



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA | COLLEGIO SUPERIORE

Call for applications for admission to the
International PhD College of the Collegio
Superiore of the Alma Mater Studiorum –
Università di Bologna for PhD students enrolled
in the first year of a PhD Program at the
University of Bologna

This document is a non-official version. Only the Italian version approved shall prevail and be binding.

A.Y. 2025/2026

APPLICATION DEADLINE: November 6th, 2025 at 1:00 pm (Italian time)

This call contains the provisions governing access to the International PhD College of the Collegio Superiore for third cycle degree students. Modifications and/or integrations to this Call will be published on the Collegio Superiore website.

This document is a non-official version. Only the Italian version approved shall prevail and be binding.

 **Important!**

It is important to consult the Collegio Superiore website <https://site.unibo.it/collegio-superiore/en> and the email address (name.surname@studio.unibo.it or name.surname@unibo.it) at the link <https://posta.studio.unibo.it>. These are the only tools to obtain information on the application (e.g. rankings, oral examination, etc.).

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GENERAL INFORMATION

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY

This call for applications is open to **highly motivated and deserving Italian and international students admitted to one of the 41st cycle PhD programs offered by the Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna** for the 2025/2026 academic year, and who intend to participate in the selection for the International PhD College (hereinafter referred to as I-PHD College).

The I-PHD College is a third-cycle learning and research program, organized by the Collegio Superiore. PhD students who join the I-PHD College are required to complement the research activities required of their PhD program with "coworking" and dedicated interdisciplinary training, offered on an annual basis.

The objectives, organization of the educational activities, as well as the requirements and obligations of the PhD students enrolled in the I-PHD College are defined in the relevant Regulations:

<https://site.unibo.it/collegio-superiore/en/collegio>.

DEADLINES

Important!

All deadlines specified in the procedures are mandatory and failure to meet them will result in exclusion from the selection process, regardless of the reasons given. All times indicated refer to the Italian time zone.

STEPS	DATES
Applying for the selection process	From October 1st to November 6th, 2025 (at 1:00 p.m. - Italian time)
Publication and notification of candidates admitted to the oral examination	by November 24th, 2025
Oral examination	From December 1st to 5th, 2025
Publication of the provisional rankings (final if no ties occur)	December 11th, 2025
Publication of the final rankings (if ties occur)	December 15th, 2025
Sending the declaration of acceptance	Within 5 days from the publication of the definitive final rankings
Possible appointment of eligible candidates in order of ranking, in the event of withdrawal	Until January 9th, 2025

BENEFITS

Benefits are determined annually by the Governing Bodies as provided by the Regulations of the Collegio Superiore, Capo IV.

For the academic year 2025/2026, PhD students admitted to the I-PHD College may benefit from the allocation of a financial contribution as partial reimbursement for housing rental expenses, covering 90% of the monthly rent, and not exceeding €500.00 per month, for a maximum of 12 months, during the period 11/01/2025–10/31/2026. PhD students who wish to claim this benefit must not receive other forms housing-related financial support tied to their enrolment in the academic year 2025/2026.

Further communications will be provided between November and December 2025.

1) I-PHD POSITIONS

For the 2025/2026 academic year, 10 positions are available, typically five in the Scientific and Technological Area and five in the Humanities and Social Sciences Area.

2) ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for admission to the International PhD College may be PhD students who:

- ▶ **Have consented to the transmission of personal data to the relevant administration office of the Collegio Superiore** when submitting their application for admission to the PhD program through the Studenti Online platform (reference: Article 10 - INTERNATIONAL PHD COLLEGE in the University's PhD program call for applications) or subsequently, by directly notifying the administration office;
- ▶ **Have been ranked as winners or eligible** in their PhD programs rankings at the University of Bologna;
- ▶ **Have completed their enrolment in the respective PhD program.**

3) APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE SELECTION

Applicants must complete their enrolment for the selection process by 1:00 PM (Italian time) on November 6, 2025, by following these steps:

- a) Access the Studenti Online website (www.studenti.unibo.it) entering the credentials created during the PhD program application;
- b) Click on "Bandi. Le opportunità che l'Università ti offre", select the "Collegio Superiore" course type, enroll in the selection named "Bando di concorso per l'ammissione all'International PhD College del Collegio Superiore dell'Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna di studenti di III ciclo iscritti al primo anno di un Corso di dottorato UniBo" and complete the procedure.

