

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS BEING AWARDED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO FOREIGN CITIZENS AND ITALIAN CITIZENS LIVING ABROAD FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018.

STARTING DATE 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017 - DEADLINE 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017

Art. 1

## SCOPE OF THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Pursuant to the provisions of Law 288/55 and its subsequent changes and additions, and with a view to implementing bilateral cultural agreements and related executive programmes, as well as multilateral agreements, intergovernmental agreements, and ad hoc conventions for supporting special internationalisation projects with universities, research institutes, and higher artistic training centres in Italy, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** (hereinafter referred to as the **MAECI**) is **awarding scholarships to foreign citizens and Italian citizens living abroad** (hereinafter referred to as **IRE**) for the **academic year 2017-2018**. The aim of these scholarships is to foster international cultural cooperation, to spread knowledge about the Italian language, culture, and science, as well as to promote Italy's economic and technological school of thought around the world.

The scholarships are awarded to pursue study, training, and/or research programmes at Italian Higher Education Institutes (state-owned institutions or institutions legally recognised by the relevant state authorities). The list of these institutions is available on the website of the **Ministry of Education, Universities, and Research (MIUR)**:

<http://www.istruzione.it/web/universita/home>.

The MAECI also offers scholarships to students whose studies involve so-called "**Special Projects**" (see the dedicated section regarding these projects at the following address: <http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/progetti-speciali>).

The scholarships for these "Special Projects" are awarded through a separate call for applications.

The list of foreign countries whose citizens and IREs are **eligible** to apply for these scholarships can be found on the page "Scholarships for foreigners and Italians living abroad" of this Ministry's website:

[http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio\\_stranieri.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html)

Art. 2

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**For information on all the procedures to be fulfilled, please consult the Guidelines for Students on the following page:**

[http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio\\_stranieri.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html)

**Applications may be submitted by those who meet the following criteria on the expiry date of this call for applications.**

**Applications submitted by those who do not meet the necessary requirements shall be automatically excluded from the selection process.**

Italian citizens employed by Public Administration Offices, as well as their family members – even if they are temporarily living abroad – cannot be granted IRE scholarships.

## **2.1 Academic qualifications**

Foreign students or Italian students permanently residing abroad may apply for scholarships if they have **the academic qualifications required for enrolling on the courses at their chosen institution.**

## **2.2 Age limits**

Candidates may apply if they are between **18 and 36 years of age** on the expiry date of this call for applications.

For those applying for the first year of a PhD programme, the maximum age limit is 33 years of age on the expiry date of this call for applications.

Candidates may apply for **training/refresher courses for Italian language teachers** if they are aged between **18 and 45** on the expiry date of this call for proposals.

## **2.3 Language skills and proficiency**

Candidates should submit a certificate showing their **knowledge and proficiency in the Italian language, starting from the B2 level** of the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages** (CEFR), with their application: ([https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella\\_certificazioni.pdf](https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella_certificazioni.pdf)).

**Knowledge of the Italian language is not required for enrolling in university courses that are taught exclusively in English.**

If only taking **courses in Italian language and culture**, candidates should submit a certificate showing their knowledge and proficiency in the Italian language, starting from the **A2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages** (CEFR), with their application: ([https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella\\_certificazioni.pdf](https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella_certificazioni.pdf)).

### Art. 3

## **COURSES FOR WHICH IT IS POSSIBLE TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP**

### **3.1 Scholarships for 6 (six) or 9 (nine) months**

Scholarships for **6 (six) or 9 (nine) months**, starting no earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017, are granted for attending the following **courses**:

**a) Second-level University Courses (five-year degree/Master's degree) (Laurea specialistica/Laurea Magistrale 2° ciclo)**

Admission to the first year of a second-level university course/Master's degree in Italy requires a Bachelor's degree or equivalent first-level degree from the candidate's country of origin. For admission to subsequent years, the candidate must have passed all of the university exams from the previous year.

