



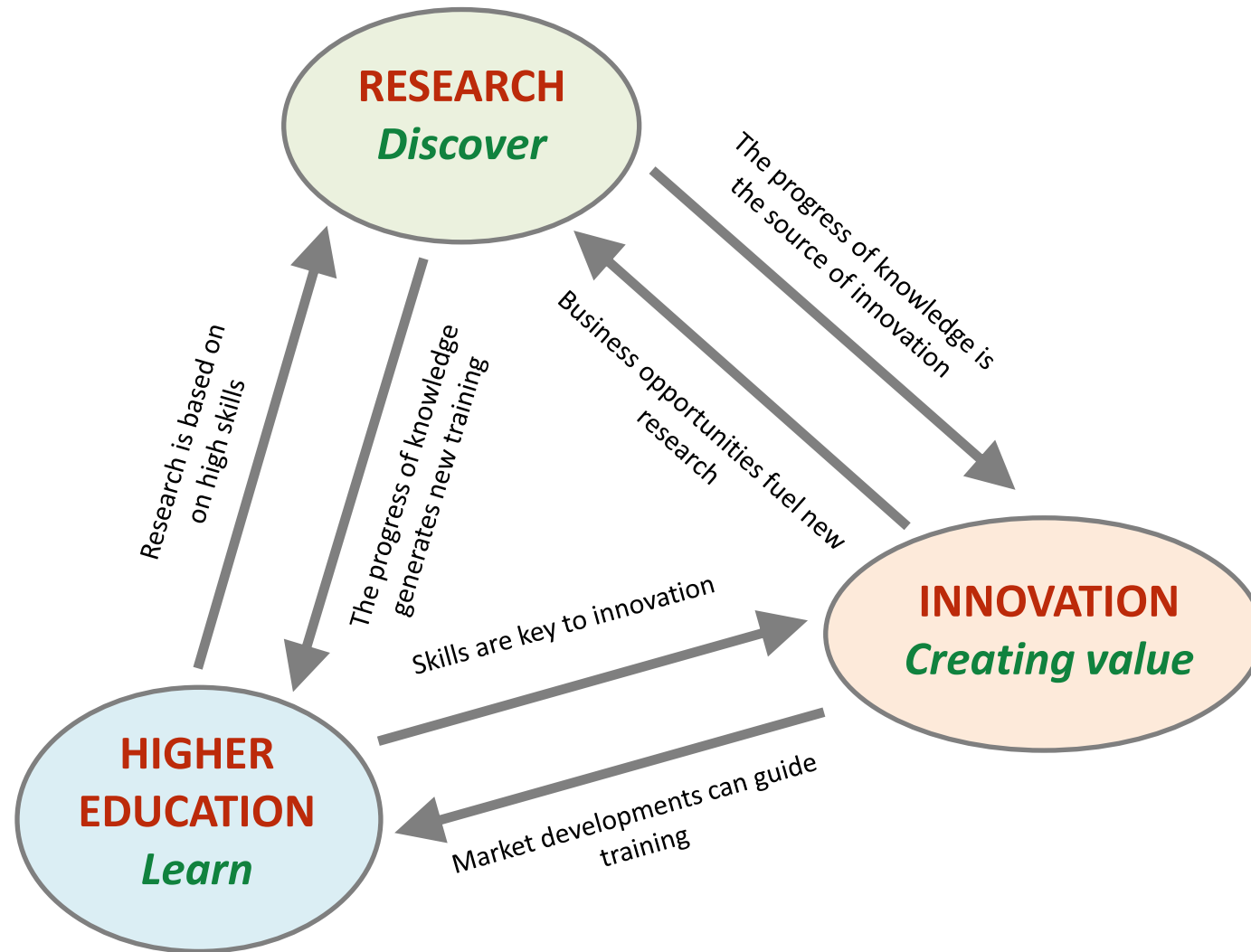
ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

Funding Modalities of PhD Positions at DIMSAI for the 42nd Cycle (2026)

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THE TRIANGLE OF KNOWLEDGE (K-TRIANGLE)



COLLABORATION BETWEEN COMPANIES/INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES

A close collaboration between **companies/research** institutions and **universities**:

- Drives innovation
- Promotes the development of specialized skills
- promotes economic growth

Importance of the mutual exchange of knowledge and experience between the academic and business worlds.

