

**Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Biotechnologies**  
**Call for applications for EU and EU-equated students**  
**Instructions for candidates holding a foreign qualification**



**School:** Medicine

**Duration:** 2 years (120 ECTS)

**Study location:** Padua, Italy

**Programme structure:**

[unipd.it/en/pharmaceutical-biotechnologies](https://unipd.it/en/pharmaceutical-biotechnologies)

**Programme coordinator:** Stefano Salmaso

**Contacts:** [internationaldesk.medicinachirurgia@unipd.it](mailto:internationaldesk.medicinachirurgia@unipd.it)

**Department:** Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences

**Start date:** October

**Teaching mode:** In-person teaching

**Language:** English

**Application period:** 15 July 2026 - 25 August 2026

**Selection:** EU and EU equated citizens

**Available Places:** 40 (including candidates with foreign and Italian qualification)

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The following selection processes apply to **EU and EU-equated citizens** with a foreign qualification:

- candidates with EU nationality, including dual citizenship (non-EU and EU) and citizens of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, San Marino;
- non-EU candidates holding a valid Italian residence permit which allows enrolment at university as per existing regulations or EU long-term residence permit.

**Non-EU candidates residing abroad** (study visa applicants): refer to the specific *Call for applications*.

**Candidates with Italian qualifications:** consult the *Annex* for students with Italian qualifications, regardless of citizenship.

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**Entry requirements:**

- A minimum three-year **undergraduate degree** (or equivalent) to be obtained by September 30, 2026. The eligibility of the degree is assessed as specified at: [unipd.it/en/how-apply](https://unipd.it/en/how-apply); [unipd.it/en/entry-title-requirements](https://unipd.it/en/entry-title-requirements). **Specific curricular requirements** indicated in the **admission requirements** section must be met.
- **English language: B2 level** (CEFR) or equivalent to be achieved by August 25, 2026. The full list of accepted certificates, minimum scores and exemptions is available at: <https://www.unipd.it/en/language-requirement>

**Entry test**

- On-site **admission test**, with a **score of 25/60 or higher**.

More information can be found in the **Selection criteria and procedure** section.

**Application procedure:**

Applications must be submitted starting from **July 15, 2026** via the online application platform for international students:

<https://apply.unipd.it/>

1. Register on [apply.unipd.it](https://apply.unipd.it/);
2. Sign in and complete your application; make sure to fill in all the fields and upload all necessary documents;
3. Pay the € 60.00 application fee. The application fee is not refundable;
4. Submit the application by clicking on the *Submit* button by **August 25, 2026** (11:59 am - local time - GMT+2).

Paying the application fee and/or filling out the application does not give the right to be considered for the selection round if the application has not been confirmed and submitted through [apply.unipd.it](https://www.unipd.it) by August 25, 2026 (11:59 am local time GMT+2).

#### Required documents:

In order to submit your application, you will need to upload the following documents:

- Valid **Identity document** or **Passport**;
- **Academic transcript of records** with the full list of exams taken, the grades obtained and the grading scale and **Bachelor's degree diploma** (if already obtained). Please verify country-based specific entry title requirements at the following link: <https://www.unipd.it/en/entry-title-requirements>;
- **Official translations in Italian or in English** if academic documents are issued only in a language other than Italian/English;
- **English language proficiency certificate** of at least **B2 level** (CEFR) (if already obtained). The full list of accepted certificates, minimum scores and exemptions is available at the following link: <https://www.unipd.it/en/language-requirement>;
- Curriculum Vitae

If not possessed at the application stage, the proof of **English language proficiency** of at least **B2 level** (CEFR) and the **Bachelor's degree diploma** must be obtained and submitted by:

- **August 25, 2026** for the proof of English language proficiency of at least B2 level (CEFR);
- **September 30, 2026** for the Bachelor's degree diploma.

If you are admitted to the degree programme<sup>1</sup>, to complete enrolment you will have to submit one of the following documents by **October 31, 2026**:

- **Legalisation** of academic documents by the **Italian Embassy/Consulate** of the Country of degree issuance;
- **Apostille** affixed by the competent authority for [Hague Convention member Countries](#);
- **Statement of verification** issued from CIMEA obtained, upon payment, through a [MyDiplome](#) account.

