



MICROBIOTA AND HEALTH	
CYCLE	XLI
COORDINATOR	Prof. Marco VENTURA email: marco.ventura@unipr.it Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability
DURATION	3 years
STARTING DATE OF THE PHD PROGRAM	01/11/2025
POSITIONS PUT OUT TO COMPETITION	5
ADMISSION PROCEDURES	Assessment of QUALIFICATIONS Oral Exam in PRESENCE
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	Regardless of age and citizenship, applicants holding at least one of the following academic qualifications can apply for admission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Laurea specialistica or Laurea magistrale (second cycle master's degree) – Laurea Vecchio Ordinamento (degree obtained under the previous Italian regulations); – Second cycle Master's degree obtained abroad, equivalent to the above mentioned Italian degrees and recognized as suitable for the admission to doctoral program Undergraduates can also apply for admission to the selection, with the obligation to obtain the degree by 31.10.2025
TRAINING OBJECTIVES	
The main aim of the PhD in "Microbiota and Health" is to train PhDs who are experts in the study of the microbiota in physiological and pathological conditions and of possible translational applications, which constitute a useful premise for carrying out innovative and advanced research in various fields of clinical medicine and basic and applied biology	
RESEARCH AREAS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with humans; • investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with animals; • investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with the environment 	

Position with Scholarship		
N°	Funding entity	Research Topic
3	Scholarship funded by University of Parma (Ministerial funds)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with humans and animals
1	Scholarship co-funded by Fondazione Cariparma	

Position with Scholarship LINKED TO SPECIFIC TOPICS (art. 6 of the Competition notice)		
N°	Funding entity	BOUND RESEARCH TOPIC
1	Scholarship funded by EMILIA ROMAGNA REGION (PR.FSE + 2021/2027 – DGR n. 2072 del 04/11/2024) CUP D92J25000010006 	Microbial biodiversity of environments and its impact on climate and on the wellness of the organisms, under an approach of One Health (ECOPLANET)



ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Assessment of QUALIFICATIONS: up to 40 points
(a minimum score of 14 points shall be required to be admitted to the Oral Exam)
ORAL EXAM: up to 80 points
Minimum score for ELIGIBILITY: 70/120

ORAL EXAM PROGRAM

THE ORAL EXAM TAKES PLACE IN THE PRESENCE.

The Oral Test will focus on the critical reading and discussion of a scientific article chosen from those proposed by the Examination Board within the research topic selected by the candidate. The candidates will be called individually by the Examination Board to discuss the contents of the scientific publication selected by them. During the oral exam he will come knowledge of the English language also assessed.

Foreign Language the fluency of which shall be assessed during the Oral Exam	ENGLISH	The evaluation of the knowledge of this language will be oral and will consist in translating a scientific text
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SCHEDULE OF THE ADMISSION EXAMS

ASSESSMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS	It is the candidate's responsibility to verify the outcome of the evaluation of qualifications, which can be consulted in their reserved area by connecting to the page http://unipr.esse3.cineca.it/Home.do in the days preceding the date of the Oral Exam	
ORAL EXAM	DATE	5 th September 2025 and eventually it will be extended to September, 8
	TIME	09:30 am (CET)
	PLACE	ROOM 5 BIOSCIENCES BUILDING Parco Area delle Scienze, 11/A – Campus 43124 PARMA
FURTHER INFORMATION	The choice of the Research Topic to be expressed in Annex A is not binding on the assignment of the research project, and it is intended to assess candidates skills during the admission exam. The PhD research topic will be assigned by the Academic Board.	
	THE INTERVIEW MAY BE HELD ALSO IN ENGLISH	For foreign candidates it is possible to carry out the admission examination exclusively in English. For Italian candidates it will be possible to take the admission examination in Italian or in English at the candidate's choice

LIST OF QUALIFICATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED AND THEIR ASSESSMENT

MANDATORY DOCUMENTS TO BE ATTACHED TO THE ON-LINE APPLICATION

ANNEX A	(art. 3.2 of the Competition notice)
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Identification Document	Scanned Copy of a valid identity document with photo (i.e. identity card, passport)	
Curriculum Vitae et studiorum	No specific CV format is required (see art. 3.2 of the Competition notice)	
Abstract of degree thesis	Abstract of the second cycle master's degree thesis. Undergraduate applicants must submit the draft of the thesis approved by their supervisor (abstract/draft of the thesis: 10.000 characters including spaces)	
Academic Qualifications	Certificates and academic transcript of records for both Bachelor' and Master' degrees containing the following details for each degree held: (art. 3.2 of the Competition notice): University that granted the degree - Type of degree (first cycle/second cycle/single cycle) Name of the degree program - Date of graduation - Final mark - List of exams and corresponding scores (academic transcript of records) - Translation into Italian or English (only for degrees issued in languages other than Italian or English).	
LIST OF EVALUABLE QUALIFICATIONS (only qualifications attested by a document drawn up in Italian or in English)		
Curriculum Vitae et studiorum	Including academic career and postgraduate experience, accompanied by a statutory declaration in lieu of the certification of the exams passed with the relevant marks, as well as the final graduation mark. The marks of the exams and the graduation mark will be the most relevant element of the evaluation.	Up to 5 points
Graduation mark	Score related to the final mark: - 110 with honors (magna cum laude): 20 points; - 110: 18 points; - From 103 to 109: points 4-16 (2 points for each mark unit); - Until 102: 3 points.	Up to 20 points
Average of the exam marks (if the candidate will attain the degree no later than 31 October 2025)	Score related to the average of the exam marks: - 30/30: 18 points; - From 22/30 to 29/30: points 2-16 (2 points for each unit average score)	Up to 18 points
Graduation thesis	Consistency of the Master's Degree thesis with the doctoral program research topics or consistency with the scientific disciplinary sectors represented in the doctoral teaching board (briefly describe the topics in the curriculum vitae)	Up to 6 points
Scientific Publications	Publications in <i>peer-reviewed</i> international journals: 2 points for each publication (for evaluation purposes it is mandatory to attach a pdf copy of each publication to the application)	Up to 6 points
Communiations to conferences, publication in indexed national journals, book chapters	1 point for each conference abstract, publication in indexed national journals or book chapters (for evaluation purposes it is mandatory to attach a pdf copy of each term to the application)	Up to 3 points
EVALUATION ORAL EXAM		
Interview Program	Evaluation CRITERIA	POINTS
The ORAL EXAM is intend to assess the suitability of the applicant to pursue scientific research as well as the general knowledge of issues connected to the PhD course	The Oral Exam will focus on the critical reading and discussion of a scientific article chosen from those proposed by the Commission in the context of the research topic selected by the candidate. Candidates will be individually called by the Commission to discuss the contents of the scientific publication selected by them. During this test, knowledge of the English language will also be assessed	Up to 80 points