

# Regulations of the International PhD College of the Collegio Superiore

Issued with Rector's Decree no. 1183/2022 of 27/07/2022  
and subsequently amended by Rector's Decree no. 1300/2023 prot. 290699 dated 09/10/2023

## Art. 1 – Definition

1. The Collegio Superiore, which is based in Bologna, is a branch of the Istituto di Studi Superiori of the Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna. Its governance, organisational structure and regulations are laid down in accordance with the goals, purposes and organisational plan referred to in the Regulations of the Istituto di Studi Superiori, as established by the Rectoral Decree D.R. ref. no. 234/2014, protocol no. 17925 of 27/03/2014, pursuant to and for the purposes of Article 26 of the University Statute.
2. The Collegio Superiore provides its training activities to Collegiate students enrolled in a first-cycle, second-cycle or third-cycle degree programme at the University of Bologna.
3. The third-cycle, called “International PhD College” (hereinafter, the “I-PhD College”), is a training and research course held by the Collegio Superiore in agreement with the Institute of Advanced Studies (hereinafter, the “ISA”) and is complementary to the University of Bologna PhD programmes. It covers two main disciplinary areas:
  - a) The humanities and social sciences area, which includes PhD programmes in the humanities and in legal, political, economic and statistical sciences.
  - b) The scientific and technological area, which includes PhD programmes in biological, geological and agricultural sciences, “engineering studies, mathematical, physical, chemical and astronomical sciences, and medical, pharmaceutical and veterinary sciences.
4. These Regulations shall govern the aims and organisation of the Collegio's training and research activities.

## Art. 2 – Aims of the I-PhD College

1. The I-PhD College aims to promote interdisciplinary and advanced research and training pathways that are complementary to and do not overlap with students' PhD programmes. The I-PhD College accepts PhD students who are enrolled at the University of Bologna and who have passed an entrance exam, and provides them with extracurricular research and training courses. All students are provided with accommodation in the College's Halls of Residence.
2. The I-PhD College works in close collaboration with the ISA, the University of Bologna's PhD programmes and Departments, and similar institutions in Italy and abroad.

## Art. 3 – Training and research activities

1. I-PhD College students are expected to develop interdisciplinary research projects and co-working activities on cross-cutting topics, to be completed by the end of their three-year period at the I-PhD College. Co-working activities are research activities that the I-PhD College students carry out in small groups overseen by a University Tutor appointed by the Collegio Superiore. After completing their activities, the PhD students are required to submit at least one product that makes a contribution to civil society in terms of the dissemination and communication of science and knowledge.
2. The interdisciplinary topics for students' research projects and co-working activities will be proposed by the Scientific Board of the ISA together with the Scientific Council of the Collegio Superiore when each new cohort is enrolled. The topics must be approved by the Scientific Council of the Collegio, taking into account any suggestions put forward by the students, and their Tutors.
3. The I-PhD College students must actively participate in meetings and projects arranged by the ISA, as well as attend at least 8 ISA Lectures each year (4 ISA Lectures correspond to 1 CFU).
4. The I-PhD College students must obtain at least 3 CFUs over the three years of their third cycle, consisting of specially prepared interdisciplinary training activities, which are presented at the beginning of each academic year as part of the Collegio's teaching programme.

5. At the end of each academic year, each I-PhD College students must submit a short, written report on their activities and on the progress of their interdisciplinary project. The deadline for submission will be communicated by the Scientific Council of the Collegio.

6. In order to promote international and interdisciplinary dialogue and collaboration, the Collegio may provide bursaries for international exchanges with other national and international Higher Institutes and Schools.

#### **Art. 4 – Tutor: definitions and tasks**

1. Each I-PhD College student will be supervised by a University Tutor, who will be a faculty member from a different disciplinary area (in accordance with Article 1), who will be selected from among the Tutors of the Collegio Superiore or members of the Scientific Board of the ISA.

2. The Tutor's tasks:

a) Support the I-PhD student in identifying the topic of their interdisciplinary research and supervise their research activities, also in cooperation with Tutors overseeing other students in the same co-working group.

b) Support the PhD student in identifying results from their research which can be made available to the community/civil society;

c) Submit an annual report on their Tutee's activities, to certify whether or not the Tutee has met the requirements for continued enrolment in the I-PhD College.

#### **Art. 5 – Collegio Superiore Diploma**

1.1 At the end of a student's three-year enrolment at the I-PhD College, they must pass a final exam which consists of a public presentation and discussion of their co-working research activities and results. The exam will be scheduled at the beginning of each academic year.

1.2 I-PHD College students who are enrolled in PhD programmes lasting more than three years must complete their co-working activities within the first three years, after which they retain their status as I-PHD College students for the time required to complete their PhD programme.

