

Evaluation criteria for the admission exam to the PhD programme in Cell and Developmental Biology (40th cycle)

The oral exam will include:

1) a 5 minute oral presentation (in Italian or English) of oneself (experience, scientific interests and expectations, in Italian or English).

2) a Power Point presentation (15 min, in Italian or English – max. 15 slides) of an experimental article chosen from a list of articles relevant to the thematic areas of the Doctoral Course. The candidate will be able to choose any one of all the articles made available at the time of publication of the call in the dedicated folder available on Google Drive [<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OPQ5ihkiliqjhA2Chaxy5-irnNVrY4s6>].

The presentation must be attached in PDF format to the application for participation in the competition under "further documentation".

The choice of the article is not to be considered binding for the assignment of the project, should the candidate be classified in the list of admitted candidates.

3) The discussion on what was presented in point 2. The commission will evaluate the candidate's ability to understand the conceptual and methodological logic of the work, and to grasp the importance and originality of the results obtained, the adequacy of the approaches used and any questions that may remain open.

4) A discussion to evaluate the overall profile of the candidate (previous experience, knowledge of general topics in cellular and developmental biology, scientific interests), also considering the letter of motivation.

5) English test, consisting of reading and translating a passage from a scientific article, if the presentations referred to in points 1 and 2 were made in Italian. If the presentations in points 1 and 2 are made in English, the demonstrated knowledge of the language will be assessed overall.

The oral exam will be evaluated according to the following evaluation grid:

Oral test (max 80 points)

During the oral test, aspects regarding the qualifications presented, the presentation and discussion of the scientific article, the candidate's preparation and previous experience are explored and clarified, and the scores will be distributed as follows:

- Presentation of oneself (5 points)
- Oral presentation with power point on the chosen article and discussion (30 points);
- Overall discussion to evaluate the candidate's profile and preparation on cellular and developmental biology topics, as well as previous experience, also considering the letter of motivation (30 points)
- Discussion of the degree thesis and the candidate's qualifications: clarity of presentation, ability to summarize and scientific interest of the curriculum (10 points)
- Knowledge of the English language (5 points)

Candidates who have achieved at least 40 points in the assessment pass the oral test.

The minimum overall score for admission to the PhD is 40/80.