**b) First- and Second-level Italian "Master" Diplomas**

For admission to an Italian "Master" course in Italy, candidates should have the academic qualifications required by their chosen University.

**c) PhD Courses**

For admission to a PhD course in Italy, candidates should have the academic qualifications required by their chosen University.

**d) Specialisation Schools (Scuole di Specializzazione)**

For admission to a Specialisation School in Italy, candidates should have the academic qualifications required by their chosen School.

**Scholarships cannot be granted for medical courses taught at Specialisation Schools** (see Legislative Decree No. 257 of 8<sup>th</sup> August 1991).

**e) Research under Academic Supervision (Progetti di Studio in Co-tutela)**

This type of scholarship can be granted for research projects carried out with the Italian National Research Council (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - CNR), the Italian National Institute of Health (Istituto Superiore di Sanità - ISS), or other state universities, museums, and archives.

With a view to applying for this type of scholarship, the candidate should submit the plan for their research project, as well as the name and contact details (email and telephone number) of the Supervisor/Tutor of their project, in addition to the letters of acceptance from the host institution.

**f) Courses of Higher Education in Arts, Music, and Dance (AFAM); Scuola Internazionale di Liuteria di Cremona (International Violin-making School of Cremona); Scuola di Alta Formazione e Studio (SAF) dell'Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro (ISCR) (School of Higher Education and Research of the College of Conservation and Restoration); Scuola Nazionale di Cinema (National Film School)**

- For admission to institutes providing Higher Education in Arts, Music and Dance (AFAM) courses and to the Scuola Internazionale di Liuteria di Cremona, candidates should have a High School Diploma or an equivalent diploma valid for admission to state-owned or legally recognised Academies of Fine Arts, Conservatoires or Music Schools. The list of AFAM Institutes can be found on the webpage of the Ministry of Education, Universities, and Research (MIUR) <http://www.afam.miur.it/argomenti/istituzioni.aspx>;

- For admission to the Scuola di Alta Formazione e Studio (SAF) dell'Istituto Superiore per la Conservazione ed il Restauro (ISCR) and to the Scuola Nazionale di Cinema, candidates should have a High School Diploma. Admission is conditional upon passing an admissions test.

### **3.2 Scholarships for 3 (three) months**

Scholarships for **3 (three) months**, starting no earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017, are granted for the following **types of courses**:

#### **g) Courses in Italian language and culture**

Candidates should submit a certificate showing their level of knowledge and proficiency in Italian, starting from the **A2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**, with their application: ([https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella\\_certificazioni.pdf](https://www.linguaitaliana.esteri.it/data/lingua/corsi/pdf/tabella_certificazioni.pdf)).

### **3.3 Scholarships for 1 (one) month**

Scholarships for **1 (one) month**, starting no earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017, are granted for the following types of courses:

#### **h) Training/refresher courses for Italian language teachers**

Candidates wishing to apply for a one-month scholarship in order to attend a training/refresher course for Italian language teachers should provide evidence of their experience as Italian language teachers in their country of origin.

**Candidates from EU countries can only apply for postgraduate courses (PhD programmes, Specialisation Schools, and Research under Academic Supervision), as well as for Italian language courses and courses for Italian language teachers.**

## Art. 4

### **RENEWALS**

**4.1** Candidates may be eligible to attend a single-cycle degree course (Bachelor's degree) for the academic year 2017-2018 only if they were granted a MAECI Scholarship in the **academic year 2016-2017** and if they are enrolling onto at least the fourth year of this single-cycle degree course in the academic year 2017-18. Scholarship renewals are only granted to applicants who have passed **the exams required for each academic year**.

**4.2** Those who were granted a MAECI Scholarship **in the academic year 2016-2017** are eligible to apply to continue or complete a multi-year course (Bachelor's degree courses, Master's degree courses, Italian "*Master*" diplomas, and PhD programmes). Scholarship renewals are only granted to applicants who have passed **the exams required for each academic year**.