Applicants are required to attach the following documents (in PDF format):

- a) Front and back photocopy of your ID card/Passport with a photo currently valid;
- b) *Curriculum Vitae et studiorum* (in Italian or English);

- c) Statement of purpose for participation in the activities of the I-PHD College;
- d) A concise proposal for a possible interdisciplinary project aimed at public engagement or dissemination to society (maximum 2500 characters including spaces, in Italian or English). This proposal can be possibly developed starting from the disciplinary skills of the candidate or linked to themes of the PhD project, but different from the latter;
- e) A summary or abstract of the Master's degree thesis (if any) or a research/internship project completed during the Master's degree;
- f) A valid residence permit (if any) issued in Italy for international or temporary protection (including asylum, subsidiary protection, humanitarian protection, special cases, special protection pursuant to Legislative Decree 286/1998, Legislative Decree 25/2008, and related special legislation, or temporary protection pursuant to Legislative Decree 85/2003), or any valid residence permit issued by another country that grants international or temporary protection

Applicants have the option to request a letter of recommendation (optional) from an Italian or international university professor/professional, which will be evaluated by the selection Board.

Students who fail to submit the required documents, submit incomplete documentation, or provide documents other than those specified will be excluded from the selection process for admission to the I-PHD College.

The self-declared information will be verified. It is important to note that false or misleading statements are punishable under criminal law and special regulations and can result in exclusion from the selection process or, if admitted, revocation of the status of a PhD student in the I-PHD College.

The admission test is free of charge.

Applicants who need assistance and guidance in completing the online application for the test can contact the Studenti Online Help Desk at <https://sportelli.unibo.it/hd-studenti> or by phone at 051.2080301 or send an email to help.studentionline@unibo.it.

4) SELECTION PROCEDURE AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

The selection process consists of a **preselection** based on the evaluation of the required qualifications, followed by an **oral examination**.

A selection board, appointed by the Director of the Collegio Superiore, will admit only those PhD students who have been awarded a PhD position and have given their consent for the transmission of their personal data to the administration office of the Collegio Superiore. Additionally, they must have applied to participate in the selection for admission to the I-PHD College and submitted the required documents as outlined in paragraph 3 of this call.

Preselection (up to 70 points)

It is based on the evaluation of the following submitted documents:

- a) Candidate's *curriculum vitae et studiorum* (up to 25 points);
- b) Candidate's statement of purposes (up to 15 points);
- c) Concise proposal for a possible interdisciplinary project for scientific dissemination or societal engagement (up to 15 points);
- d) Summary or abstract of the Master's degree thesis (if any) or a research/internship project undertaken during the Master's degree program (up to 15 points).

The date of the oral examination will be communicated via email to the applicants' institutional email address by November 24, 2025, exclusively to those admitted to the oral examination. These applicants will be required to confirm their participation within the deadline indicated in the email. Failure to attend the oral examination on the specified date and time will be considered a withdrawal from the selection process.

Oral examination (up to 30 points)

Applicants who obtain a score in the qualifications equal to or higher than 55 will be invited to take the oral examination.

The oral examination may be conducted in either Italian or English, at the candidate's discretion. It will be considered successful for applicants who score at least 20 points, based on criteria such as the quality and breadth of arguments, the depth and solidity of cultural references, the originality of proposed solutions, and the ability to present the submitted qualifications. For applicants who choose to conduct the oral examination primarily in Italian, their knowledge of the English language will also be assessed.

The oral examinations will be held via the Microsoft Teams platform during the week of December 1–5, 2025.

Applicants called for the oral examination must log in to the **Teams** session using the above-mentioned link, entering their institutional credentials of the form "name.surname@studio.unibo.it" or "name.surname@unibo.it," on the date and time specified in the oral examination schedule. For privacy reasons, the Admission Board will verify the identity of each candidate by using the identification document uploaded during the application procedure.

Applicants must follow the following instructions:

- It is essential to have access to a computer with a webcam connected to the internet or another suitable device with a webcam for the test.
- Position yourself in a well-lit room and be alone.
- Ensure that the webcam is positioned to fully frame the candidate.

- The candidate is not allowed, under penalty of exclusion from the test, to consult materials such as dictionaries, handwritten or typed notes, books, publications, manuals, textbooks, or reference materials.
- The candidate is strictly prohibited, under penalty of exclusion from the competition, from using or even possessing calculators, mobile phones, smartphones, PDAs, smartwatches, and any device capable of storing or transmitting information, except those used for the test.
- The candidate may have a container for liquids on the desk and a single glass.
- At any time, the candidate may be asked to share their desktop through the screen sharing function, as the candidate must only use the Microsoft Teams application during the oral test.

