

**PHD PROGRAMME TABLE**  
**Announcements of competition for admission to PhD Courses**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> cycle, Academic Year 2026/2027**

**PhD Course: MOLECULAR AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE**

**Available positions: 12**

**Evaluation Methods: academic and research record and interview**

**Number of selections: 4**

The Course provides for four selective procedures depending on the type of positions available. Candidates interested in more than one selection procedure must submit an application and pay the relevant fee of € 25.00 for each procedure in which they wish to participate.

The selection procedures are intended to assess the candidate's preparation and aptitude for conducting research activities related to the topics of the PhD Programme.

**Available positions:**

<b>Selection</b>	<b>Place n.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Financial support</b>	<b>Specific research topic</b>
Selection 1	1	Scholarship	University scholarship	-
Selection 1	2	Scholarship	University scholarship	-
Selection 1	3	Scholarship	University scholarship	-
Selection 1	4	Scholarship	University scholarship funded by Fondazione di Modena	-
Selection 1	5	Position without scholarship	-	-
Selection 1	6	Position without scholarship	-	-
Selection 1	7	Position without scholarship	-	-
Selection 2	8	Scholarship*	Scholarship funded by Local Health Unit / IRCCS Reggio Emilia	Characterization of the transcription factors driving anti-tumor immunity (Topic 1)
Selection 2	9	Scholarship*	Scholarship funded by Local Health Unit / IRCCS Reggio Emilia	Study of the biological determinants in B-cell lymphomas (Topic 2)
Selection 3	10	Scholarship	Scholarship funded by the Department of Maternal, Child and Adult Medical and Surgical Sciences - FIS2023-00171 - EnGRAFT project CUP E53C25000490001 - Prof.ssa Cavazza	Engineering the interaction between hematopoietic stem cells and their niche for ex vivo gene therapy approaches (Topic 1)

Selection 3	11	Scholarship	Scholarship funded by the Department of Maternal, Child and Adult Medical and Surgical Sciences - FIS2023-00171 - EnGRAFT project CUP E53C25000490001 - Prof.ssa Cavazza	In vivo gene therapy approaches for multisystemic diseases (Topic 2)
Selection 4	12	Scholarship	Scholarship funded by the Department of Life Sciences DEBRA UK KeratinCare: towards CRISPR/Cas9-based topical in vivo gene therapy for Epidermolysis Bullosa Simplex project – CUP E53C26000980007 - Prof.ssa De Rosa	Advanced in vivo gene editing approaches for the treatment of dominant genetic skin diseases (KeratinCare)

\* The person awarded the PhD scholarship financed by the AUSL-IRCCS of Reggio Emilia may also carry out research activities at the structures of the AUSL itself, according to the indications that will be provided by the PhD Course Coordinator and/or the Academic Board.

**Areas of the PhD Programme:** The PhD Programme includes two training courses: the curriculum in Molecular and Regenerative Medicine and the curriculum in Nanotechnologies and Modeling for Industrial Biomedical Applications. The Programme include, in addition to research and laboratory activities, lectures and seminars on molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying human diseases, mechanisms of cell differentiation and gene therapy, structural biology, computational biology, biomaterials.

Official course language: English. All international PhD students are encouraged to learn Italian language during the PhD Programme. Further information is available from the PhD Programme website at: <http://www.mrm.unimore.it/site/home.html>

**Selection 1: Main selection procedure (for positions funded by scholarships without a specific topic and for positions without scholarships)**

**Admission requirements:**

Italian second cycle master's degree ("Laurea Magistrale", under D.M. 270/04) in the following disciplines: LM-6 Biology, LM-8 Industrial biotechnology, LM-9 Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, LM-13 Pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, LM-41 Medicine and surgery, LM-54 Chemical Sciences, or Italian second cycle master's degree ("Laurea Specialistica", under D.M. 509/99) in one of the following disciplines: 6/S Biology, 8/S Industrial biotechnology, 9/S Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, 14/S Pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, 46/S Medicine and surgery, 62/S Chemical Sciences; Italian degree obtained prior to D.M. 509/99 (the previous Italian regulations) in biological sciences, in agro-industrial biotechnology, in biotechnology for industrial biotechnology, in biotechnology for pharmaceutical biotechnology, in biotechnology for medical biotechnology, in biotechnology for veterinary biotechnology, in pharmaceutical chemistry and technology or chemistry and pharmaceutical technology, in pharmacy, in

medicine and surgery, in chemistry, or Second cycle non-Italian Master's degree, equivalent to the Italian degrees mentioned above, in accordance with Article 2 of this Call.

**Evaluation criteria:**

For the evaluation of qualifications, the Selection Committee has at its disposal a score up to a maximum of 60 points, divided as follows:

- degree mark, if already obtained, or marks obtained in the exams: from 0 to 30 points,
- curriculum and professional experience: from 0 to 10 points,
- publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Statement of Research Interest: from 0 to 15 points.

