



**ISTITUTO DI RICERCHE  
FARMACOLOGICHE  
MARIO NEGRI · IRCCS**

**Call for applications for admission to the PhD course**

**in Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology**

**42nd cycle, academic year 2026-2027**

**This call expires on 17 July 2026, 10.00 a.m. (CEST)**

# CONTENTS

<b>Art. 1 – THE PhD COURSE</b> .....	3
<b>Art. 2 –ADMISSION CRITERIA</b> .....	3
<b>Art. 3 - APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE SELECTION</b> .....	4
<b>3.1 Procedure for application for admission</b> .....	4
<b>3.2 Documents to present</b> .....	5
<b>Art. 4 - ADMISSION TESTS</b> .....	6
<b>Art. 5 – SERVICES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE AND STUDENTS WITH SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES (SpLDs)</b>	8
<b>Art. 6- ADMISSION COMMISSION AND ITS TASKS</b> .....	9
<b>Art. 7- RANKING</b> .....	10
<b>Art. 8 –ENROLMENT</b> .....	10
<b>Art. 9 – ENROLMENT FEES AND REGIONAL TAXES</b> .....	11
<b>Art. 10 – POSITIONS AND STUDY GRANTS</b> .....	11
<b>10.1 Allocation</b> .....	11
<b>10.2 Distribution</b> .....	12
<b>Art. 11 – COMPATIBILITY AND INCOMPATIBILITY</b> .....	13
<b>Art. 12 – OWNERSHIP OF THE RESULTS</b> .....	13
<b>Art. 13 – TREATMENT OF PERSONAL DATA</b> .....	13
<b>Art. 14 – FURTHER INFORMATION</b> .....	13
<b>List of Annexes</b> .....	14

## **Art. 1 – THE PhD COURSE**

Public selection for admission to the PhD Course in Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology (hereinafter referred to as “Course”), 42nd cycle, academic year 2026/2027, accredited by MUR, is now open at the Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRCCS (IRFMN), with legal offices in Via Mario Negri 2, 20156 Milan (Italy).

**Thirteen (13) positions covered by research fellowships and two (2) unfunded PhD position are available.** Should further financial resources become available, additional positions will be open, in compliance with the deadlines for submitting the application for admission described in the art. 3. The fellowships associated with the Course mandatorily require the development of a research project among those listed in **Annex 1**. The research projects will be carried out at the IRFMN sites of Milano, Bergamo and Ranica (BG).

This Course will start on **1 November 2026**.

The characteristics of the call and related deadlines are summarized in **Annex 1**.

Changes, updates or further information will be made available on the institutional website <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology> during and after the Call for Admission closure, and in any case at least ten days before the oral test.

## **Art. 2 –ADMISSION CRITERIA**

Candidates for admission, with no limits on age or nationality, must have at least one of the following academic titles:

- an Italian “*laurea magistrale*”;
- an Italian ‘*ordinamento previgente*’ degree (old order);
- a qualification issued abroad, recognised as equivalent to the second level qualifications listed above (usually referred to as a Master’s degree), solely for participation in the Call for Admission to the PhD course;

Candidates who do not satisfy the above requirements on the date of the present Call may be admitted under reserve. **The title required for access to the PhD Course must be obtained by the date of enrolment, and in any case not after the starting date of the Course.**

## **Art. 3 - APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE SELECTION**

### ***3.1 Procedure for application for admission***

The application for admission to the Course, with all the necessary documentation – in absence of which the candidate will be excluded – must be completed and presented on-line following the procedures specified at <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology> **no later than 10.00 a.m. CEST on 17 July 2026.**

After this time the system will automatically shut down and it will no longer be possible to present an application. Applications sent by any other method will not be taken into consideration for admission to the Course. No documents can be added once the Call has been closed.

**The application must be accompanied by the specified documents, qualification papers, and a photograph of a valid identity document, in PDF format. The candidate must affix his signature and date at the bottom of the copy of the identity document, scan the signed and dated identity document and upload it as a pdf document in the "copy of valid identity document" field. The affixing of the signature at the bottom of the document certifies the candidate's willingness to participate in the selection and the acceptance of the articles that regulate this call. A missing signature and/or the copy of the identity document are grounds for exclusion from the selection.**

Candidates must indicate in the application for admission to the Course which of the research projects listed in **Annex 1** they intend to work on for the Doctorate (up to three may be selected).

