



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DIPARTIMENTO
DI INFORMATICA
SCIENZA E INGEGNERIA

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS, BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS AND INTERVIEW, FOR “SCHOLARS AT RISK”
UNDER THE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS AT RISK MEASURE 2025, FOR RESEARCH ACTIVITIES ENTITLED
“GenAI FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION”**

Deadline: 23/08/2026

THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

Whereas, for the year 2025, the University of Bologna promoted the Scholars at Risk (SAR) Measure with the aim of hosting researchers, postdoctoral fellows and lecturers from areas at risk due to conflicts or geopolitical crises, offering research opportunities at its campuses;

Acknowledging the growing number of Scholars at risk worldwide who seek protection at universities in European Union Member States, and considering the University of Bologna’s membership in the international Scholars at Risk (SAR) network and SAR-Italy;

Having regard to Article 2222 et seq. of the Italian Civil Code;

Having regard to Article 7 of Italian Legislative Decree No. 165/2001, as subsequently amended and supplemented;

Having regard to Italian Law No. 240/2010 concerning the organisation of universities, academic staff and recruitment, as well as the delegation to the Government to promote the quality and efficiency of the university system;

Having regard to Italian Legislative Decree No. 33/2013, as subsequently amended and supplemented, reorganising the rules on the right of civic access and the obligations of publicity, transparency and dissemination of information by public administrations;

Having regard to Article 1, paragraph 303, of the 2017 Italian Budget Law No. 232 of 11/12/2016, which provides that, in order to foster the development of research activities at state universities and enhance the activities supporting their performance without additional costs to the State, the acts and contracts referred to in Article 7, paragraph 6, of Italian Legislative Decree No. 165 of 30 March 2001, entered into by state universities, are not subject to the prior control of the Court of



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Auditors provided for by Article 3, paragraph 1, letter f-bis), of Italian Law No. 20 of 14 January 1994;
Having regard to Law No. 49 of 21 April 2023, containing “Provisions on fair compensation for professional services”;

Considering that the University of Bologna has approved and funded the expression of interest for research activities entitled “GenAI for training and education”, submitted by the Department of Computer Science and Engineering - DISI;

Having regard to the Regulations on Visiting Professors and Visiting Scholars issued by Rector’s Decree No. 1175/2024 of 13/07/2024;

Having regard to the Operational Guide for the management of Visiting Professors and Visiting Scholars from abroad, which incorporates the contents of the University Visiting Guidelines;

Having regard to the resolution of the Department Council of 15/05/2026 authorising the award of the appointment referred to in Article 1 for the performance of the activities described therein;

Considering Objectives O.9, “Safeguard the freedom and autonomy of basic research and ensure research ethics and integrity”, and O.15, “Enhance the role of Alma Mater as a place of welcome for those under threat, including through participation in international networks”, of the University Strategic Plan 2022-2027;

HEREBY DECREES

to open a comparative selection procedure, based on the evaluation of qualifications and interview, for one Visiting Scholar position reserved for “at-risk” scholars under the SAR 2025 Measure, to carry out the research project entitled “GenAI for training and education”, under the supervision of Professor Luca Foschini, through the award of one self-employment contract pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree No. 165/2001.



Article 1

Project under which the appointment is to be awarded.

Duration, subject matter and place of performance of the appointment.

The appointment will have a duration of 12 months for a research project entitled “GenAI for training and education”, with an indicative commitment of approximately 1000 hours in total.

The annual gross cost to the institution of the self-employment contract is €27,000.00.

Objectives and Project

The appointment concerns the development of educational methodologies and GenAI-based tools to personalise training, hands-on learning and advanced digital skills.

Subject matter of the appointment.

The “GenAI for training and education” project aims to develop and evaluate innovative methodologies based on Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) to support teaching, learning and vocational training processes. The research will focus on designing intelligent educational tools capable of personalising teaching content, improving teacher-student interaction and fostering the acquisition of digital and analytical skills.

The research will be carried out by integrating multidisciplinary expertise in machine learning, data science, programming and educational technologies, with particular attention to practical application in school and training contexts, such as technical education and the teaching of artificial intelligence to students and young learners, including educational programmes aimed at young people aged 13 to 16.