- Complementarity
- Innovation and Competitiveness
- Infrastructure and Shared Services
- Talent Attraction and Investment
- Networking and Collaborations
- Support for Start-ups and Youth Entrepreneurship



PHD PROGRAMME

What it is: The PhD is the **highest level of university education**.

Objective: Provides the necessary **skills** to carry out highly **qualified research activities** and **highly innovative professional paths** in private companies or research institutions.

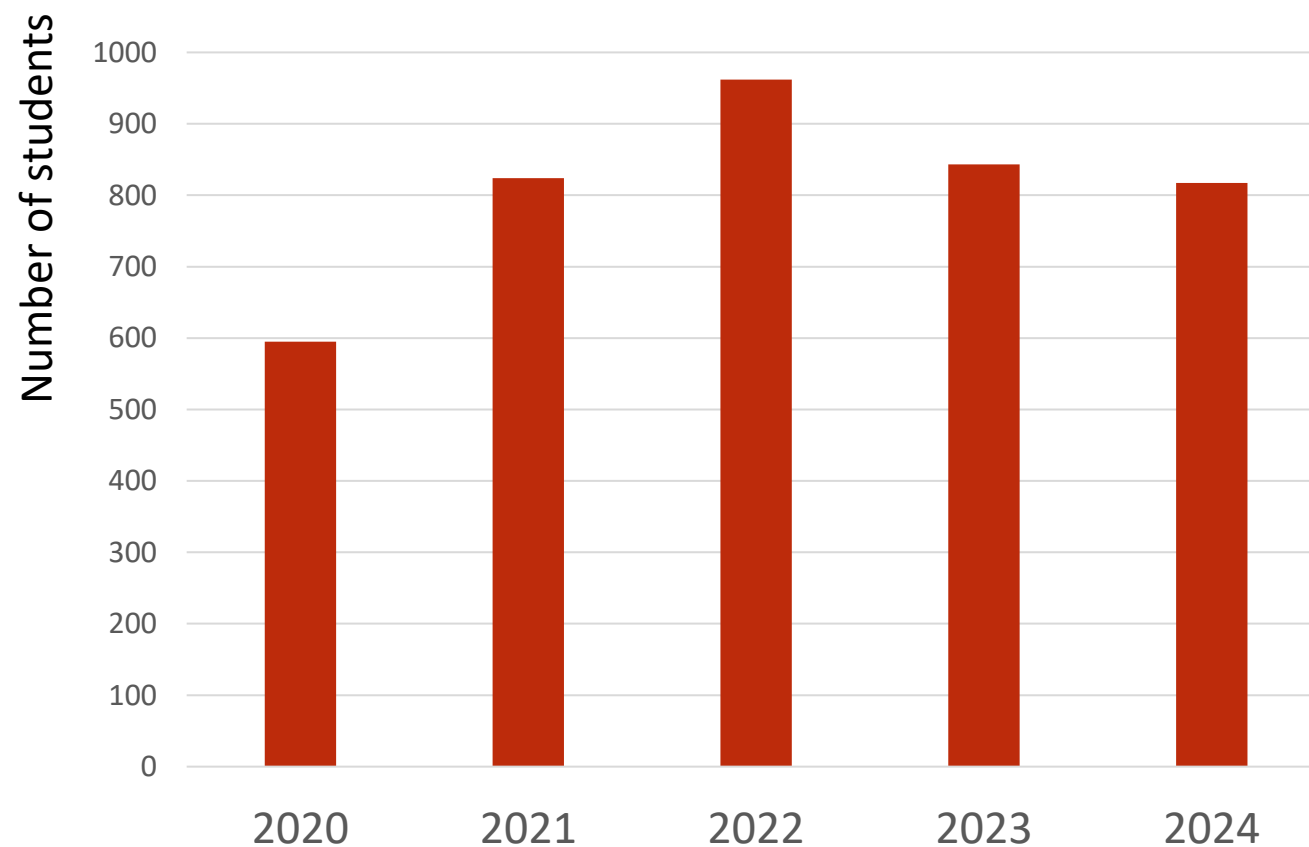
The PhD student:

- learns to carry out **original, innovative and independent research** in a specific field of knowledge.
- Acquires important **transversal skills**, which go beyond the competence of a specialized subject:
 - conceive, design and implement **research and innovation programs** independently;
 - conducting critical analyses, evaluations and summaries of **new and complex ideas and processes**;
 - solve **difficult problems with methodological rigor**, but also with **originality** and **creativity**;
 - interact with **international and multidisciplinary contexts**;
 - **disseminate** their results effectively, in written and oral form.