The candidate will be responsible for checking that all the necessary material has been uploaded, as only correct attachments will be examined with a view to admitting the candidate. The IRFMN takes no responsibility for attachments transmitted on-line that are not readable because files or related material are damaged.

Information and clarifications on how to apply are provided in the **FAQ (Annex 1)**. Further inquiries can be forwarded to the Course Secretariat ([dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it](mailto:dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it)). The application for admission to the PhD Course on Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology is considered by law (under Italian arts 46 and 47 of DPR 445/2000 and ss.mm.ii) as self-certification of the data therein and the related documents attached to it.

The fee for application for admission to the Course is €10.00 (ten Euros), which must be paid at the moment of application submission, via bank transfer (IBAN: [IT12 D030 6909 4000 0000 8816 112](#)). Please, indicate in the payment justification section the following details: “application submission fee”, first name and last name of the candidate). In no case will this fee be refunded. Anyone issuing

the payment by any method other than that specified here, or after the deadline, will not be admitted to the selection process.

### 3.2 Documents to present

a)	<b>Identity document, with current photograph</b>	Scan back and front. The copy of the document <b>MUST</b> be signed and dated
b)	<b>Curriculum vitae</b>	CV Preferred format: <a href="#">Europass</a> In addition to personal information, the CV <b>must include</b> the following fields: Working Experience; Education and Training; Language Skill; Digital skill; Publications, Conferences and Seminars; Other
c)	<p><b>University diploma or equivalent</b>, second level, indicating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The university that issued the title;</li> <li>-The type of degree [<i>magistrale/magistrale a ciclo unico/vecchio ordinamento; (older Italian certifications)</i>] in scientific disciplines, including but not limited to, biomedical, bioengineering, bioinformatics, chemistry and physics disciplines</li> <li>-Name of the degree course;</li> <li>-Date of award of the title;</li> <li>-Final grades (specify full grades);</li> <li>-List and grades of examinations, with the CFU (international credit conversion), if employed in the university that awarded the title; Weighted average of the examination grades (only for Italian universities);</li> <li>-Copy (pdf) of the degree thesis.</li> </ul> <p>Candidates who do not have a second level degree at the date of presenting the application, should attach a Statement listing the examinations and grades, with the weighted average of the grades. (This average is only required for students from Italian universities.)</p> <p>The degree must be awarded before enrolling in the Course.</p>	<p>Type of certification, for titles obtained in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Italian public universities</b> self-certification, dated and signed, of the award of the <i>Laurea magistrale/ magistrale a ciclo unico/ older orders</i>;</li> <li>2. <b>EU /extra EU State Universities</b>; the certificate, the <i>transcript of records</i> of the first and second level degrees, or the <i>Diploma Supplement</i>, if present;</li> <li>3. <b>Private Italian universities</b></li> <li>4. In place of the certificate applicants can attach a self-certification with all the data, or the <i>Diploma Supplement</i>, when available.</li> </ol>

d)	<b>A numbered, dated and signed list of publications possibly pertinent to the application, with their DOI or PMID.</b>	
e)	<b>Any reference letters</b>	On headed paper of the institution to which the signatory of the letter belongs
f)	<i>For candidates who want to apply for adaptation for the admission test</i> <b>Adaptation request and specialist certification.</b>	See art. 5 below for documentation on adaptation for admission test
g)	<i>Payment receipt for application submission fees</i>	

**All documents must be provided in Italian or English.** For identity documents and certificates issued in other languages, an official translation into English or Italian (issued by an authorised entity or by the University that awarded the title) must be attached.

#### **Art. 4 - ADMISSION TESTS**

The tests for admission to the Research Doctorate Course are designed to assess candidates' suitability for scientific research, and their general knowledge on topics related to the subjects covered in the doctoral Course. Candidates whose mother tongue is not English will be interviewed to verify their proficiency in English.

