



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

AREA
FORMAZIONE E DOTTORATO

PHD PROGRAMME TABLE

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

PROGRAMME'S NAME	STATISTICAL SCIENCES
DURATION	3 years
PROGRAMME START DATE	01/11/2025 (DD/MM/YYYY)
LANGUAGES	Italian, English
COORDINATOR	Prof.ssa Angela Montanari (angela.montanari@unibo.it)
PhD POSITIONS	4
ADMISSION PROCEDURE	Qualifications evaluation Oral examination

Available Positions and Scholarships

Pos. n.	Financial Support	Description
1	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget
2	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget
3	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget
4	PhD Scholarship	Totally funded by the University of Bologna general budget

The yearly gross amount of the scholarships awarded for the PhD Programme in “Statistical Sciences” 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
Qualifications evaluation	Applicants' participation is not required	Available from 14/04/2025
Oral examination	Date: starting from 07/05/2025 – 10.00 a.m. CEST Place: In presence, Room III, Dept. Of Statistical Sciences “Paolo Fortunati”, Via Belle Arti 41, Bologna. Remotely, using Microsoft Teams	Available from 09/05/2025

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.**

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	
Identity document	Valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)
Curriculum Vitae	The Curriculum Vitae must be drawn up using exclusively the Curriculum Vitae form , which can be downloaded in .docx from the University website (select the PhD Programme → “More information”, then check “Notices” at the bottom of the page). A 5 points penalty on the total qualifications evaluation score shall be applied to applicants not using the attached form.
Degrees	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	
Thesis abstract	Abstract of the second cycle degree thesis . Graduating applicants may submit an abstract of their thesis’ draft. Abstracts cannot exceed 5 pages, including references and images such as graphs, diagrams, tables etc. – if present. Applicants awarded a second cycle degree in a foreign university, where the research thesis was not part of the programme, shall submit a research proposal (5 pages max, including references and images such as graphs, diagrams, tables etc. – if present).
Reference letter/s	No more than 1 reference letter, drawn up using the Reference Letter form , which can be downloaded in .docx from the University website (select the PhD Programme → “More information”, then check “Notices” at the bottom of the page). The letter shall be signed by Italian and international academics and professionals in the research field, which do not form part of the Admission Board, and shall attest 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).
Publications	Full text publications, as listed in the Curriculum Vitae (i.e. monographs, articles on scientific journals). Publications with ISSN or ISBN only, and relevant to the PhD programme, will be evaluated.
Other documents	Documents showing the applicant is in possession of the qualifications listed in the Curriculum Vitae: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - periods of study abroad, completed by applicants outside their countries of origin (e.g. Erasmus programme or other similar mobility programmes) - tutorship activity carried out at academic level - internship in scientific institutions or Research Assistantship - research grants or postgraduate scholarship payed by a University or other research institution - relevant work activity - relevant prize awards - TOEFL/CAE/CPE/IELTS or other language proficiency certificate - other qualifications attesting the suitability of the applicants

Evaluation criteria*

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

1. Qualifications evaluation

Minimum score for admission to the oral examination: 30 points, Maximum score: 50 points

Academic path, assessed according to the relevance to the PhD programme’s main topics	5 points max distributed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0 points: no relevance - up to 3 points: partial relevance - up to 5 points: full relevance
Main topics exams (see point 3, in the Curriculum Vitae form)	24 points max distributed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - up to 2 points for each relevant exam listed in the CV - up to 14 points for the average mark for the selected exams
Publications	2 points max

Other documents	<p>6 points max distributed as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - up to 2 points for vocational activity (study periods abroad, tutoring activity) - up to 2 points for internship in scientific institutions or Research Assistantship - up to 2 points for research grants or postgraduate scholarship payed by a University or other research institution - up to 2 points for relevant work activity - up to 2 points for relevant prize awards - up to 2 points for TOEFL/CAE/CPE/IELTS or other language proficiency certificate - up to 1 point for other study or research qualification
Further evaluation elements	<p>13 points max distributed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - up to 3 points for the reference letter - up to 10 points for the thesis abstract (or research proposal)

2. Oral examination

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

General knowledge of the PhD programme's main research topics and of the research topics linked to the available PhD positions	40 points max
Personal statement	10 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. The oral examination is carried out in English.

Suggested readings for the interview:

- Casella, G., & Berger, R. L. (2002), *Statistical inference (Vol. 2)*. Pacific Grove, CA: Duxbury.
 - Mood A. Graybill F.A., Boes D.C. (1974), *Introduction to the Theory of Statistics*, McGraw Hill College.
- For further details, see <https://phd.unibo.it/statistics/en/admissions>

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