2. I-PhD College students who meet the requirements of the programme, as outlined in these Regulations, will be awarded a Diploma by the Collegio Superiore after obtaining their PhD degree.

#### **Art. 6 – Admission**

1. Students are selected for admission to the I-PhD via a call for applications, which is published annually, as part of the application procedures for the University of Bologna PhD programmes. The number of positions available will be established by the Istituto di Studi Superiori on an annual basis.

2. All students who have been admitted to a PhD programme at the University of Bologna are eligible for admission to the I-PhD College.

3. PhD students who have applied for admission to the I-PhD College will be selected by a committee composed of the Tutors of the Collegio and members of the Scientific Board of the ISA, appointed by the Director of the Collegio.

#### **Art.6.1 - Accommodation**

1. Students can be admitted to the I-PHD College with or without accommodation.

2. Students will either be provided with free accommodation in a residence hall or, with a subsidy to help cover the cost of renting private accommodation.

3. The number of places available and the type of accommodation provision made will be established each year by the Academic Bodies on the basis of a proposal from the Board of the Istituto di Studi Superiori.

#### **Art. 7 – Requirements to remain in the I-PhD College**

1. Students who are admitted to the I-PHD College are required to fulfil the learning requirements set out in art. 3, paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 5, and in art. 5. It is the responsibility of the Scientific Council of the Collegio to assess whether these requirements have been fulfilled. The assessment will be based on the annual report submitted by the PhD student (see art. 3, para. 5), and on the annual report submitted by their Tutor (see

art. 4, para. 2 c). The assessment will take into account any failure to comply with the Regulations of the Istituto di Studi Superiori, as well as any disciplinary procedures the student may have incurred.

2. The accommodation provision referred to in art. 6.1 will be renewed annually for a maximum of 3 consecutive years, following a positive assessment by the Scientific Board of the Collegio Superiore referred to in paragraph 1 above. Note that students enrolled in 4-year PhD programmes are only entitled to accommodation provision by the I-PHD College for 3 years.

3. *deleted paragraph*

4. *deleted paragraph*

#### **Art. 7.1 - Withdrawal, loss of student status, and exclusion**

1. When students are admitted to the I-PHD College they can choose not to make use of the accommodation provision (see art. 6.1) by giving notice within the terms and conditions indicated in the call for applications. Note that this choice will apply to all 3 years of the I-PHD College programme.

2. From the second year onwards, students who have been provided accommodation in hall or an accommodation subsidy can renounce this provision at any time, with a minimum of 30 days' notice, without forfeiting their status as I-PHD College student.

3. Failure to comply with the obligations set out in art. 3, paragraphs 1, 3, 4 and 5, and in art. 5, and with the provisions of art. 7 will result in the student automatically forfeiting their status as I-PHD College student.

4. In the event of a student withdrawing from, or being excluded from, their University PhD programme, they will automatically lose their status as I-PHD College student and will cease their coworking research activities.

5. Students who renounce or lose their student status must vacate their assigned residence within 30 days from the date their change of status was formally communicated. The renunciation will apply to the remainder of the I-PHD College programme. Students who renounce or lose their student status are not entitled to any accommodation benefits. If they have received a subsidy towards rental costs, they must return all funds for the entire academic year.

6. If a student withdraws from the I-PHD College programme for any reason, the working group may continue to use the results achieved up to that point, as stated at the time of admission.

#### **Art. 7.2 - Disciplinary rules**

1. The I-PHD College students must comply with the disciplinary rules and are subject to the corresponding measures laid down in the Regulation of disciplinary procedures for students. At all times, mutual respect is strictly required in all relationships among PhD students and between them and the staff of the Collegio and ISA.

2. All I-PHD College students must abide by the regulations of the Hall of Residence facilities provided by the Collegio Superiore, and the regulations of the accommodation services provided by the Istituto di Studi Superiori.

3. Any breach of the rules and regulations can result in the application of penalties and disciplinary measures. In cases of repeated and unjustified absence from the initiatives of the College, or in cases of unsuitable behaviour within the residence, the Board of the Istituto di Studi Superiori withdraw all accommodation benefits and expel the PhD student from the International PhD College.

#### **Art. 8 – Entry into force, final and temporary provisions**

1. Unless otherwise specified, these Regulations come into force 15 days after the date of publication in the University Official Bulletin, and apply to PhD students admitted to the I-PhD College from the academic year 2022/23 onwards.

2. Any matters not explicitly covered by these Regulations shall be governed by current national and European Union legislation and by the applicable University Regulations, Regulations of the Collegio Superiore and Regulations of the Istituto di Studi Superiori.