Candidates will attend the admission procedure personally for an interview at the IRFMN offices at Milan, where their **study titles** will be examined and the public **oral test** may be held in English or Italian. **Candidates who request it may take the test on line using the Microsoft Teams platform.** The link, date and time of the interview will be sent by e-mail from the Course secretariat. This request will be accepted at the discretion of the Admission Commission, taking account of the reasons given.

The schedule of these tests will be available at <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology>.

The results of the admission tests will be published on the website and **such publication will serve to notify candidates. No email will be sent to inform candidates of the outcome**  
**The candidate's absence, or failure to connect** on the day and at the time set for the test, **or failure to produce the identity document** already submitted with the application for admission, will be considered as **a withdrawal from participating** in the selection.

Candidates who decide to withdraw from the selection should send a mail specifying this intention to the address [dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it](mailto:dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it). Such communication must be sent solely by e-mail, with a back and front scan of a valid identity document.

The Admission Commission can give up to **100 points** for their assessment of titles and test results, as follows:

**Titles:** **max 30 points**

**Oral test:** **max 70 points**

**Titles** will be assessed on the basis of the following documents:

**'Laurea magistrale' or equivalent** **max 20 points**

- 20 points for 110 *cum laude* (full grades with honors)
- 19 points from 108 to 110 (98.2-100% of the full grades)
- 18 points from 104 to 107.9 (94.6-98.1% of the full grades)
- 15 points from 100 to 103.9 (90.2-94.5% of the full grades)
- 10 points from 95 to 99.9 (86.4-90.1% of the full grades)
- 5 points  $\leq$  94 ( $\leq$  86.3 % of the full grades)

(in brackets the grades for candidates with foreign qualifications, as percentages of the full grades)

For undergraduates the weighted average of examinations (VMP) is **max. 18 points**

- 18 points from 29 to 30 (96.7-100% of the maximum VMP marks)
- 17 points from 27 to 28.9 (90 – 96.6% of the maximum VMP grades)
- 16 points from 25 to 26.9 (83.3-89.9% of the maximum VMP grades)
- 10 points from 23 to 24.9 (76.7-83.2% of the maximum VMP grades)
- 5 points  $\leq$  22 ( $\leq$  76.6% of the maximum VMP grades)

(in brackets the grades for candidates with foreign qualifications, as percentages of the full grades)

**Publications** **max 6 points**

- 3 points for each peer-reviewed publication
- 1 point for each minor publication (conference poster presentation) up to 2 points

**Other qualifications and skills** **max 4 points**

*Qualifications obtained after the degree*, such as a specialization diploma, updating courses, master's course lasting at least one year, scientific research, more than one month's experience abroad).

**Candidates with more than 18 points for the assessment of titles will be admitted to the oral test.**

The Commission can give **70 points** for the oral test and candidates must score **at least 47** to pass it. The following criteria are employed to assess the oral test (interview):

- clarity and brevity
- providing more information if requested
- critical spirit and knowledge of the project selected
- ability to do part of the interview in English

Candidates who total **at least 65 points** will be considered eligible for admission to the Course, up to the number of places available in the ranking.

#### **Art. 5 – SERVICES FOR DISABLED PEOPLE AND STUDENTS WITH SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES (SpLDs)**

Candidates with disabilities (recognised under Italian law 104/1992), or invalidity of 66% or more for the admission tests requiring assistance for reading and/or writing or extra time (specifically 30% extra time for candidates with specific learning difficulties (SpLD) other specific developmental disorders and pathologies and 50% extra time for candidates with civil invalidity and/or handicap as under law 104/1992] or other limitations to be assessed case by case and on the basis of certification.

Candidates who intend to apply for these adaptations for the admission test should send an e-mail using the request form, to [dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it](mailto:dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it), before the date for closure of the test.