The activities will include the development of GenAI prototypes for intelligent tutoring, automatic generation of teaching materials, support for personalised learning and the creation of interactive training environments. Aspects relating to pedagogical effectiveness, accessibility and the ethical use of AI in educational processes will also be analysed.

Place of performance

The activities will be carried out mainly at the Department or at other University facilities that are functional to achieving the project objectives.

Article 2 - Admission requirements

Only scholars who fall into one of the following categories may apply:



- 1) citizens of/residents in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq or Iran; or
- 2) refugees from Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq or Iran; or
- 3) refugees in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq or Iran; or
- 4) displaced persons from Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq or Iran; or
- 5) holders of a permanent residence permit in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq or Iran;

and who have a curriculum vitae suitable for carrying out the research activity and a Master's degree, single-cycle degree or degree awarded under the previous Italian university system in **Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Physics or Computational Physics**, or an equivalent qualification obtained abroad.

For an equivalent qualification obtained abroad, the application must include documents enabling the Selection Committee to assess equivalence solely for the purpose of admission to the selection procedure.

The following persons may not take part in this procedure:

- permanent staff employed on open-ended contracts by universities, public research bodies and institutions whose advanced scientific diploma has been recognised as equivalent to a PhD pursuant to Article 74, fourth paragraph, of Italian Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11 July 1980;
- persons related by blood or marriage, up to and including the fourth degree, to a Professor belonging to the Department proposing the activation of the contract, or to the Rector, the General Manager, or a member of the University's Board of Governors. In addition, staff who have taken early retirement based on length of service pursuant to Article 25 of Italian Law No. 724/1995 may not participate at the selection.

The required qualifications must be held on the deadline date of this call for applications.

Failure to meet or properly declare the required eligibility requirements shall lead to exclusion from the selection procedure.

Applications submitted under this Call are not eligible to receive, concurrently, any other funding



provided by the University of Bologna for incoming mobility in the academic year 2026/2027.

Article 3 - Application procedure

The application, prepared using the form attached to this notice (Annex 1), addressed as specified and accompanied by the documentation listed below, must be received by this Administration no later than **23/08/2026 at 23:59 (Europe/Brussels time)**, under penalty of exclusion.

Candidates may submit their application using one of the following methods:

- **by email**, sent from the candidate's personal email address (the same address indicated in the application) to disi.amministrazione@unibo.it and carmelo.geraci@unibo.it, with the subject line "**BANDO S.A.R. PROF. FOSCHINI**", attaching the duly completed and signed application and all other required documents in PDF format, together with a scanned copy of a valid identity document;
- **by fax** to +39 051 208 6369 (to the attention of Dr Carmelo Sergio Geraci), attaching the duly completed and signed application, all other required documents and a valid identity document.

The date on which applications are deemed received shall be established and evidenced as follows:

- for applications sent by email: the date on which the email is sent;
- for applications sent by fax: the date on which the fax is received.

Applications that are unsigned, received after the above deadline, or submitted by any other method will be excluded.

In the application, candidates must declare, under their own responsibility:

1. surname and first name;
2. date and place of birth;
3. citizenship;
4. residence and/or address elected for the purposes of the selection procedure;



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5. email address for communications;
6. that they have no criminal convictions and no pending criminal proceedings (otherwise, details must be provided);
7. possession of the qualification required under Article 2 of this call, together with the relevant information. Candidates holding a qualification obtained abroad must attach an Italian or English translation of the foreign qualification, accompanied by a self-declaration certifying that the translation conforms to the original;
8. that they are not employed on an open-ended contract by the institutions referred to in Article 22(1) of Italian Law No. 240/2010 (universities, public research bodies and institutions whose advanced scientific diploma has been recognised as equivalent to a PhD pursuant to Article 74, fourth paragraph, of Italian Presidential Decree No. 382 of 11 July 1980);
9. that they are not related by blood or marriage, up to and including the fourth degree, to a Professor belonging to the Department proposing the activation of the contract, or to the Rector, the General Manager or a member of the University's Board of Governors.