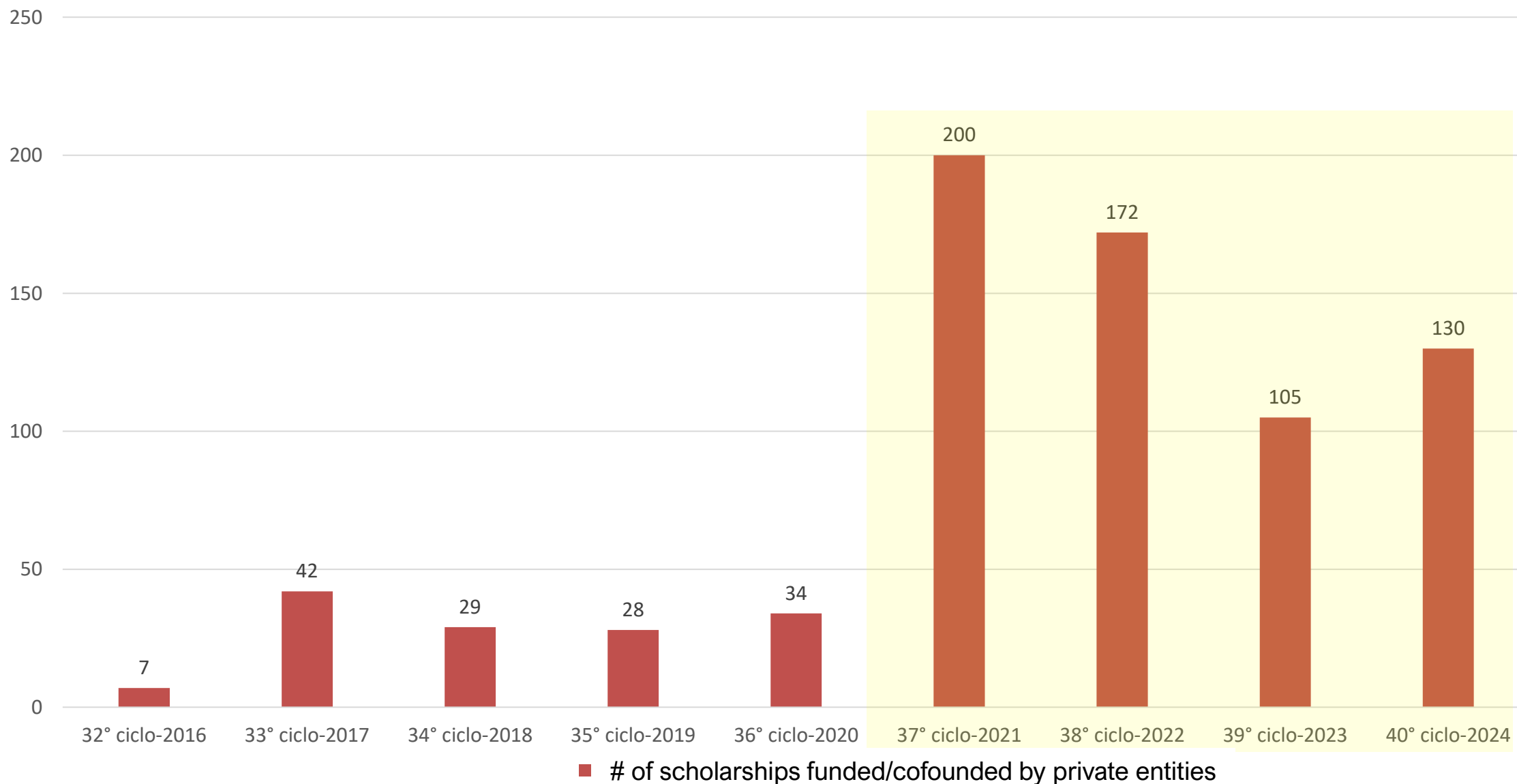
In today's complex and globalized society, these are important qualities that can be enhanced in companies, in the world of production and services, in public administration.



