



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS.

DEADLINE: OCTOBER 14, 23:59 (Europe/Brussels time).

Call for applications for no. 9 research grant(s) – Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna – Department of Economics

Considering:

Article 18 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010
Recalling the Regulation for the establishment of post-graduate research fellowships pursuant to Article 18 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, issued by D.R. No. 136 of February 5, 2020, and subsequent amendments and integrations (hereinafter “Regulation on Research Fellowships”)

Recalling:

The Resolution of the Department Board of September 10, 2025 concerning the activation of 9 research fellowships for the realization of the project “*Institutional Resilience to Climate Change: Lessons from Bronze Age Mesopotamia (INRES)*”

Verified:

the financial coverage with funds from the project “*Institutional Resilience to Climate Change: Lessons from Bronze Age Mesopotamia (INRES)* – Project Code: FIS-2023-03231”, financed through the Competitive Procedure for the development of fundamental research activities, under the Italian Science Fund 2022–2023 (*BANDO FIS 2*) of the Ministry of University and Research. This initiative aims to support research projects of high scientific value carried out by independent research groups, under the scientific coordination of a Principal Investigator (PI). – CUP: J53C24004230001

The Director of the Department of the Department of Economics
invites applications for 9 research fellowship(s) lasting 11 months on the topic:

Title:

FIS 2 Progetto “*Institutional Resilience to Climate Change: Lessons from Bronze Age Mesopotamia*”

Tutor: Carmine Guerriero

Duration: 11 months

Maximum starting date: 01/12/2025

SSD: ECON-01/A

For all matters not expressly provided for in this call, reference shall be made to the current Regulation on Research Fellowships and to the relevant national legislation.

Article 1- Subject of the Research Fellowship:

Although the short run effect of negative climate shocks has sadly become evident, their long run institutional impact is still poorly understood. To clarify this issue, the INRES project will construct and credibly analyze the first comprehensive data set on the agrarian innovations, institutions—i.e., inclusive political processes fostering public good provision, farmers' property rights to land and risk-sharing activities—and alternative economic activities—i.e., long-distance exchanges—developed by the first recorded states—i.e., Bronze Age Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley and Liangshu culture—to tackle the 4.2-kiloyear BP aridification event. The researcher will contribute to the project by: (a) constructing the aforementioned data set plus measures of population dynamics, crop diversification, pathogen loads and wealth inequality; (b) devising theoretical models of societal response to climate change; (c) testing the project predictions and designing methodologies tackling the errors in the measurement of archaeological variables and endogeneity issues; (d) formulating policy assessments of the results relevant for present-day developing countries.

Article 2 - Amount

The amount of the fellowship is € 26.802,93. The disbursed amount shall be deemed to include any possible cost related to carrying out the research activities provided for by the project. The insurance premium against accidents is deducted from the first installment of the fellowship due at the time of issuance of the call. The premium is valid for one year; in the case of a fellowship with a longer duration, subsequent premiums shall be deducted on a yearly basis.

Article 3 - Application procedure

Applications for participation in the selection process must be submitted exclusively online via the website: <https://concorsi.unibo.it>, following prior personal registration as indicated in the instructions provided on the same web platform.

The deadline for submitting applications, under penalty of exclusion, is set for 14/10/2025 at 23:59 (Europe/Brussels time).

The date of receipt of the application is indicated in the confirmation receipt sent electronically to the applicant.

Any communications will be sent to candidates exclusively at the email address provided in the application form.

Article 4 – Eligibility Requirements

- Degree or a degree obtained under the pre-Ministerial Decree 509/99 system and subsequent amendments, or equivalent qualifications obtained at foreign universities, whose suitability shall be assessed by the Selection Committee;

- Not having reached the age of 45 by the application deadline;
- Not having previously been awarded other research fellowships at this University under the current Regulation on Research Fellowships, where the total duration, combined with the duration of the fellowship under this selection, exceeds 24 months in total.

Participation in this selection procedure for the awarding of research fellowships is not permitted to those who have a family or kinship relationship, up to and including the fourth degree, with a tenured professor or researcher belonging to the Department/Structure issuing the call, or with the Department/Structure where the activities are to be carried out, or with the Rector, the General Director, or a member of the University's Board of Directors.

The eligibility requirements must be met by the application deadline set forth in this call.

