



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DEPARTMENT
OF MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT
OF ECONOMICS

DEPARTMENT
OF POLITICAL
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT
OF STATISTICAL SCIENCES
"PAOLO FORTUNATI"

PhD Public Governance, Management and Policy 40th cycle admission – Q&A May 21st, 2024

FAQs for PhD in Public Governance, Management and Policy (Q&A Format)

Application Process

- **Q: Can I apply for different positions within the same PhD program across departments?**
 - **A: Yes**, using the same application package. You cannot (and should not) submit multiple applications. You can express preferences on specific available themes for the fellowships (positions in the call) in your CV summary. In case you are selected for the PhD program, your assigned theme will depend on your ranking (total final score) and your ranking among the applicants considered eligible ("idoneo") for the specific theme. The Admission Committee will evaluate if you qualify for a particular topic or not.
- **Q: Can I contact potential supervisors before applying?**
 - **A: Yes**. You can contact researchers and professors involved in the program. However, supervisor assignments are decided by the PhD Board, while the topic (i.e. position/fellowship in the call) will be assigned by the selection Committee.

Eligibility and Background

- **Q: Does my background need to be specifically in Public Governance, Management or Policy?**
 - **A: No**. The program welcomes students from various backgrounds. However, knowledge in these areas is expected based on the scholarship topics. You can review the scholarship information for details.
- **Q: Can I apply if I'm graduating after the closure of the Call?**
 - **A: Yes**, but only if you graduate by the end of October 2024.

Application Materials

- **Q: What should my reference letter focus on?**
 - **A:** Your reference letter should showcase your experience evaluation by a scholar and highlight why you're a good fit for the program.
- **Q: Does the 20,000-character limit for the research project include the bibliography?**
 - **A: Yes.** The limit includes the bibliography. Focus on including key references within the limit.
- **Q: My English language certification has expired. Can I still apply?**
 - **A: Yes.** While a certificate is preferred, self-certification is accepted. Your English proficiency will be assessed during the oral exam.

Program Structure

- **Q: How is the first year structured?**
 - **A:** The first year includes four mandatory 120-hour courses (November to May) on Fundamentals of Public Governance, Statistics for economics and social sciences, Fundamentals of Public Policy, Fundamentals of Public Management. Additionally, you can choose elective seminars and courses across Governance, Policy, and Management fields at the University of Bologna.

Application Tools and Policies

- **Q: Can I use generative AI tools to improve my application language?**
 - **A: Yes.** You can use AI tools to refine the language, but avoid content generation entirely. However, if you use AI tools to refine language, you are kindly invited to state it explicitly in the relevant document.
- **Q: Can I include an unpublished (working) paper in my application?**
 - **A: Yes.** You can upload them. Please, clearly state their status.