STUDENTS ADMITTED TO UNIBO PHD PROGRAMMES



PHD SCHOLARSHIPS FUNDED @UNIBO BY COMPANIES AND INSTITUTIONS

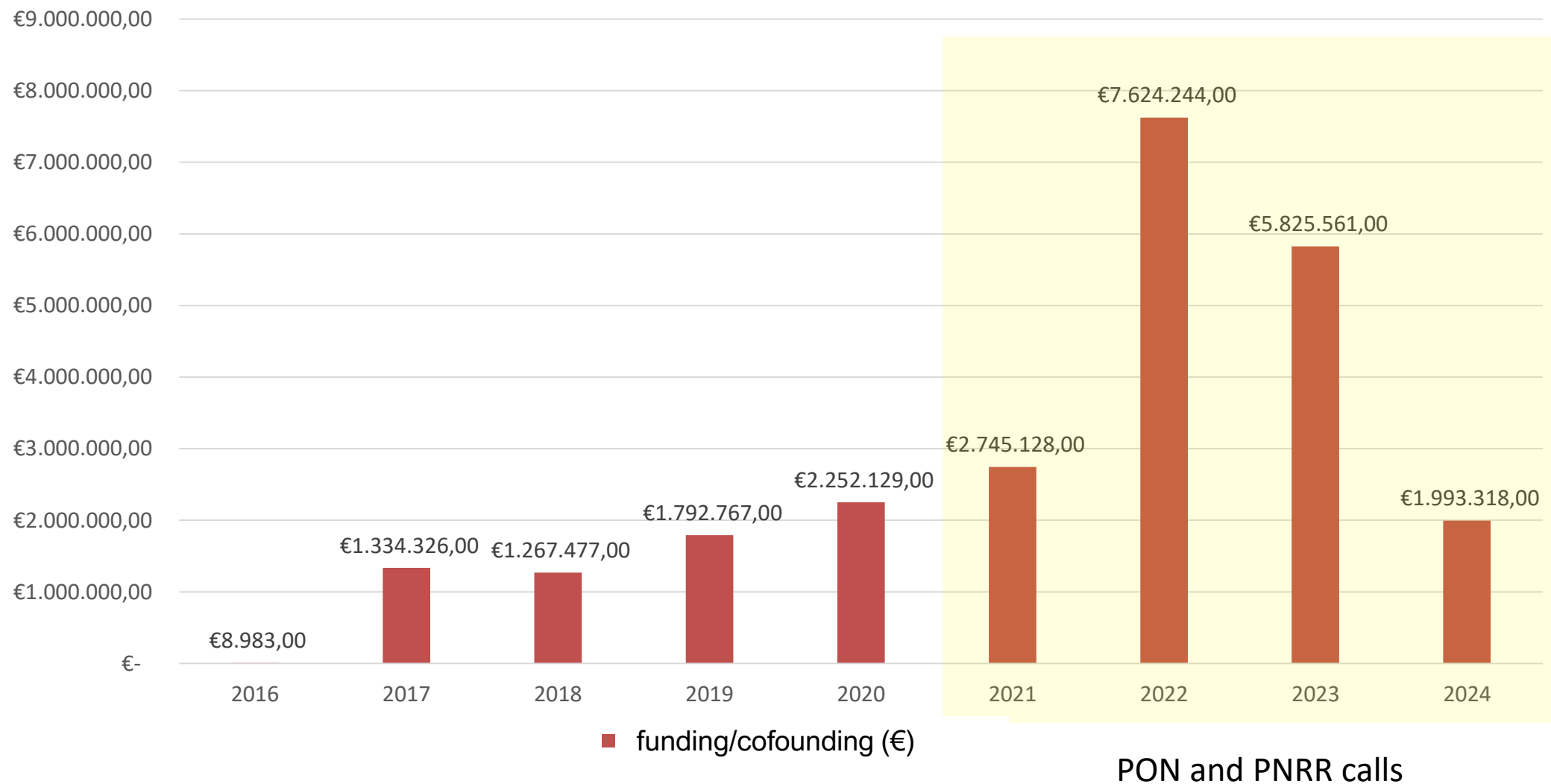


PON and PNRR calls

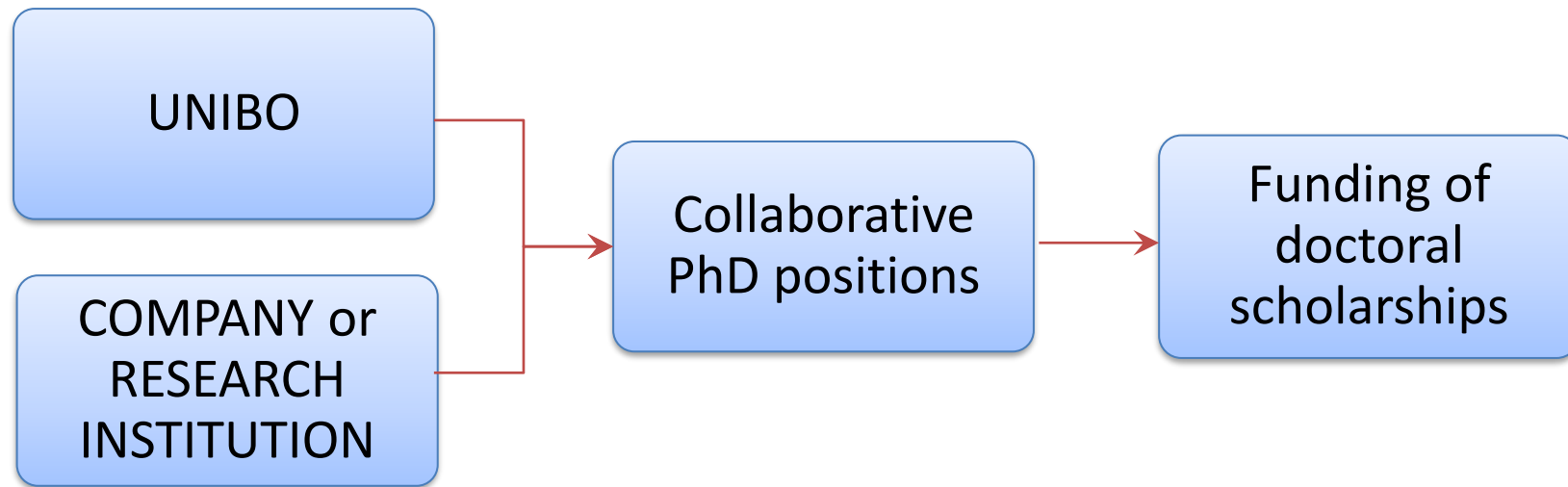


ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

FINANCING/CO-FINANCING OF COMPANIES AND INSTITUTIONS



COLLABORATION BETWEEN UNIBO AND COMPANIES/INSTITUTIONS



DOCTORATES AFFILIATED WITH COMPANIES/INSTITUTIONS

Advantages for the company/institution:

- participate in the definition of the research topic
- possibility to participate in the selection process, to express a judgment of suitability on the candidates with respect to the specific funded research topic
- appointment of a co-supervisor to follow the activities carried out by the PhD student
- carrying out part of the activities at the headquarters of the company/entity
- develop human potential in their specific sector, with a view to the possible hiring, at the end of the doctoral course, of a professional figure capable of carrying out cutting-edge research activities
- collaborate with highly qualified university research teams
- initiate/consolidate/strengthen medium-long term collaborations with the University on strategic research projects
- Possible tax breaks



WHAT IS A PHD SCHOLARSHIP?

- The **scholarship** is an economic benefit for the **salary of the PhD student**.
- It does not create a constraint for an employment contract with the company, but it can constitute the premises
- The **amounts** of the University of Bologna scholarships have **3 levels**:
 - minimum (defined by law), intermediate and maximum
 - The **DIMSAI applies the maximum amount** to promote the recruitment of highly prepared candidates
- The scholarship is compatible, subject to the authorization of the Doctoral Teaching Board, with **other forms of supplementary remuneration by the company**
- The total amount of the scholarship includes the charges necessary for:
 - social security coverage under separate INPS management,
 - the coverage of research and training stays abroad,
 - minimum budget to support research activities.