Applicants are admitted with reserve; exclusion from the selection process, due to failure to meet the required criteria, may be decided at any time, even after the selection procedure has taken place, by means of a reasoned decision notified to the candidate concerned.

5 – Preferential Qualifications

- a) Advanced knowledge of R, ArcGis and Stata and/or theoretical models of state-building.
- b) Previous experience with archaeological data on Bronze Age Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley and/or Liangshu culture.
- c) Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English.

Incompatibilities

The grants cannot be combined:

- with research fellowships and other study or research grants awarded for any reason, except those awarded by national and foreign institutions for the purposes of supplementing, through visits abroad, the specific activities envisaged in the programme of work to be carried out by the grant holder.
- with any fixed-term or permanent contract of employment, unless the grant holder is granted unpaid leave by his/her employer.

The fellowship holder is required to declare, under his/her own responsibility, that in his/her case, there is no incompatibility or combination of grants, and to promptly communicate any change in this circumstance.

Upon submitting his/her application, the grant holder must declare that he/she has received another research fellowship by this University.

The fellowship holder may perform freelance work, provided he/she informs the grant issuer beforehand and that said work is declared by the grant issuer as compatible with the research activities, that there is no conflict of interest with the specific research activity carried out by the grant holder and that it is not detrimental to the University in relation to the activity carried out.

The research fellowship does not in any way establish an employment contract and does not give rise to any rights in relation to access to University positions.

Article 7 – How to Apply

Candidates must submit:

In the online application, candidates must indicate, under their own responsibility and following the instructions provided by the web procedure:

- surname and first name;
- date and place of birth;
- nationality;
- place of residence and, if applicable, the address elected for the purposes of the selection;
- possession of the qualification required under Article 4 of this call, indicating the University and year of award, or an equivalent academic qualification obtained abroad.

Applicants must attach to the application:

- a copy of a valid identity document;
- their scientific and professional curriculum vitae, including scientific output.

Candidates holding a qualification obtained abroad must also attach to the application the Diploma Supplement (if available) or the degree certificate.

Documents submitted by candidates must be in Italian or English. If the documents are in another language, they must be accompanied by a free translation into Italian or English; the translation may be carried out directly by the candidates.

Foreign qualifications are deemed admissible by the Selection Committee solely for the purposes of participation in the selection procedure. The formal verification of the qualification will be carried out after the winners have been identified, upon submission of all required documentation.

Winners who obtained their qualification in a non-EU country must, within 30 days from the date of the selection outcome, submit to the Department/Structure one of the following documents attesting to the value of the qualification:

- Diploma Supplement;
- declaration of value issued by the Italian diplomatic authorities in the country where the qualification was obtained;
- certificate of authenticity and comparability issued by centers such as ENIC-NARIC.

The “Documentation relating to the value of foreign qualifications” webpage provides details on the available procedures, accepted documents, and cases of exemption. All documents must be in Italian or English.

The offices reserve the right to request the original paper documentation for inspection, if deemed necessary.

The fellowship shall be revoked if the required documents are not received by the Department/Structure within the above deadline, or in the event of a negative outcome of the formal checks.

Article 8 – Selection Procedure and Evaluation Criteria

The selection of applications is carried out by an Examination Committee, appointed pursuant to Article 7 of the Regulation on Research Fellowships.

The selection takes place through the evaluation of the qualifications and curriculum submitted by each candidate, with the assignment of the corresponding score, and through a subsequent interview aimed at assessing the candidate’s aptitude for carrying out the research topic covered by the fellowship.

Before proceeding with the evaluation, the Examination Committee establishes the overall score to be awarded, which in any case may not exceed 100 points.

The scores will be assigned as follows:

a) Advanced knowledge of R, ArcGIS and Stata and/or theoretical models of state-building: maximum 40 points

b) Previous experience with archaeological data on Bronze Age Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley and/or Liangzhu culture: maximum 40 points

c) Excellent command of written and spoken English: maximum 20 points.

The minimum score required for eligibility in the ranking is 60/100 points.

Based on the scores awarded, the Committee will draw up a final merit ranking list of suitable candidates and identify the winner. In the event of a tie, the younger candidate shall be designated.

This ranking list of suitable candidates will remain valid for a maximum of one year and may be used exclusively for the same research purposes specified in this call for applications.