Candidates will be admitted to the interview if the evaluation of their qualifications has reached a score of at least 40 points out of the 60 available.

Candidates may opt to have their interview in English.

The interview consists of:

- an evaluation of basic knowledge of cell biology, molecular biology, chemistry, biochemistry, genetics, general pathology;
- a discussion on the research activity previously carried out,
- a discussion on the research interests expressed in the Statement of Research Interest,
- verification of knowledge of the English language.

Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 on the interview will be considered eligible.

**Selection 2: Selection procedure for two positions funded by scholarship with topics "Characterization of the transcription factors driving anti-tumor immunity" and "Study of the biological determinants in B-cell lymphomas"**

**Admission requirements:**

Italian second cycle master's degree ("Laurea Magistrale", under D.M. 270/04) in the following disciplines: LM-6 Biology, LM-7 Agrarian Biotechnologies LM-8 Industrial biotechnology, LM-9 Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, or Italian second cycle master's degree ("Laurea Specialistica", under D.M. 509/99) in one of the following disciplines: 6/S Biology, 7/S Agrarian Biotechnologies, 8/S Industrial biotechnology, 9/S Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology or an Italian degree obtained prior to D.M. 509/99 (the previous Italian regulations) in Biological Sciences, in Agro-industrial Biotechnology, in Agricultural and Plant Biotechnology, in Industrial Biotechnology, in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, in Medical Biotechnology, in Veterinary Biotechnology, or Second cycle non-Italian Master's degree, equivalent to the Italian degrees mentioned above, in accordance with Article 2 of this Call.

**Evaluation criteria:**

For the evaluation of qualifications, the Selection Committee has at its disposal a score up to a maximum of 60 points, divided as follows:

- degree mark, if already obtained, or marks obtained in the exams: from 0 to 30 points,
- curriculum and professional experience: from 0 to 10 points,
- publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Statement of Research Interest: from 0 to 15 points.

Candidates will be admitted to the interview if the evaluation of their qualifications has reached a score of at least 40 points out of the 60 available. Candidates may opt to have their interview in English.

The interview consists of:

- an evaluation of basic knowledge of cell biology, molecular biology, chemistry, biochemistry, genetics, general pathology;
- A discussion on the mechanisms of anti-tumor immunity and regulatory mechanisms (Topic 1) or a discussion on the biology of B-cell lymphomas and the prospects for developing new biomarkers in these pathologies (Topic 2);
- A discussion on the research activity previously carried out;
- a discussion on the research interests expressed in the Statement of Research Interest;
- verification of knowledge of the English language.

Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 on the interview will be considered eligible.

### **Selection 3: Selection procedure for two positions funded by scholarship with topics “Engineering the interaction between hematopoietic stem cells and their niche for ex vivo gene therapy approaches” and “In vivo gene therapy approaches for multisystemic diseases”**

#### **Admission requirements:**

Italian second cycle master's degree (“Laurea Magistrale”, under D.M. 270/04) in the following disciplines: LM-6 Biology, LM-8 Industrial biotechnology, LM-9 Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, LM-13 Pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, LM-41 Medicine and surgery, or Italian second cycle master's degree (“Laurea Specialistica”, under D.M. 509/99) in one of the following disciplines: 6/S Biology, 8/S Industrial biotechnology, 9/S Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, 14/S Pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, 46/S Medicine and surgery; Italian degree obtained prior to D.M. 509/99 (the previous Italian regulations) in biological sciences, in agro-industrial biotechnology, in biotechnology for industrial biotechnology, in biotechnology for pharmaceutical biotechnology, in biotechnology for medical biotechnology, in biotechnology for veterinary biotechnology, in pharmaceutical chemistry and technology or chemistry and pharmaceutical technology, in pharmacy, in medicine and surgery, or Second cycle non-Italian Master's degree, equivalent to the Italian degrees mentioned above, in accordance with Article 2 of this Call.

#### **Evaluation criteria:**

For the evaluation of qualifications, the Selection Committee has at its disposal a score up to a maximum of 60 points, divided as follows:

- degree mark, if already obtained, or marks obtained in the exams: from 0 to 30 points,
- curriculum and professional experience: from 0 to 10 points,
- publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Statement of Research Interest: from 0 to 15 points.

Candidates will be admitted to the interview if the evaluation of their qualifications has reached a score of at least 40 points out of the 60 available. Candidates may opt to have their interview in English.

The interview consists of:

- an evaluation of basic knowledge of cell biology, molecular biology, genetics;
- a discussion on the therapeutic applications of gene therapy applied to hematopoietic stem cells (Topic 1) or a discussion on the therapeutic applications of in vivo gene therapy (Topic 2);

- a discussion on the research activity previously carried out;
- a discussion on the research interests expressed in the Statement of Research Interest;
- verification of knowledge of the English language.

Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 on the interview will be considered eligible.