ECONOMICAL ASPECTS

Total cost of a three-year PhD scholarship at DIMSAI: € 84,893 which includes:

Net salary of approximately **€1,450/month for 36 months** & INPS charges

Minimum **budget** available to the candidate for the **research**: about **€ 5,900** over 3 years

Scholarship increase of **about 800€/month for 6 months of research abroad**

NOTES:

- The payment of the amount of the scholarship is possible in a single advance payment or in three annual instalments subject to the taking out of a surety guarantee;
- It does not cover the enhancement of collaboration with the University Research Team, which must be negotiated with the professor in charge of the position, based on the specific needs of the research project of interest to the company (e.g. direct involvement in the operational activities of the research, use of University equipment, etc.).



ACCESS TO THE DIMSAI DOCTORAL PROGRAM

Admission Requirements:

Second-level qualification (specialist degree, master's degree, old system degree) obtained in Italy or equivalent obtained abroad.

How to access:

Call for applications

Selection:

Evaluation of qualifications, research project, evaluation interview

Duration:

3 years from 1 November 2026



POINTS OF ATTENTION

PROPERTIES OF THE RESULTS

- ❑ Each Party is the owner of the intellectual and industrial property rights (IP Rights) relating to its background.
- ❑ The IP rights on the results achieved by the PhD student in the context of his/her research activity are co-owned by the University and the Company in equal parts, without prejudice to the moral rights of the author and inventor.
- ❑ The Company can, in any case, exercise an **option right** for the transfer of the share of the IP Rights owned by the University.
- ❑ If the Company exercises the option within the aforementioned terms, it will negotiate with the University the transfer through assignment or exclusive license, and the related economic conditions, it being understood that the University will in any case retain the right to use the results subject to IP Rights internally for its own institutional research and teaching purposes.

OPEN SCIENCE

- ❑ The Parties undertake to promote the protection and exploitation of the results, but **ensure open access to the public to research results and related data** (e.g. **publications of original results of scientific research**, raw data and metadata, sources, digital graphic and image representations and scientific multimedia materials) **in the shortest possible time and with as few limitations as possible**, according to the principles of Open science and FAIR Data, **without prejudice to IP rights related to research results**.
- ❑ The University reserves the **right to publish the results of the research**, but always transmits the draft of the publication and/or presentation to the Company, so that the **Company can communicate which confidential information should be made inaccessible to third parties**.



TAX CREDIT

R&D tax credit: it is applicable for R&D expenses incurred after 2020; expenses related to research contracts activated with universities are included. The measure can be combined with other credits that have the same costs as their object.

University researcher hiring bonus: contribution exemption in favor of private companies that:

- participated in the co-financing of at least one innovative doctoral scholarships at 50%;
- they hire permanent staff holding a title of PhD or previously holders of research contracts or who are or have been fixed-term researchers at universities.

Deductibility of donations made to **legal entities** pursuing research purposes, up to a maximum of 2% of the declared business income.

Deductibility from the income of companies of **funds intended for the financing of research** in the form of contributions or donations.

