



ISTITUTO DI RICERCHE
FARMACOLOGICHE
MARIO NEGRI · IRCCS



The Open
University

Affiliated Research
Centre

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE PHD COURSE ORGANIZED BY THE
ISTITUTO DI RICERCHE FARMACOLOGICHE MARIO NEGRI IRCCS
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE OPEN UNIVERSITY, UK**

SECOND CALL FOR THE YEAR 2026

The Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRCCS, Via Mario Negri n. 2, 20156, Milano (Italy) - hereafter "IRFMN" - is inviting candidates to enroll in the PhD Training Program organized in collaboration with The Open University (Milton Keynes, UK).

Three new PhD positions are open for the present call and related to the projects published on the Institute website, section *Education&Job Offers > PhD course in collaboration with the Open University, UK*, at the following link: <https://www.marionegri.it/opportunita-formativa/corso-di-phd-open-university-uk-in-lingua-inglese>.

The International Graduate Program (hereafter "PhD Course") of the IRFMN organized in collaboration with the Open University confers a PhD title that is recognized worldwide. The Program is part of the educational and training activities taking place at the two campuses of Milano and Bergamo. The major aim of the Graduate Program is to provide students with advanced training in the fields of Pharmacology, Toxicology, and Experimental Medicine with specific reference to Cancer, Neurological, Cardiovascular, Kidney, and Rare Diseases, as well as Environmental Toxicology, Organ Transplantation, Molecular Pharmacology, and Public Health.

To guarantee the highest scientific standards, access is limited to young investigators with at least one year of experience in any field of experimental or clinical research. If English is not the candidate's first language, the applicant must possess a valid IELTS certificate (see specific requirements in the next paragraph). Italian candidates must possess an Italian master's degree (*laurea magistrale*) in any scientific discipline, and foreign candidates must possess a graduate degree equivalent to the one required for Italian candidates.

In accordance with the relevant international, European, and Italian legislation, and the "equal opportunity employer" status of the IRFMN, no distinction for applicants is made as to sex, nationality, health status, or religious opinion (the Institute's Gender Equality Plan (GEP) is accessible at the Institute's website: <https://www.marionegri.it/struttura#IRCCS>).

UNI EN ISO 9001:2015
Quality Management System
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*Design and provision of
specialized training courses
in Biological and Medical fields*

ARC Research Degree Coordinator of the PhD School
Stefano Fumagalli, PhD (+39.02.3901.4379 – stefano.fumagalli@marionegri.it)

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In response to the Call, the candidate who wishes to apply must submit the following pre-registration documents/information to the PhD Educational Office (phd@marionegri.it) by 14 October 2026:

- the applicant's CV;
- the filled-in and signed Appendix 1 to the present Call, in which the candidate declares any conflict of interest with the Institute; where English is not the applicant's first language, the applicant must possess a valid IELTS certificate - meeting the minimum requirements of a 6.5 overall score and no less than 6.0 in any of the four areas of competence (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) - which has to be obtained no more than two years before the predicted registration date. Applicants, who hold an English certificate other than IELTS at the date of submission, can also take part in the selection process, providing they are awarded the IELTS certificate before the beginning of the academic activities. In the event these applicants pass the selection process, their enrolment on the PhD Course is conditional upon providing evidence that the IELTS qualification has been awarded;
- the name of the Project/Laboratory for which they are applying – out of the ones published in the “Abstracts” document, along with the Call.

Following notification of their eligibility, the candidates must sit an admission test consisting of an oral interview to be held in English, in which at least 2 members of the PhD Advisory Board and the project P.I.s will take part. Such assessors impartially evaluate the candidate's profile and suitability for the position. The oral interview will take place during the month of October 2026, and the exact date will be communicated via email to each candidate.

For a detailed description of the:

- PhD projects for which candidates are applying, applicants are invited to refer to the “PhD Project Abstracts” document published along with the Call.
- procedures involved, applicants are invited to refer to the document “The PhD program at the Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRCCS”, which is available on the Institute website (section *Education&Job Offers > PhD course in collaboration with the Open University, UK* at the following link: <https://www.marionegri.it/opportunita-formative/corso-di-phd-open-university-uk-in-lingua-inglese>).

The final ranking of the call will be made available on the Institute website (section *Education&Job Offers > PhD course in collaboration with the Open University, UK*) by the first half of November 2026. The successful applicants will be asked to submit the documents necessary for the final registration to the Open University, UK, with a dedicated email.

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For full-time PhD positions, the IRFMN will provide the student with a fellowship for the entire duration of the PhD Course in agreement with the Institutional standards, amounting to 1400€ (gross salary).

External and foreign students are eligible for lodging in the Institute's guesthouse, subject to negotiation and apartment availability.

Milano, 14 September 2026

Dr. Stefano Fumagalli
ARC Research Degree Coordinator



Prof. Giuseppe Remuzzi
Director

*To comply with the guidelines contained in the Italian Legislative Decree, D.LGS. 231/2001, the prospective student must declare any previous working experience with the Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRCCS. In addition, the prospective student must declare previous collaborations with any Italian Public Administrative Service or Agency. Finally, the prospective student must declare any possible conflict of interest due to family links or associations with members of the Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRCCS. Please fill out **Appendix I** and provide it with your CV.*

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APPENDIX 1

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Do you have any conflict of interest to declare?

☐ YES

☐ NO

In case your answer is YES, please specify

.....
.....

I declare that I have read and understood the Information (ex art.13 of EU Reg.679/16), on the processing of personal data at the link:

http://www.marionegri.it/media/privacy/PrivacyRecruiting_ENG.pdf

Date

Signature