#### **Selection 4: Selective procedure for a position funded by scholarship with topic "Advanced in vivo gene editing approaches for the treatment of dominant genetic skin diseases (KeratinCare)"**

##### **Admission requirements:**

Italian second cycle master's degree ("Laurea Magistrale", under D.M. 270/04) in the following disciplines: LM-6 Biology, LM-8 Industrial biotechnology, LM-9 Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, LM-13 Pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, LM-41 Medicine and surgery, LM-54 Chemical Sciences, or Italian second cycle master's degree ("Laurea Specialistica", under D.M. 509/99) in one of the following disciplines: 6/S Biology, 8/S Industrial biotechnology, 9/S Medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical biotechnology, 14/S Pharmacy and industrial pharmacy, 46/S Medicine and surgery, 62/S Chemical Sciences; Italian degree obtained prior to D.M. 509/99 (the previous Italian regulations) in biological sciences, in agro-industrial biotechnology, in biotechnology for industrial biotechnology, in biotechnology for pharmaceutical biotechnology, in biotechnology for medical biotechnology, in biotechnology for veterinary biotechnology, in pharmaceutical chemistry and technology or chemistry and pharmaceutical technology, in pharmacy, in medicine and surgery, in chemistry, or Second cycle non-Italian Master's degree, equivalent to the Italian degrees mentioned above, in accordance with Article 2 of this Call.

##### **Evaluation criteria:**

For the evaluation of qualifications, the Selection Committee has at its disposal a score up to a maximum of 60 points, divided as follows:

- degree mark, if already obtained, or marks obtained in the exams: from 0 to 30 points,
- curriculum and professional experience: from 0 to 10 points,
- publications: from 0 to 5 points,
- Statement of Research Interest: from 0 to 15 points.

Candidates will be admitted to the interview if the evaluation of their qualifications has reached a score of at least 40 points out of the 60 available. Candidates may opt to have their interview in English.

The interview consists of:

- an evaluation of basic knowledge of cell biology, molecular biology, genetics;
- a discussion on the therapeutic applications of gene therapy applied to epithelial stem cells;
- a discussion on the therapeutic applications of in vivo gene therapy applied to epithelia;
- a discussion on the research activity previously carried out,
- a discussion on the research interests expressed in the Statement of Research Interest,
- verification of knowledge of the English language.

Candidates obtaining a minimum score of 40/60 on the interview will be considered eligible.

#### **Documents to be attached to the application (for all selections)**

- 1) Degree certificate (or self-certification for Italian degrees); and Transcript of Records
  - list of examinations taken and marks. Applicants with a degree obtained abroad must attach the degree certificate with the list of examinations taken translated and legalised or Diploma Supplement and, if available, the Declaration of Value ("Dichiarazione di Valore in loco") issued by the competent Italian diplomatic-consular

Representation or the certificates issued by the CIMEA - ENIC-NARIC center. If the degree certificate is not yet available or if the degree has not yet been obtained, the candidate must attach a description of the degree with a list of the examinations taken using [Annex A](#);

- 2) a Curriculum Vitae (CV) including their scientific and teaching activities in English using the form in [Annex B](#);
- 3) an English-language summary of the thesis, or equivalent, consisting of no more than two pages and comprising the following points: purpose of the thesis, methods of investigation, results obtained;
- 4) a short text in English (Statement of Research Interest) using the form in [Annex C](#), in which candidates illustrate their motivation for attending the Programme and the description of their specific research interests;
- 5) certification of English language skills (FIRST, TOEFL, Proficiency or others);
- 6) a cover letter/reference; in the online application, applicants must enter all the personal details of the professor/researcher/expert who will be sending the letter of recommendation. Once the application has been submitted, the computer system will send an automatic e-mail to the contact person requesting the letter of recommendation. The deadline for uploading letters is June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026, 11.59 pm (CET); applicants can check on the application summary page whether the contact person has sent the cover letter/recommendation. Within the aforementioned deadline, applicants may send a reminder to the contact person who has not yet done so by selecting the 'reminder' item from the application summary page;
- 7) any other document considered useful for the candidate's assessment and/or scientific publications; candidates must provide a full list of all the documents and publications attached;
- 8) copy of a valid identity document.

### **Additional documents to be attached for Selection 2 and Selection 3:**

- 9) In order to express an interest in competing for one or both of the thematic scholarships for each selection, the candidate must complete and attach the "[Declaration of priority interest to compete for thematic scholarships](#)" file.

The list of the candidates admitted to the interview, and any variation in the selection procedure, will be published before July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at the following University website address: <https://www.unimore.it/en/bando-phd-42>.

### **INTERVIEW SCHEDULE (for all the selective procedures)**

**Interview via Microsoft Teams (allowed for each candidate, regardless of their residence):** July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 9:00 am. Interviews may continue on July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 9:00 am, should there be a high number of candidates.

Operational instructions regarding the procedures for the interview via Microsoft Teams will be provided at the time of publication of the list of candidates admitted to the interview.