This Call for Applications will be published on the University portal at <https://bandi.unibo.it/collaborazioni/incarichi> and on the website of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at <https://disi.unibo.it/it>

Any communications will be sent to candidates exclusively at the email address indicated in the application. Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna accepts no responsibility for failure to receive an email. Candidates are nevertheless responsible for keeping themselves informed by consulting the selection website for the information required regarding the procedure.

Candidates must attach the following documents to the application:

- their academic and professional curriculum vitae, together with the SAR form published on the call webpage, duly completed and signed;
- the qualification required under Article 2. Candidates holding a qualification obtained abroad must attach an Italian or English translation of the foreign qualification, accompanied by a self-certification that the translation conforms to the original;



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- a list of publications;
- any additional documentation considered useful for the assessment of qualifications, supplementing the curriculum vitae;
- a copy of a valid identity and identification document.

Qualifications may be self-certified through a statutory declaration or through statements included in the CV.

Only documents actually attached to the application will be assessed.

Documents, publications and qualifications in English, French, German and Spanish may be submitted in the original language. Documents and qualifications drawn up in other languages must be submitted in the original language together with an Italian or English translation. For the purpose of verifying the authenticity and value of the qualification referred to in Article 2, the successful candidate may be required to submit the necessary supporting documentation where verification cannot be carried out directly by the Administration.

For further information: <https://www.unibo.it/it/studiare/iscrizioni-tasse-e-altre-procedure/lauree-e-lauree-magistrali/traduzione-autenticita-e-valore-dei-titoli-di-studio-esteri>

Article 4 - Mandatory requirements for candidates, under penalty of exclusion

The following will result in automatic exclusion from the selection procedure:

- failure to comply with the deadlines and methods for submitting the application;
- failure to meet the requirements set out in Article 2 of this call.

All candidates are admitted to the selection subject to verification that they actually meet the requirements for participation. The Administration may order exclusion from the selection at any time.

Article 5 - Admission, selection methods, ranking list and communications to candidates

The selection will be based on the assessment of qualifications and a technical-practical interview and will be conducted by a Committee of experts appointed by the Department Council at its meeting of 15/05/2026.



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The Committee shall appoint a Chair and a Recording Secretary from among its members.

Candidates excluded from the procedure will be notified by email.

Candidates who have not received notice of exclusion by the interview date must take the oral examination remotely by audio-video conference using Microsoft Teams. The workstation from which candidates take the examination must be equipped with a webcam - essential for identifying the candidate - a microphone, and headphones and/or speakers.

At the beginning of the remote interview, candidates must show the Committee the same identity document submitted with the application.

Interviews will be held on **Monday, 14th September 2026, starting at 11:00 (Europe/Brussels time)**.

This notice constitutes formal notification to all candidates participating in the selection, and no further communication will be sent.

During the interview, knowledge and skills in the following areas will be assessed:

- Applications of Generative AI in educational and training processes.
- Machine learning, data science and development of AI tools for personalised learning.
- Digital technologies for intelligent tutoring, automatic generation of teaching content and analysis of educational data.

The candidate's professional curriculum vitae will also be discussed.

The interview will be deemed passed with a score of at least 21/30 or equivalent.

The categories of qualifications listed in Annex 3 to this notice will be assessed according to the scoring system described therein. The total score may not exceed 10 points.

Qualifications received after the deadline for submitting applications will not be assessed.

Qualifications may be self-certified through a statutory declaration or through statements included



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in the CV.

Qualifications will be assessed after the interview and only for candidates who have passed it.

The result of the qualifications assessment will be communicated to the persons concerned together with publication of the final selection results.

The overall final score (maximum 40 points) will be the sum of:

- score obtained in the interview (maximum 30 points);
- score awarded for the qualifications listed in Annex 3 (maximum 10 points).

At the end of the selection procedure, the Committee will draw up a **general merit ranking list**, valid for 6 months, which may be used if the successful candidate declines the appointment. In the event of equal merit, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

The Director of the Department will approve the ranking list drawn up by the Committee by means of a formal measure. The ranking list will be published on the University portal at <https://bandi.unibo.it/collaborazioni/incarichi>

The decree approving the proceedings will be sent by email to the successful candidate and to the eligible candidates included in the ranking list.