It is necessary to install the Microsoft Teams application on your computer or other device. Microsoft Teams is also available for Mac OS X computers and Android and iOS mobile systems.

It is advisable for the candidate to read the specific instructions on how to use and share screens related to the Microsoft Teams application.

In case of unforeseen circumstances, it is suggested to have an additional device suitable for the oral test with a stable internet connection and the Microsoft Teams application installed.

Failure to connect or the unavailability of applicants on the specified day or time for the oral examination is considered equivalent to a withdrawal from participation in the oral examination and, consequently, from the selection, regardless of the cause.

If technical connection problems arise during the oral examination:

- a) If a connection issue affects one or more examiners, the oral examination will be suspended until the problem is resolved. Should the issue persist, the Board may reschedule the oral examination, notifying applicants and posting the updated information on Studenti Online as part of the admission application details;
- b) If the connection issue affects the candidate admitted to the oral examination, the candidate must promptly contact the Secretariat of the Collegio Superiore by phone at +39.339.7734971. The Board, after evaluating the reasons, may reschedule the oral examination later or on another date (in accordance with the principles of non-discrimination and equal treatment among applicants).

5) ADAPTATION REQUESTS

Applicants requiring special arrangements (hereinafter Adaptations) to participate to the oral examination, should make a request **before the deadline of this Call for Applications**

Adaptations may consist in:

- a) Extra time to take the examination (30% extra time for applicants submitting documents which certify Specific Learning Disorders, Special Educational Needs, or other; 50% extra time for applicants submitting documents which prove any disability and/or handicap as stated by the Italian Law 104/92);

- b) Special aids available, such as reading aid, non-scientific calculator, or other aids, to be determined based on each specific case and documents submitted.

The list of possible Adaptations can be found on the Request for Adaptation form. If, due to organizational requirements and/or mandatory provisions, the requested adaptation cannot be guaranteed, an alternative measure of equal compensatory value will be defined.

La procedura per fare richiesta di adattamenti è la seguente:

- 1) **Log in Studenti Online** and start the application procedure;
- 2) Download the Request for Adaptations form, available on the [Portale Bandi](#), and fill it in;
- 3) Save the **Request for Adaptations form** in .pdf and attach it to the appropriate section of the application;
- 4) Submit **specific documents** as detailed below:
 - a) Diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorders, according to the Italian Law 170/2010, issued by the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale) or by a private affiliated body or private professional including a document of conformity issued by the National Health Service itself. These documents must have a date of issue that does not exceed three years from the date of PhD application, or must have been issued after reaching the age of eighteen. Due to the Covid-19 emergency, which has caused a reduction on the assistance activity of the National Health Service, applicants with Specific Learning Disorders, according to the Italian Law 170/2010, will be allowed to submit their adaptation request by presenting documents older than three years. The University reserves to ask for the mentioned documents and ask for integrations. For further information, applicants may refer to the [Service for Students with Disabilities and SLD](#).
 - b) Documents issued by National Health Service professional, certifying a Special Educational Need or a difficulty that affects learning;
 - c) Handicap certificate according to the Italian Law 104/92;
 - d) Disability certificate;
 - e) Documentation, drawn up by a specialist, proving a disorder that may determine a physical/mental inability, even temporary, that may lead to certain specific needs during the oral examination.

Documents must be clear and include all the relevant information needed to understand the special needs of the applicant.

Please note: If an applicant owns both certifications according to the Italian Law 104/92 and some other medical documentation, it is strongly recommended to submit all of them.

Applicants **with disabilities or with Specific Learning Disorders, residing in foreign Countries** who need to ask for the above-mentioned adaptations, must submit an official document (with Apostille if required) certifying such a disability or learning disorder issued in the Country of residence **together with its official translation exclusively in Italian or English language**.

University Governing Bodies in charge of assessing the mentioned documentation will verify also if the certifications issued abroad prove a condition of disability or learning disorder recognized by the Italian Law.

Important!

Before submitting the application, check that all the supporting documents listed above are properly attached.

The Service for Students with Disabilities and SLD will assess the submitted documents in order to match their compliance with the request for adaptation. In case of incomplete or unreadable documentation, any addition will be requested to applicants (via name.surname@studio.unibo.it account) and must be fulfilled compulsorily within the deadline stated in the email.

Please note that failing to submit the request or to provide any additional documentation within the deadline, will result in the rejection of the adaptation request.

