

F.A.Q. CALL FOR N.40 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Here you can find the most frequently asked questions regarding the “**Call for n.40 scholarships for International Students**” for the a.y. 2018/19. Before contacting the International Cooperation and Foreign Students (ICU) Unit, please read through these FAQs.

For questions regarding the enrollment, please refer to the “Enrollment at Unime” webpage and FAQs: <http://www.unime.it/it/international/studenti-stranieri/enrollment-unime>

If you do not find the answer to your questions, please contact the ICU Unit at foreignstudents@unime.it

1. How can I apply for the “Call for n.40 scholarships for International Students”?

Only applications through the platform <https://istanze.unime.it/> will be accepted. You can also have a look at the video tutorial created for last year’s Call at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggYZd7iDlgg>

2. Can I apply to the call if I am not graduated yet but I will graduate before the start of the academic year?

No, applicants must be graduated at the time of application.

3. If I applied to last year call, can I apply again? Do I need to register or can I login with my old username and password?

Yes, you can apply again, using your old username and password.

4. What are the documents needed for the submission?

The documents needed for the submission are stated in the art. 3 of the Call. It is of utmost importance to upload the official transcript of records of your Bachelor degree, otherwise you will be directly excluded from the procedure.

5. What can I do if I don’t have a certificate of Italian/English language?

If you don’t have a certificate of Italian/English language or if your certificate is not among those stated in the art.2 of the Call, you will be evaluated on your language skills through a Skype-based test. By the 23rd of April 2018 you will receive an email with the date (a day between the 2nd and the 4th of May) and the time (from 9:00 to 17:00 – Italian time) of your Skype-based test. Tests will be conducted only using the Skype platform.

6. With my degree title, which Master Degree course can I apply to?

In order to be evaluated, your previous studies must be in line with the entry requirements of the chosen Master Degree course. You can verify entry requirements by clicking on the links available for each course in the Annex 1 of the “Call for n.40 scholarships for International Students”, available at the following link <http://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/Annex%201%20-List%20of%20Master%20degree%20courses.pdf>. Please note that the final decision will be taken by the Departmental Commission.

7. Which courses can international students apply for?

Foreign students can apply for all the courses offered by the University of Messina listed in the Annex 1 of the “Call for n.40 scholarships for International Students”, which are available at the following link <http://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/Annex%201%20-List%20of%20Master%20degree%20courses.pdf> and also on the application platform <https://istanze.unime.it/>

8. Do I need to upload the documents in original language or will the translated version be sufficient?

For documents written in a foreign language, different from English or Italian, you have to upload one single file including both the original and the translated version, either in English or Italian.

For documents written in English or Italian, you only need to upload the original version.

9. What does programmed access at National /Local level mean?

Some study courses have a limited number of places available each year and, if you are interested in studying them, you have to take an entrance examination. You can find the list of programmed access master degree courses available for this call in the Annex 1 of the “Call for n.40 scholarships for International Students”, available at the following link <http://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/Annex%201%20-List%20of%20Master%20degree%20courses.pdf>

There are two types of degree courses with programmed access:

- **at national level:** entrance examinations are held on the same day throughout Italy; dates of the tests, number of available places, methods and contents of the tests, and evaluation criteria are established directly by the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (Miur); more information are available at <https://www.universitaly.it/index.php/>
- **at local level:** it is the single university that, in complete autonomy and for a specific degree course, establishes an entrance examination. In this case, dates and criteria relating to the entrance examination vary from University to University and it is possible that the same degree course has a programmed access at a University and free access at another University.

10. What does it mean that the application is duly filled in?

The application is duly filled in if it complies with art.2 – *Eligibility criteria* – and art.3 – *Procedures and terms of application* – of the Call.

11. What should I do if I have problems with my submission?

Check the stability of your Internet connection and the video tutorial created for last year's Call at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggYZd7iDlgg>

If you still have problems with your submission, please write a new email to foreignstudents@unime.it, stating that you already checked your Internet connection and watched the video tutorial.

12. What happens after my submission?

After the call is closed, submissions will be sent to a Departmental Commission in charge of evaluating candidates' previous studies, considering the entry requirements of the selected Master degree course. If positively evaluated, you will receive a pre-acceptance letter by the 27th of April 2018. This does not mean that you have been awarded a scholarship, but at this point you can ask for an appointment at the Italian Diplomatic representation of your country to obtain the D visa and the necessary documents needed to enroll to the chosen Master degree.

If you pass the assessment of the Departmental Commission and you did not produce any language certificate as required by the art.2 of the Call, you will be evaluated on your language skills. By the 23rd of April 2018 you will receive an email with the date (a day between the 2nd and the 4th of May) and the time (from 9:00 to 17:00 – Italian time) of your Skype-based test.

If you pass the Skype-based test or if you produced a language certificate compliant with the Call, your application will be finally evaluated by a Central Commission. The Commission will evaluate your profile taking into account your curriculum vitae, with your learning and working experiences, and your reference letter.

The 21st of May 2018 the list of selected candidates will be published on the International section of UniME website: <http://www.unime.it/it/international>. Selected candidates must confirm the scholarship acceptance through the platform <https://istanze.unime.it/> by the 25th of May 2018 at 12:00 (Italian time).