Candidates should attach the **necessary specialist documents**:

- a) diagnosis of SpLD, in accordance with law no. 170/2010 (or equivalent), made by the National Health Service, by an accredited private center, or a private specialist, accompanied by the specific NHS conformity document. These documents should not be older than three years.
- b) a statement from a NHS specialist describing any other specific developmental disorder affecting learning;

- c) certification of handicap in accordance with law no. 104/92 (or equivalent);
- d) certification of civil invalidity;
- e) medical documentation drawn up by a specialist, specifying the disorder (physical and/or mental) leading to inability – even temporary – to complete the test in the normal way.

The documentation must be clear and complete, with all the information necessary to understand the candidate's specific requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** If the candidate has a certificate under law no. 104/92, or any other pertinent medical documentation, it is important to present them both.

**Candidates with disability or SpLDs resident abroad**, who intend to apply for the adaptation must present legalised certification of their disability or SpLD, issued in their country of residence, together with a certified translation only in English or Italian. The personnel examining these documents will check that the foreign documentation certifies a disability or SpLD recognised under Italian law.

**IMPORTANT: Before completing the application submission, check that health certifications are attached.**

The Research Doctorate office will inform the Commissions and the candidates concerned of the replies to the request for adaptation.

#### **Art. 6- ADMISSION COMMISSION AND ITS TASKS**

The director of the IRFMN, when requested by the Teachers' Board, nominates the Admission Commission, normally made up of three to five members, plus two spare members, selected from among the Board, the people organising the training courses, the research managers, and the heads of research at the Institute research heads, within three days of the closure date for applications for admission to the Course. The Commission may include outside experts from Italian or foreign scientific research establishments, qualified in the disciplines involved in the doctoral research program. The composition of the Commission will be made known at least one week before the oral tests are scheduled.

The Admission Commission is responsible for the following:

- publishing the calendar for admission to the Course at <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology>;
- publishing the results of the assessment of qualifications, at least three working days before the oral tests;

-promptly publishing each assessment – titles and interview – at <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology> in line with the schedule for admission.

#### **Art. 7- RANKING**

Upon completion of its assessment, the Commission will draw up a ranking, which will be made available on the website <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology>.

Candidates who pass the admission tests and win one of the positions available will be admitted to the PhD Course. Should anyone decide to withdraw, and positions with study grants become free, the winners of positions without grants will be contacted. If a winning candidate decides - expressly or tacitly – to withdraw the next candidate in the ranking will be contacted. Suitable replacement candidates who are not enrolled as and when indicated are considered to have withdrawn.

The ranking list will be used to assign places that are still free no more than 45 days from the starting date of the Course. Anyone already entered for a different PhD course must give up application for enrolment in this Course.

#### **Art. 8 – ENROLMENT**

Candidates admitted to the PhD Course will be informed by e-mail how to enrol. They must then enrol as required when the Minutes are approved and loaded up on the web page for the Course <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology>, **no later than 1 October 2026.**

Candidates who have the right but have not enrolled by the deadline will be considered to have withdrawn and their position in the ranking will be assigned to the next person on the list.

Full information about the organisation of the Course, and the related forms, will be available on the website <https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology> and at the IRFMN Training Course secretariat.

**Foreign students must possess the necessary documents for residency in Italy by the start date of the Course (1 November 2026).**

1. Candidates **can be admitted as extra numbers** in the ranking if they fall into one of the following categories:

a. holders of grants financed by Italian ministries or agencies in their home country, nationality, place of residence or domicile.

b. candidates who receive funds from international training and mobility programs or come from countries which have an agreement for admission to the Course.

2. Candidates under b) may be admitted to the Course as extra participants without having to submit this Application, as set down in the Rules for the Establishment and Operation of PhD courses at IRFMN (art. 11).

## **Art. 9 – ENROLMENT FEES AND REGIONAL TAXES**

Enrolment in the PhD Course is not taxed.

