di Sabatino n. 101037193 CUP J35F21002990006; TRIGGER n. 101057739 CUP J33C22002420005 SoluTions foR mltiGatinG climate-induced hEalth tReaths - prof. Di Sabatino	2	Interaction between extreme weather and the built environment
<b>4</b>	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by the University of Bologna general budget and by the Dept. of Physics and Astronomy “Augusto Righi” with funds made available by the project SASIP CUP J33C22004130005 The Scale-Aware Sea Ice Project - Ref. Prof. Carrassi EXTRAUE_2019_SASIP_CARRAS_N_02	2	Data assimilation in generative diffusion models for the Climate Systems
<b>5</b>	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by CMCC Foundation (Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change)	2	Ocean-atmosphere interactions and feedbacks underpin NAO (North Atlantic Oscillation) decadal variability and predictability
<b>6</b>	<b>PhD Scholarship</b>	Funded by CMCC Foundation (Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change)	2	Ocean Extremes and Land Impacts: Compound Risks, Physical Processes, and Future Projections

The yearly gross amount of the scholarships awarded for the PhD Programme in “Future Earth, Climate Change and Societal Challenges” is €18,341.04.

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 and research proposal evaluation</b>	Applicants’ participation is not required	Available from <b>29/06/2026</b>
<b>Oral examination</b>	<b>Date:</b> starting from <b>06/07/2026 – 9.00 a.m. CEST</b> <b>Place:</b> In presence, Room IR-1A, Department of Physics and Astronomy “Augusto Righi”, Via Irnerio 46, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams	Available from <b>10/07/2026</b>

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 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)
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	
<b>Research proposal</b>	<p>Multi-annual research proposal, with special emphasis on the <b>activities to be completed during the first-year course</b>. The proposal must meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- it must mandatorily mention <b>on the cover page the Curriculum and the main research topic/s</b> the applicant is interested to and the proposal is about;</li> <li>- <b>it cannot exceed 20,000 characters</b>, including spaces and formula possibly used. This figure does not include: the title of proposal, the outline, references and images (such as graphs, diagrams, tables, etc. - if present);</li> <li>- <b>it must include</b>: the state of the art; description of the proposal; expected results; articulation of the proposal and implementation times; outline of the proposed findings assessment criteria; references.</li> </ul> <p>The research proposal that successful applicants shall carry out during their PhD career may possibly differ from the one proposed at the application stage. This shall be defined together with the supervisor and approved by the Academic Board.</p> <p>In accordance with the <a href="#">University's policy on the ethical and responsible use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in teaching and research activities</a>, candidates must explicitly state whether they have used Generative Artificial Intelligence systems in the production of the research proposal attached to their application form, specifying which tools were used and for which parts of the document. During the oral examination, the Admission Board will assess the candidate's full mastery of the content included in the document and their ability to justify the methodological and scientific choices made in the project.</p>
<b>Thesis abstract</b>	Abstract of the <b>second cycle degree thesis</b> . Graduating applicants may submit an abstract of the thesis to be discussed. 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>Personal statement</b>	This must include the reasons prompting the applicant to attend the PhD Programme and those <b>relevant experiences and research interests</b> , that make the applicant suitable for the specific PhD Programme (3,000 characters maximum, including spaces). The personal statement must contain an indication of the Curriculum for which the candidate applies.
<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>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 training programmes and/or specialisation programmes relevant to the PhD Programme main research topics</li> <li>- Specialisation thesis</li> <li>- Teaching activity carried out at academic level</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 activities</li> <li>- Documents attesting the applicant's foreign languages proficiency</li> <li>- Study periods 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 and research proposal 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)	9 points max
Thesis abstract	8 points max
Research Proposal	8 points max
Reference letter/s	6 points max
Publications	4 points max
Personal Statement	5 points max
Postgraduate programmes, Teaching and Work activity	4 points max
Foreign languages proficiency and study period abroad	4 points max
Other evaluable documents	2 points max

### 2. Oral examination

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

English language proficiency	5 points max
General knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions	45 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 language 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".