Article 9 – Awarding of the Fellowship

Once the documents relating to the selection procedure have been received, the Director of the Department/Structure shall, by means of his/her own decree, approve the ranking list drawn up by the Committee, which will be published on the “Calls, Tenders and Competitions” website <http://bandi.unibo.it/ricerca/...>

The ranking list, indicating the name and surname of the winner, will be published no later than 22/10/2025

Article 10 – Acceptance of the Fellowship

The signing of the declaration of acceptance of the fellowship by the winner must take place within the deadline established by the Department/Structure in the decree approving the ranking list and implies unconditional acceptance of the conditions set out in this call for applications and in the University regulations.

Failure to accept within the deadlines communicated by the Department/Structure shall automatically result in forfeiture, pursuant to Article 8 of the Regulation on Research Fellowships. It also implies a declaration, made under the winner's own responsibility, of not incurring any of the prohibitions or incompatibilities set forth in this call and in the Regulation on Research Fellowships.

The ranking list shall be used in the order in which it is drawn up. In the event of withdrawal or failure to accept within the deadlines communicated by the Department/Structure, or in the event of early termination of the fellowship, it may be awarded to another candidate. In such case, the order of the final merit ranking list must in any case be respected, in accordance with Article 7 of the Regulation on Research Fellowships, and the remaining duration of the fellowship may not be shorter than the minimum duration of fellowships established by the Regulation itself.

Article 11 – Rights and Duties of Research Fellowship Holders

The fellowship holder is required to carry out the research activity for which the fellowship is awarded, in compliance with the training program prepared by the Tutor and under his/her supervision. Reference is made to the provisions of Article 9 of the Regulation on Research Fellowships.

Non-EU fellowship holders must comply with Italian immigration law. The fellowship may be revoked if the holder fails to demonstrate possession of a residence permit that allows the performance of the activities covered by the fellowship in Italy.

Article 12 – Procedure's Responsible and Authorization to Request Exceptions to the Minimum Duration/Extensions

Pursuant to Article 5 of Law No. 241 of August 7, 1990, and subsequent amendments, the person responsible for the administrative procedure of this selection is Annamaria Iembo.

Under the current Regulation, the Tutor is expressly granted the authority to:

- initiate the procedure for extending the fellowship beyond the 24-month limit, by submitting to the Pro-Rector for Research a duly reasoned request, with the prior

approval of the relevant Department/Structure governing body, and with the acknowledgment signature of the fellowship holder;

- initiate the procedure for requesting an exception to the minimum duration of the fellowship to be announced, by submitting to the Pro-Rector a duly reasoned request, with the prior approval of the competent Department/Structure governing body.

Article 13 – Personal Data.

Pursuant to Article 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and the Council of 27 April 2016), candidates are advised that the personal data provided by them during the selection procedure or obtained for that purpose by Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna will be processed solely for the purpose of conducting the competition and by persons responsible for the competition procedure and by the Examination Board at Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna. The data will be processed using also computerised procedures, in the manner and to the extent required in order to achieve the aforementioned purposes, including the possible disclosure to third parties. The provision of such data is necessary in order to verify the candidates' qualifications and that they meet the participation requirements. Failure to provide this data may hinder this verification. Candidates have the rights referred to in Articles 15 et seq. of the aforementioned Regulation (EU) 2016/679, in particular the right to access their data, to request and obtain the rectification, erasure or restriction on processing of their data, as well as the right to object to the processing of their data. Candidates may exercise these rights by emailing Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna at privacy@unibo.it. Data subjects who believe that their personal data have been processed in violation of the requirements of the Regulation may file a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority, as provided for by Article 77 of the above Regulation, or seek an effective judicial remedy (Article 79 of the above Regulation). The Data Controller is Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna (headquarters: via Zamboni 33, 40126 - Bologna, Italy; email: privacy@unibo.it; PEC: scriviunibo@pec.unibo.it). The contact details for the Data Protection Officer are: headquarters: via Zamboni 33, 40126 - Bologna, Italy; email: dpo@unibo.it; PEC: scriviunibo@pec.unibo.it. Further information can be found in the relative privacy policy available on the website www.unibo.en/privacy/

Professor Carlotta Berti Ceroni
Head of the Department of Economics

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