The Statement of Comparability of the Bachelor's degree issued by CIMEA may be requested if further verification of the qualification is deemed necessary. The certification can be obtained, upon payment, through a [MyDiplome account](#).

#### Admission requirements:

A minimum three-year undergraduate degree (or equivalent) in **Biotechnology, Pharmacy and Industrial Pharmacy, Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences and Technologies, Technical Health Professions** or related fields, with proven competencies in the following disciplinary areas is required:

- **Biology** (Physiology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Applied and Pharmaceutical Biology, Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Molecular Biology, Pharmacology, Human Anatomy, Histology, Genetics, General Microbiology);
- **Chemistry** (Analytical and Physical Chemistry, General and Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Industrial and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Food Chemistry, Applied Pharmaceutical Technology, Chemistry and Technology of Fermentations);
- **Medicine** (Medical Genetics, General Pathology, Microbiology and Clinical Microbiology);
- **Veterinary Science** (Anatomy of Domestic Animals, General Pathology and Veterinary Pathological Anatomy, Infectious Diseases of Domestic Animals, Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology).

#### Selection criteria and procedure:

The ranking is drawn up in descending order of score, in accordance with the Academic Regulations. The overall score is determined by the admission test (weight: 60%) and by the weighted average of the grades obtained

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<sup>1</sup> The activation of the first year of the study programmes is subject to their accreditation in accordance with Ministerial Decree 1154/2021 'Self-assessment, evaluation, initial and periodic accreditation of campuses and study programmes'. Therefore, the programme will not be activated if it is not accredited. The activation of any curricula is also subject to the enrolment of a minimum number of 5 students for each of them.

in the examinations taken to achieve the qualification required for admission (weight: 40%). In case of a tie in scores, priority is given to the younger candidate.

The verification of the required knowledge and the weighted average of grades will be carried out by the Committee on the basis of the candidate's academic background, in accordance with the curricular requirements and the personal preparation required to access the course. The Committee will consider only the credits already obtained at the time of application.

Admission to the degree program<sup>2</sup> is subject to meeting the entry requirements, the eligibility of the entry qualification, and successful completion of the admission test. Candidates who do not meet the admission requirements will not be able to access the degree programme, even if they pass the entrance test and are placed in a position that qualifies them for admission to the ranking list.

**Admission test procedure:**

Through the admission test, candidates' individual level of preparation is assessed. The admission test will be held on **September 2, 2026 at 9:30 am (local time, GMT+2)**.

From August 28, 2026 a document with all the information needed to take the test will be published on the following webpage: [www.unipd.it/ammissioni-med-pharmabio](http://www.unipd.it/ammissioni-med-pharmabio), including:

- the exact time candidates must report;
- the building and classroom assigned;
- any other relevant information and possible updates.

**Please note:** publication on this webpage is considered official communication to all candidates.

Candidates must bring a valid personal identification document to the test. Candidates who arrive after the test has started will not be allowed to take the test.

Information about the Committee and the rules for taking the test is available on the following webpage: [www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi](http://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-corsi).

The test, administered in English, consists of **60 multiple-choice questions** (only one correct answer) on the following topics:

<b>Sections</b>	<b>Number of questions</b>
Chemistry, Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Microbiology and Virology, Immunology	55
Reading comprehension of a scientific text	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>

The maximum time allowed to complete the test is **90 minutes**.

The admission test score is based on the following criteria:

- 1 point for each correct answer
- minus 0.1 points for each incorrect answer
- 0 points for each unanswered question.

To be included in the ranking, candidates must have achieved a **score higher than or equal to 25/60**.

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<sup>2</sup> The activation of the first year of the study programmes is subject to their accreditation in accordance with Ministerial Decree 1154/2021 'Self-assessment, evaluation, initial and periodic accreditation of campuses and study programmes'. Therefore, the programme will not be activated if it is not accredited. The activation of any curricula is also subject to the enrolment of a minimum number of 5 students for each of them.

