

# Evaluation criteria for the admission to the National PhD Course in Earth Observation (40° ciclo)

Qualifications, motivational letter and oral exam, functional to assess the experiences and skills of the Candidate for the development of the proposed research, are evaluated according to the following criteria.

## 1. Qualifications (max 60 points)

### 1.1. Academic career (Bachelor plus Master or equivalent) – max 30 points

#### Academic career for Candidates with Bachelor plus Master (at least 5 years long in total) or equivalent (max 30 points)

- max 18 points for the average (weighted on credits) of the marks or for the graduation mark of the Bachelor degree (at least 3 years long)

| Average (weighted on credits) of the marks or graduation mark of the Bachelor degree (MB) (both converted in the range 0-30) | Points |
|--|--------|
| $29.50 < MB \leq 30.00$  | 18     |
| $29.00 < MB \leq 29.50$  | 17     |
| $28.50 < MB \leq 29.00$  | 16     |
| $28.00 < MB \leq 28.50$  | 15     |
| $27.50 < MB \leq 28.00$  | 14     |
| $27.00 < MB \leq 27.50$  | 12     |
| $26.00 < MB \leq 27.00$  | 8      |
| $25.00 \leq MB \leq 26.00$   | 4      |
| $MB \leq 25.00$  | 0      |

- max 12 points for the average (weighted on credits) of the marks or for the graduation mark of the Master degree (at least 1 year long)

| Average (weighted on credits) of the marks or graduation mark of the Master degree (MM) (both converted in the range 0-30) | Points |
|--|--------|
| $29.50 < MM \leq 30.00$  | 12     |
| $29.00 < MM \leq 29.50$  | 11     |
| $28.50 < MM \leq 29.00$  | 10     |
| $28.00 < MM \leq 28.50$  | 9      |
| $27.50 < MM \leq 28.00$  | 6      |
| $27.00 \leq MM \leq 27.50$   | 3      |
| $MM < 27.00$   | 0      |

**Academic career for Candidates with Single-Cycle Master or equivalent (max 30 points)**

- max 30 points for the average (weighted on credits) of the marks or for the graduation mark of the Single-Cycle Master degree (at least 5 years long)

| Average (weighted on credits) of the marks or graduation mark of the Master degree (MM) (both converted in the range 0-30) | Points |
|--|--------|
| $29.50 < MM \leq 30.00$  | 30     |
| $29.00 < MM \leq 29.50$  | 28     |
| $28.50 < MM \leq 29.00$  | 26     |
| $28.00 < MM \leq 28.50$  | 23     |
| $27.50 < MM \leq 28.00$  | 20     |
| $27.00 \leq MM \leq 27.50$   | 15     |
| $26.00 < MT \leq 27.00$  | 10     |
| $25.00 \leq MT \leq 26.00$   | 5      |
| $MT \leq 25.00$  | 0      |

## **1.2. Scholarships, research grants (PostDocs included) - max 5 points**

Criteria: institution, type of selection (competitive or not), duration

## **1.3. Research activity - max 5 points**

Criteria: institution / laboratory where the research activity was carried out, type of selection (competitive or not), duration

## **1.4. Attendance of courses of excellence, specialization courses, High Schools of University Studies - max 5 points**

Criteria: institution, type of training activity, duration

## **1.5. Other awards - max 5 points**

(e.g. prizes in competitions, second degree)

Criteria: organization / institution that issued the award, position in ranking / judgment / final grade

## **1.6. Publications in peer-reviewed journals - max 5 points**

(the list must contain a maximum of 5 publications, suited to highlight the experiences and skills of the Candidate useful for the development of the proposed research)

## **1.7. Other activities, qualifications and skills - max 5 points**

(e.g. attendance of short courses and schools, participation in congresses, computer skills, language skills)

## **1.8. Any interruptions in the study / research career for health reasons / parental leave can be reported**

## **2. Motivation letter (max 40 points)**

The motivation letter must not exceed 2 pages (Arial font, size 10, margins 2cm) and can contain figures / tables.

With reference to the topic of the scholarship for which the application is being submitted, the motivation letter must:

- 1 - illustrate ideas and objectives of the proposed research, starting from the state of the art, including proper bibliographic references if useful
- 2 - highlight Candidate's experiences and skills useful to the development of the proposed research

In particular, the evaluation is focused on:

- knowledge of the state of the art (max 10 points)
- originality and innovation of the proposed project (max 10 points)

- clarity and completeness of the presentation of the objectives, methodologies, and expected results (max 10 points)
- Candidate's experiences and skills useful to the development of the proposed research (max 10 points)

### **3. Interview (max 60 points)**

Candidates are admitted to the interview only if they achieved an overall evaluation of qualifications and motivation letter of at least 50 points.

During the interview Candidate's qualifications, motivation letter and possible letters of reference are discussed, and the level of English language is assessed:

- discussion of qualifications: clarity of presentation, ability to summarize and scientific interest of the curriculum (max 10 points)
- discussion of the motivation letter (max 35 points)
- discussion of possible letters of reference (max 5 points)
- English language assessment (max 10 points)

The interview is passed with a minimum score of 40 points.

**The overall minimum score for admission to the PhD course is 90 points.**