





MICROBIOTA AND HEALTH	
CYCLE	XLII
COORDINATOR	Prof. Marco VENTURA email: marco.ventura@unipr.it Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability
DURATION	3 years
START DATE	01/11/2026
POSITIONS AVAILABLE	4
POSITIONS AVAILABLE	Assessment of QUALIFICATIONS Oral Exam in PRESENCE
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	Regardless of age and citizenship, applicants may apply if they hold at least one of the following qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a Master's degree (Laurea Magistrale or equivalent);• a degree awarded under the previous Italian system;• an equivalent academic qualification obtained abroad, recognized as suitable for admission to the PhD programme. Applicants who have not yet graduated may also apply, provided that they obtain their degree by 31 October 2026 .
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
2	University of Parma (Ministerial funds, University funds and Cariparma Foundation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with humans, animals and environment
Position with Scholarship LINKED TO SPECIFIC TOPICS (art. 6 of the Competition notice)		
N°	Funding entity	BOUND RESEARCH TOPIC
1	partially funded by University and Cariparma Foundation funds and co-funded by the Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability (funds Project "Dipartimenti di Eccellenza" COMP-R) 	investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with humans



1	partially funded by University and Cariparma Foundation funds and co-funded by the Department of Chemistry, Life Sciences and Environmental Sustainability (funds Project “Dipartimenti di Eccellenza” COMP-R and funds Prof. Sgoifo and Prof. Ventura) 	investigation of the microbiota and its interactions with humans
----------	---	--

ADMISSION ASSESSMENT

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

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. Publication on the website constitutes official notification. No individual communication will be sent to candidates by email.	
ORAL EXAM	DATE	8 th September 2026 and eventually it will be extended to September, 9
	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)	
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 2026)	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