### Request for a personalised test:

Candidates with a **disability**, or **specific learning disabilities (SLD)**, pursuant to Article 16 of Legge (Law) no. 104/1992 and Legge (Law) no. 170/2010, may request an admission test with additional time and/or customised support, by attaching the following documentation to the dedicated task on the application platform [apply.unipd.it](https://apply.unipd.it) by August 25, 2026:

- certificate issued by the competent medical authority in the country of residence proving the type of disability and, where applicable, the recognised percentage of disability<sup>3</sup>;
- certificate of SLD diagnosis issued by local healthcare facilities, institutions or professionals accredited in the country of residence.<sup>4</sup> If issued before the age of 18, the diagnosis must not be more than 3 years old or must refer to the last cycle of studies. In case of completion of enrollment, the updated documentation, issued after reaching the age of majority, must be sent to [inclusionestudenti@unipd.it](mailto:inclusionestudenti@unipd.it) by September 30, 2027;
- Sworn translation into Italian or English and legalisation of the documentation submitted.

The Student Service Office - Inclusion Unit, which is in charge of examining these certificates, shall ascertain that the documentation certifies a condition of disability or SLD recognised by Italian law. Candidates will be able to check within the test delivery platform whether they have been assigned some special support<sup>5</sup>. Additional time may be granted: up to 50% more for disabilities, 30% for SLD<sup>6</sup>.

You can request an interview with the Inclusion Unit via the following link: [unipd.it/prenotazioniservizi/settore-inclusione/](https://unipd.it/prenotazioniservizi/settore-inclusione/)  
More information is available at: [unipd.it/en/resources-and-supports-students-disability-or-learning-disabilities](https://unipd.it/en/resources-and-supports-students-disability-or-learning-disabilities)

### Selection results and acceptance:

The ranking list will be published at: [www.unipd.it/en/assessment-results](https://www.unipd.it/en/assessment-results) from **September 14, 2026**.

- Selected candidates will receive an **admission offer** via the application platform with instructions and a deadline for acceptance;
- To accept the offer, candidates must pay the **admission fee** by the given deadline. The current amount (€ 205) comprises the regional tax for the right to education and the revenue stamp. This amount is subject to annual updates by the Veneto Region. The admission fee is non-refundable.

Candidates who do not yet hold their entry qualification or proof of English language proficiency when selected are admitted conditionally and are required to submit the missing documents no later than:

- August 25, 2026 for the proof of English language proficiency of at least B2 level (CEFR);
- September 30, 2026 for the Bachelor's degree diploma.

Candidates who fail to meet the deadlines to accept the admission offer, pay the admission fee, or fulfill and submit the required documents will lose their place in the ranking list. Any forfeited place will be awarded to the next eligible candidate in the ranking.

Enrolment procedures will be fully completed after the verification of the authenticity of the required documents and the fulfilment of all conditions for enrolment eligibility. For further information, please check:

[www.unipd.it/en/studyenglish-how-enrol](https://www.unipd.it/en/studyenglish-how-enrol).

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<sup>3</sup> If the documentation has been issued in Italy, certificate of civil disability and/or certification according to Law No. 104 of 1992 must be issued by the competent medical commission for the territory.

<sup>4</sup> If the documentation has been issued in Italy, the diagnosis must be issued by public local health structures or by entities and professionals accredited with the regional health service and, if not specified, accompanied by a document proving the code, accreditation number, or conformity of the diagnosis. Personalized Educational Plans (PEP) are not accepted under any circumstances.

<sup>5</sup> Under no circumstances are tools such as dictionaries and/or vocabularies, formularies, periodic tables of elements, concept maps, computers (other than those used to take the test), tablets, smartphones, smart glasses and other similar tools permitted.

<sup>6</sup> In accordance with the provisions of the 'Guidelines on specific learning disorders' attached to Ministerial Decree no. 5669 of 12 July 2011.

## Student administration and support

### Funding and Fees

Annual fees up to € 3,000 (3 instalments).

Information on the contribution required for enrolment available at: <https://www.unipd.it/en/tuition-fees>

Information on scholarships and fee-waivers for international students available at:

<https://www.unipd.it/en/scholarships-international-students>

### Supports for students with disability or learning disabilities

Information on resources and supports for students with disabilities or learning disorder (SLD) available at:

<https://www.unipd.it/en/resources-and-supports-students-disability-or-learning-disabilities>

### Recognition of previous studies

Information on credits recognition available at: <https://www.unipd.it/en/credit-recognition>

The evaluation methods for previous academic careers, the admission criteria for each year of the course, and the procedures for the rankings for admission to years subsequent the first are listed in the didactic regulation of the course (Articles 9 and 10).