The Administration office of the Collegio Superiore will inform the interested applicants (via name.surname@studio.unibo.it account) and the Admission Board about the outcome of adaptation requests.

For any further clarification concerning the procedure for requesting adaptations, please contact the Service for Students with Disabilities and SLD (e-mail: ases.adattamentiammissione@unibo.it).

6) FINAL RANKING LISTS, WITHDRAWALS AND REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

The Admission Board will formulate the merit rankings, as outlined in Article 1 of this call, based on the average of the scores obtained by eligible candidates in both the evaluation of qualifications and the oral examination.

The provisional rankings (deemed final in the absence of any tie-breaking procedures) will be published on the [Portale Bandi](#) on December 11, 2025.

Tie-breaking criteria

In the event that two or more applicants obtain the same final score, priority will be given to the candidate in less favorable economic conditions. If a further tie occurs, priority will be given to the candidate belonging to the underrepresented gender. Should the tie remain, priority will be given to the younger candidate.

Economic conditions criterion: in the event of candidates with equal scores, following the publication of the provisional rankings, the administration office of the Collegio Superiore will request the relevant candidates to submit, within a mandatory deadline of 48 hours, the 2025 ISEE Certification for university financial support. The ISEE and any additional documentation required to certify income and assets held abroad must be submitted via the ER.GO online services platform – Regional company for the Right to Higher Education ([website: https://servizionline.er-go.it/domande2/](https://servizionline.er-go.it/domande2/)), in accordance with the instructions provided at this [link](#).

The final ranking lists will be published at the following link and on the Collegio Superiore's website on **December 15, 2025**. This publication shall serve as the sole official means of announcing the results of the call for applications. Winners will receive an official admission email to the I-PHD College and must confirm their acceptance within five (5) calendar days from the date of the email. Failure to accept within the specified timeframe will be considered a withdrawal of admission.

Note: In the event of an explicit withdrawal of admission by a successful candidate, or failure to accept within the specified timeframe, other eligible applicants will be called in accordance with the ranking order.

Any withdrawals following the acceptance of the position, will allow for the calling of eligible applicants who follow in the ranking exclusively **until January 9, 2026**.

Admitted winners will be subject to the regulations of the Collegio Superiore in effect on the date of admission to the I-PHD College.

The regulations of the Collegio Superiore and other useful information can be found on the Collegio Superiore's website: <https://site.unibo.it/collegio-superiore/en/collegio>

7) OFFICES YOU CAN CONTACT

Information on admission procedures

For administrative questions and information related to PhD programs, please contact the relevant offices. Information and contacts can be found on the University's portal at <https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/phd/phd-programmemes>.

For questions, appointments, and administrative information related to the I-PHD College (e.g., deadlines, access methods, confirmation of participation, requirements, etc.), please contact:

Administration office of the Collegio Superiore

Telefono +39 051 20 99 262

E-mail segreteria.collegio@unibo.it

The telephone service is available on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 12 PM and on Tuesdays from 2 to 4 PM. Additional information on how to contact the Student Office can be found on the website <https://site.unibo.it/collegio-superiore/en>.

Any further extraordinary closures will be published on the website of the Collegio Superiore.

IT-related information

(E.g., access credentials, data entry, use/malfunction of the application, etc.)

Help desk Studenti Online

<https://sportelli.unibo.it/hd-studenti>

Phone +39 051 20 80 301 from Monday to Friday from 09 AM to 1PM and from 2 to 5 PM

E-mail help.studentionline@unibo.it.

Information for students with Disabilities and SLD

Service for Students with Disabilities and SLD

E-mail ases.adattamentiammissione@unibo.it

More information here <https://site.unibo.it/studenti-con-disabilita-e-dsa/it>

8) FINAL NOTES

Any updates regarding changes to the application procedures, as well as the closure of the administrative offices of the Collegio Superiore, will be published on the Collegio Superiore website:

www.collegio.unibo.it.

The privacy notice, in accordance with Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 – General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), is available on the University of Bologna website at: www.unibo.it/PrivacyBandiCds

This call for applications has been issued by decree of the Director of the Collegio Superiore, with the protocol and registration numbers indicated at the top of the first page.

Appeals against this decision may be submitted to the competent Regional Administrative Court (TAR) within 60 days from the date of publication of this call.

The sole person responsible for the procedure is Dr. Michela Dalla Vite, the management head of the Collegio Superiore (michela.dallavite@unibo.it).

THE DIRECTOR OF THE COLLEGIO SUPERIORE

Prof.ssa Stefania Pellegrini

(digitally signed)