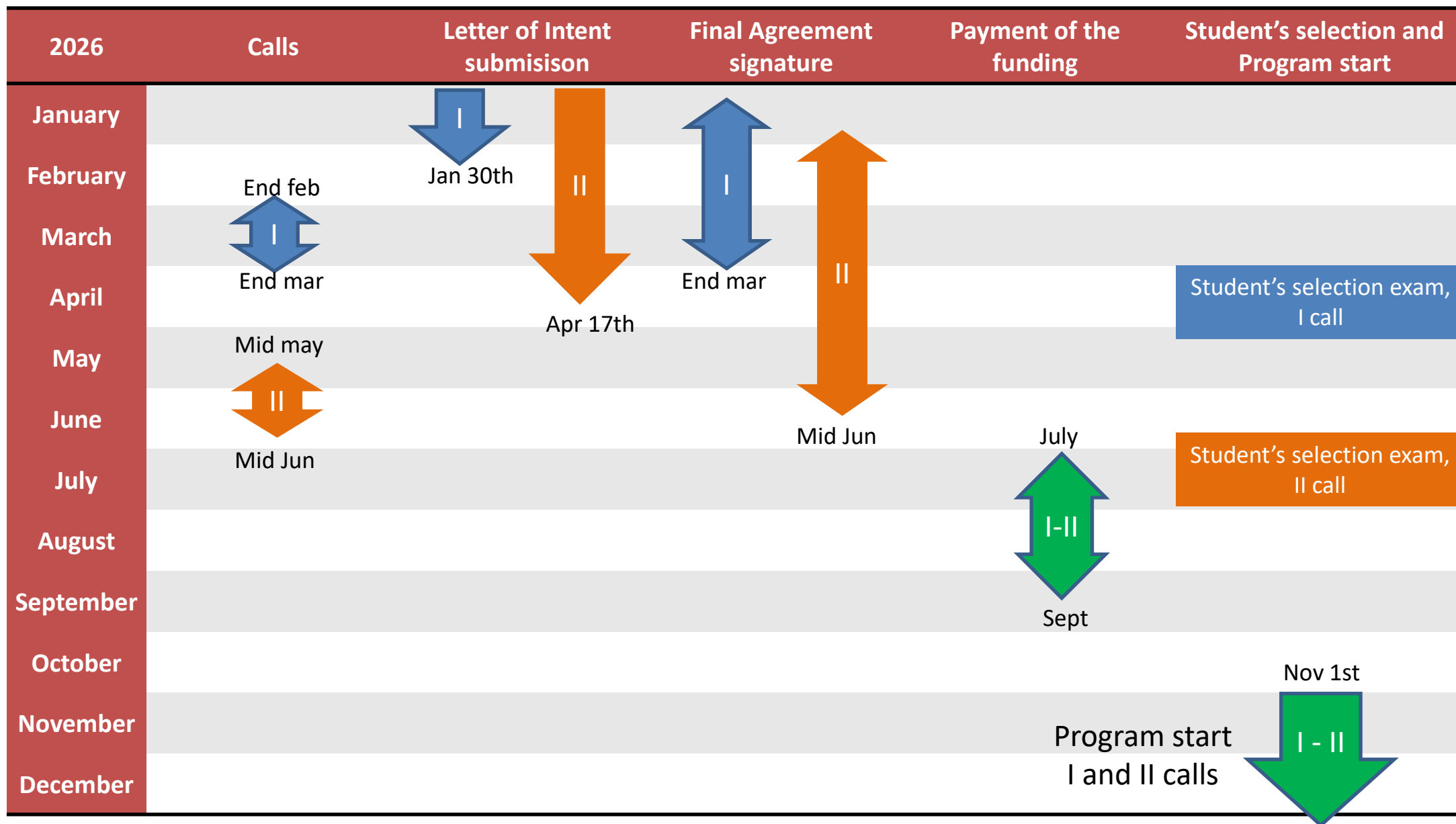


ACTIVATION AND FUNDING PROCESS 2026

- The University publishes **two calls** for applications per year:
- I call: opening at the **end of February** and **closing at the end of March**;
- II call: opening **mid-May** and **closing mid-June**;
- The company communicates its interest in financing a position through the **letter of intent** (by **30 January** for the first call, by **17 April** for the second call);
- The Department acknowledges the request and the PhD sector enters the position in the call;
- The company defines with the university research team **the enhancement of collaboration** in addition to the funding of the scholarship;
- The PhD sector and the company formalize **the agreement** for the funding of the scholarship by the **deadline of the call**;
- The amount of the scholarship for DIMSAI alone is at least € 84,893 (with 6 months of research abroad);
- The payment of the amount of the scholarship is possible in a single instalment in advance by September or in three annual instalments subject to the taking out of a surety guarantee;
- The selection of candidates takes place **by April** for the first call and **by July** for the second call; positions not assigned to the first call can be transferred to the second call;
- The PhD cycle starts on **November 1st** for both candidates selected for the first and second call.



TIMELINE 2026 AND POSITIONS EXTERNAL FUNDING





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UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

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