After the confirmation, you will receive by email a document which certifies your status of scholarship beneficiary and the possibility to enroll at UniME. Please note that some Master degree courses require to take and pass an entry test to enroll (degree courses with programmed access at national/local level are listed in the Annex1 of the “Call for n.40 scholarships for International Students”, available at the following link <http://www.unime.it/sites/default/files/Annex%201%20-List%20of%20Master%20degree%20courses.pdf>)

13. How does the Skype-based test work?

If your candidacy is positively evaluated by the Departmental Commission, you will be contacted by the ICU Unit to provide your Skype address. The examination will start with a speaking part and will likely continue with a reading part, based on a text provided by the Linguistic Commission during the examination. Tests will be conducted only using the Skype platform.

14. Does the application submission imply the pre-enrollment at UniME?

No, application for the scholarship and pre-enrollment are two separate procedures.

Once submitted, your application will be assessed by a Departmental Commission charged to evaluate candidates' previous studies considering the entry requirements of the selected Master degree course.

If positively evaluated (i.e. your profile is in line with the entry requirements), you will receive a pre-acceptance letter no later than the 27th of April 2018. This does not mean that you are awarded the scholarship.

With the pre-acceptance letter you may ask for an appointment at the Italian Diplomatic representation to obtain the D visa and all the necessary documents needed to enroll in the chosen Master degree.

All information about the pre-enrollment procedures to Italian Universities are available at the following link: <http://www.unime.it/it/international/studenti-stranieri/enrollment-unime>. In particular, non-EU citizens resident abroad who do not have a valid Italian residence permit must submit a pre-enrollment request to the Italian Diplomatic representation in their country of residence.

15. What should I do if my country doesn't have an Italian Embassy or Consulate?

You have to go to the closest Italian Diplomatic representation to your country in order to start the pre-enrollment procedures.

16. What should I do if I realise that part of my application is incorrect after I have inserted it?

You can save and modify your application any time before submission. Applications cannot be amended once they have been submitted or the call has been closed for applications (after the 16th of March 2018 at 12:00 am (Italian time)).

17. I made some mistakes on the online procedure but I have already confirmed the data. Is it possible to modify the information declared?

If your application has been submitted and confirmed, it cannot be changed.

18. I have already submitted my application but I need to change some uploaded documents. What can I do?

If your application has been submitted and confirmed, you cannot add or change anything.

19. If I am already enrolled at UniME, can I apply to the Call?

No, unless you apply for the 1st year of a (new) Master Degree course. Be aware that, in this case, you have to start again the pre-enrollment procedure at the Italian Diplomatic representation of your country.

20. When will I Know if I am awarded a scholarship?

The list of selected candidates will be published on UniME's International Relations webpage (<http://www.unime.it/it/international>) on the 21st of May 2018

You will be required to formally accept the scholarship and its terms and conditions by logging to the <https://istanze.unime.it> by the 25th of May 2018 at 12:00 (Italian time).

21. What should I do if I decide to defer my admission or change my Master Degree course after I have been awarded the scholarship?

The scholarship can only be used for the Master Degree course and academic year for which it was awarded. If you defer the year of entry, the scholarship offer is withdrawn and you must then reapply.

22. If I am awarded a scholarship but I decide to renounce, will next year's scholarship offer be the same?

Our scholarships change yearly and you should check our website regularly. We normally advertise new scholarships on our website: <http://www.unime.it/it/international>

23. If I am not awarded a scholarship, how much are the tuition fees for enrolling in one of the graduate courses awarded by UniME?

Tuition fees amount to €750. For questions regarding the enrollment, please refer to the "Enrollment at Unime" webpage and FAQs: <http://www.unime.it/it/international/studenti-stranieri/enrollment-unime>

24. When do lessons start?

Lessons usually start at the end of September, but each department is autonomous. Please check departments' webpage called "Calendario didattico" for updated information. We suggests students to arrive no later than mid-September in irder to start residence permit and enrolment procedures.

25. Are there any Italian language courses for foreign students?

To enrolled scholarship beneficiaries UniME offers free Italian language courses for foreign students at the University Language Center (CLAM). Other foreign students enrolled at UniME can attend Italian language courses for foreign students upon payment at CLAM. For further information, please refer to the following website: <http://clam.unime.it/>

26. What is the cost of living in Messina?

Messina is not an expensive city. For a general idea, you may have a look at the following link: <https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Messina-Italy>

27. Can I study and work at the same time?

The stay permit for study purposes allows students to do a subordinate job for a maximum of 20 hours per week, cumulative for 52 weeks, with an annual limit of 1,040 hours, for the period of validity of the stay (Article 14, paragraph 4 Presidential Decree 394/99).

28. I have been awarded the scholarship. What should I do next?

First of all, congratulations! If you are among the final beneficiaries of the scholarship, you should have received a confirmation letter. Please hand in the confirmation letter to the Italian Diplomatic/Consular authority in your country in order to start pre-enrollment procedures.

29. I haven't been selected for the scholarship but I want to enrol to the University of Messina anyway. What should I do?

If you are not among the final beneficiaries of the scholarship, but you received the pre-acceptance letter on the 27th of April, you can still enroll at your own expense at the University of Messina. Please use the pre-acceptance letter received to start pre-enrollment procedures at the Italian Diplomatic/Consular authority in your country.