The number of places available in the second and third years for each course will be published on the page:

<https://www.unipd.it/avvisi-ammissione-lauree-magistrali>

### Information on the processing of personal data

Personal data shall be processed in compliance with the principles and provisions of EU Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation) and for the sole purposes of competition procedure. For detailed information:

<http://www.unipd.it/privacy>

### Dispute resolution

This call for applications is translated into English for informational purposes only. Should any disputes arise and for all legal purposes, only the Italian version shall be considered valid. For anything not specified in this Call for admission, reference should be made to the applicable Italian legislation.

### Final provisions

The person responsible for the administrative selection procedure and for the procedure for accessing documents is Dr Mattia Gusella, Head of the Global Engagement Office.

For further information please email [international.admission@unipd.it](mailto:international.admission@unipd.it)

Padua, *date of registration*

THE RECTOR

Prof.ssa Daniela Mapelli

*digitally signed pursuant to D.lgs (Legislative Decree) no. 82/2005*

## SYLLABUS

### **Chemistry**

*Atoms and molecules: structure and composition of matter; elements, isotopes, and electronic configurations; chemical bonds: ionic, covalent, and metallic; weak interactions such as hydrogen bonds and Van der Waals forces; states of matter and their physical transformations; chemical reactions and balancing, concept of the mole, molar mass, and Avogadro's number; reaction stoichiometry and calculation of reactant and product quantities; chemical thermodynamics: energy, enthalpy, entropy, and Gibbs free energy; spontaneity and equilibrium of reactions; chemical kinetics and factors affecting reaction rates; acids and bases, pH, and buffer solutions; solutions and concentrations (molarity, percentage, ppm).*

### **Biology**

*Structure and function of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells and their organelles; biological membranes: lipid composition, fluidity, active and passive transport; cell cycle and cell division (mitosis and meiosis); cellular transport and communication, signaling pathways, and programmed cell death (apoptosis, necrosis).*

### **Biochemistry**

*Biological macromolecules: structure, function, biosynthesis, and degradation of proteins, lipids, carbohydrates, and nucleic acids; protein structure and levels, domains and interactions (collagen, hemoglobin); enzymatic catalysis and kinetics ( $K_m$ ,  $V_{max}$ , inhibition, allosteric enzymes); analytical methods (chromatography, SDS-PAGE, Western blot); structure and function of biological membranes ( $Na^+K^+$ -ATPase, cholesterol); fundamental metabolic processes and cellular energetics (ATP, biochemical thermodynamics).*

### **Molecular**

### **Biology**

*Structure and properties of nucleic acids (DNA, RNA), Chargaff's rules, telomeres and telomerase; replication, transcription, and translation in prokaryotes and eukaryotes; regulation of gene expression (operons, constitutive genes, RNA interference, alternative splicing); mechanisms of protein quality control and degradation (ubiquitin, proteasomes, chaperones); molecular biology techniques: PCR, RT-PCR, gene cloning, sequencing, Southern/Northern blot, recombinant DNA, plasmids, expression vectors, YACs, CRISPR-Cas9; genetic engineering and biotechnology (GMOs, bioreactors, liposomes, gene therapy).*

### **Microbiology**

### **and**

### **Virology**

*Classification of microorganisms: bacteria, viruses, fungi, protozoa; bacterial structure: cell wall, LPS, teichoic acids, porins, capsules, pili, and flagella; mechanisms of gene transfer (conjugation, transformation, transduction); spores and resistance; viruses: structure (capsid, symmetry), DNA/RNA virus replication, retroviruses, lytic and latent infections; molecular diagnostics (PCR, genotyping); pathogenicity, host response, antibiotics, and resistance mechanisms; environmental and clinical microbiology.*

### **Immunology**

*Innate and adaptive immune systems; mechanisms of activation, regulation, and immunological memory; cellular and humoral responses, hypersensitivity, autoimmunity, and tumor immunology; vaccinations and immunoprophylaxis.*