The successful candidate will be required to enter into a hosting agreement with the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

Article 6 - Total remuneration and performance arrangements

The gross remuneration for the entire duration of the contract is €27,000.00 (twenty-seven thousand/00), inclusive of all tax, social security and insurance charges payable by the employer and the contractor. The University will pay the charges due in accordance with the law.

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering will cover registration with the Italian National Health Service (SSN).

After the hosting agreement has been signed, the Department will enable the successful candidate



to apply for a research visa and, upon entry, for a residence permit. It is the responsibility of the Visiting Scholar to enter and remain in Italy in compliance with Italian immigration regulations (e.g. visa and residence permit) in relation to the activities to be carried out at the University of Bologna (<https://intranet.unibo.it/ateneo/web2/Pagine/VisitingDocentiRicercatoriStudiosiNonUelIngressoSoggiorno.aspx>).

The remuneration will be paid in deferred two-monthly instalments and will be conditional upon a declaration of satisfactory performance issued by the person responsible for supervising performance, Professor Luca Foschini.

During the stay in Bologna, the Visiting Scholar must obtain adequate insurance cover for third-party civil liability, which may also be arranged through the University's insurance broker.

Pursuant to Articles 2222 et seq. of the Italian Civil Code, the work covered by this contract is performed by the contractor within a working relationship that is not subordinate employment and entails performance without fixed working hours or hierarchical constraints.

For the performance of these activities, the contractor must organise his work independently, while having access to the documentation and facilities of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, without this in any way resulting in stable integration into the organisation of the University of Bologna. For the entire period of the stay, the host structure will provide the Visiting Scholar with adequate premises and equipment for the planned activities, access to the University's laboratories, libraries and IT resources, as well as administrative and information assistance and support.

In particular, in performing the services, the contractor shall:

- carry out the work entirely independently;
- act without any relationship of subordination, without coordination with the University's activities and without stable integration into its organisation;
- determine the technical and scientific methods for carrying out the services, while complying with the deadline agreed with the University.



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The Visiting Scholar undertakes to comply with the rules and instructions on accident prevention, workplace safety and health protection and to attend any mandatory training courses, where required.

The Visiting Scholar undertakes to comply fully with and apply the provisions of the University Code of Ethics, available at: www.unibo.it/codiceetico

This contract does not create an exclusive relationship with the University.

The contractor shall personally perform the required activities and may not use substitutes.

Article 7 - Award of the appointment

The Administration reserves the right not to enter into the contract where reasons of public interest exist or arise, or where the applications are not deemed suitable at the Administration's sole discretion.

Once the person to whom the appointment is to be awarded has been identified, the Administration will verify the truthfulness of the declarations submitted and then enter into the contract.

For any further information on the research activity plan, please contact Professor Luca Foschini at: luca.foschini@unibo.it

For any further information on the call, please contact Dr Carmelo Sergio Geraci at: carmelo.geraci@unibo.it

Article 8 - Monitoring and final report

The Visiting Scholar's activities will be monitored and periodically assessed by the proposing academic, with specific reference to the agreed contribution and objectives.

To enhance the scientific collaboration, the Visiting Scholar shall prepare a final report on the activities carried out.

Article 9 - Final provisions and data processing

For the purposes of applying the provisions of Italian Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990, the person responsible for the procedure is Dr Teresa Maria Libonati, Tel. +39 051 2094873, email: teresamaria.libonati@unibo.it.



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Pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Legislative Decree No. 196/2003, as subsequently amended and supplemented, the personal data provided by candidates will be processed exclusively for the purposes of managing the selection procedure. The privacy notice is available at the following link:

<https://www.unibo.it/it/ateneo/privacy-e-note-legali/privacy/informative-sul-trattamento-dei-dati-personali>.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
PROFESSOR ANDREA OMICINI

Document digitally signed pursuant to
Italian Legislative Decree No. 82 of 7
March 2005 and Prime Ministerial
Decree of 22nd February 2013, as
subsequently amended and
supplemented.