Each candidate admitted to the Course must pay € 156 for each year of course attendance (the fee includes the regional tax for the right to study (€ 140) and stamp duty required by law (€ 16)). The amount must be paid via bank transfer to the specified account (IBAN: [IT12 D030 6909 4000 0000 8816 112](#)). Please, indicate in the payment justification section the following details: “tassa regionale per il diritto allo studio”). A copy of the receipt must be sent to the doctoral office ([dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it](mailto:dottoratoirfmn@marionegri.it)) by the enrolment deadline for the 1<sup>st</sup> year, and according to the instructions provided by the Course Secretariat for the following years

## **Art. 10 – POSITIONS AND STUDY GRANTS**

### ***10.1 Allocation***

**Fifteen (15) PhD positions are available of which two (2) are unfunded (Annex 1).** Grants will be allocated following the ranking order and taking account of preferences candidates express for a particular research project. Should more than one candidate indicate the same preference, the youngest candidate will have priority.

One of these positions is to be restricted to a candidate who meets the following criteria: *Master's degree in chemistry or Medicinal Chemistry (CTF), or equivalent, Experience in organic synthesis and purification techniques, Basic knowledge of molecular modeling techniques (docking, molecular design), Experience with biophysical assays to analyze ligand-protein interactions (e.g., SPR), Analytical skills (NMR, chromatography), Familiarity with data analysis tools (basic Python, Office).*

**Anyone who has already received a grant to follow a PhD course (all or part) in Italy** is not eligible for this funding.

## **10.2 Distribution**

Study grants are distributed at the end of each month starting from when the Course begins. The annual amount of the scholarships, gross of social security charges payable by the recipient is € 16,400. The scholarship is subject to the payment of INPS social security contributions in accordance with current legislation, to the extent of one third at the expense of the scholarship holder. Doctoral students are eligible for the related rights and assistance.

The grants will be paid to an Italian bank account indicated by the student (with IBAN number) and the account must be in the name of the student alone or as one of the account holders.

PhD grants cannot be accumulated, as specified in the current IRFMN 'Regulations for the institution and operation of PhD courses', which can be consulted at

<https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology>

#### **Art. 11 – COMPATIBILITY AND INCOMPATIBILITY**

Admission to the PhD course implies exclusive, full-time commitment.

#### **Art. 12 – OWNERSHIP OF THE RESULTS**

The intellectual and industrial ownership of any of the PhD students' results is managed in conformity with current rules and regulations, and IRFMN internal regulations. PhD students are in any case allowed routine work for publication during the training period, but it must be handled compatibly with protection of any special findings.

#### **Art. 13 – TREATMENT OF PERSONAL DATA**

IRFMN advises you that all your personal data supplied and acquired will be handled in full respect of D. Lgs. 30 June 2003, no. 196 *and s.m.i.*, of EU Regulation UE 2016/679 relative to the protection of physical persons with regard to the treatment of personal data, and the free circulation of such data - known also as the EU Data Protection Rules.

The aims, methods and legal basis for treatment, and further information regarding the categories of recipients, and the storage periods are specifically indicated in the Privacy Information available at [http://www.marionegri.it/media/privacy/Informativa\\_privacy\\_trattamento\\_dati\\_Recruiting.pdf](http://www.marionegri.it/media/privacy/Informativa_privacy_trattamento_dati_Recruiting.pdf), which forms an integral part of this Call and which candidates confirm they have read when making their application.

#### **Art. 14 – FURTHER INFORMATION**

For any information not found in this Call, reference is made to the current Regulations for the Institution and Operation of PhD Courses at the IRFMN. The submission of an application for admission to the selection, through the procedure outlined in Art. 3, implies that the candidate accepts the conditions set out in this Call, and in the IRFMN Regulations for the Institution and Operation of PhD Courses.

The IRFMN Human Resources office is available to clarify any economic or administrative questions related to the PhD course.

**Any changes, updates or additions to the present Call will be notified exclusively by publication on the IRFMN website, which candidates are expected to consult at**

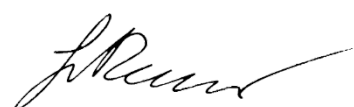
<https://www.marionegri.it/education/phd-course-clinical-and-experimental-pharmacology>.

List of Annexes

**Annex 1:** Numbered list of research projects; brief description of the PhD Course and Course deadline; FAQ

Prof. Giuseppe Remuzzi

*Director*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Remuzzi', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Milan, 17 June 2026**