Art. 5  
**NON-ELIGIBILITY**

**MAECI Scholarships are not granted for attending** first-cycle (“*triennale*” – three-year) or single-cycle university degree courses, **except for renewals** (see Art. 4.1).

**MAECI Scholarships are not granted for attending courses at foreign institutions (universities, academies, libraries, or schools of any kind) based in Italy, nor at non-accredited private research laboratories or centres, nor for individual courses or individual research projects.**

Art. 6  
**SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS**

**Applications for scholarships should be sent electronically only, by accessing the “*Portale borse on line*” (“Scholarships online portal”) from the MAECI website:**

[http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio\\_stranieri.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html)

after registering to access the *Registration Form* with a username and password

[Click here for the registration form](#)

Candidates from Libya can apply only if they were granted a MAECI Scholarship in the **academic year 2016-2017**. Scholarship renewals or continuations are only granted to applicants who have passed **the exams required for each academic year**.

For Syria, candidates who meet the necessary requirements will be selected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Office VII D.G.S.P., through the establishment of a special Committee.

**Online applications can be started by candidates as of 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and must be submitted by midnight (Italian time) on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017.**

**Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.**

Art. 7  
**SELECTION PROCEDURES AND AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS**

**7.1 Selection of candidates**

**The analysis and evaluation of applications shall fall within the competence of the Italian Diplomatic Missions of the candidate’s country of origin.**

Applications sent electronically through the “*Portale borse on line*” (“Scholarships online portal”) by the deadline set in the call for applications shall be examined and selected by a Joint Committee established by a special Decree of the Head of the Diplomatic Mission, composed of the Head of

the Diplomatic Mission or his/her delegate, as well as representatives of local authorities and of cultural, scientific, and economic institutions.

If the objective conditions of the foreign country do not permit the establishment of a Joint Committee, applications shall be examined and selected by an *ad hoc* Committee established by a special Decree of the Head of the Diplomatic Mission, composed of the Head of the Diplomatic Mission, as well as Italian officials and - where possible - Italian professors and academics.

### **7.2 Selection of IRE candidates**

Applications submitted by IREs shall be examined and selected by an *ad hoc* Committee set up by a special Decree of the Head of the Diplomatic Mission, composed of the Head of the Diplomatic Mission, representatives of the Committees and Associations of Italians abroad, as well as Italian schools abroad.

### **7.3 Awarding scholarships**

Scholarships shall be awarded on the basis of a comparative evaluation of the applications submitted, of the requirements met, and of the criteria relating to the merit and/or the excellence of the candidate's curriculum vitae, established according to a specific evaluation chart.

#### Art. 8

#### **PUBLICATION OF THE MERIT RANKING**

At the end of the selection procedure, the relevant Diplomatic Mission shall publish the merit ranking of the candidates to whom scholarships have been granted, as well as those put on reserve, according to the procedures shown on the website of each Diplomatic Mission.

#### Art. 9

#### **PAYMENT OF ENROLMENT AND TUITION FEES**

**Candidates who have been granted scholarships by the Italian Government can be exempted from paying the enrolment and tuition fees, in accordance with the regulations in force, art. 9, paragraph 3, of Legislative Decree No. 68 of 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012, which states the following:**

*“3. Institutions and universities shall fully exempt foreign students from paying enrolment and tuition fees if they have been granted annual scholarships by the Italian Government as part of development cooperation programmes, as well as cultural and scientific intergovernmental agreements and their related executive programmes. For academic years following the first one, the exemption shall be conditional upon the renewal of the scholarship by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as upon compliance with the merit requirements under Article 8, Paragraph 2, preliminarily communicated by the University or by the Higher Institution of Arts, Music, and Dance to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.”*

It should be noted, however, that - as universities have administrative and accounting autonomy - some **may not grant such an exemption.**

**The exemption does not apply to advanced courses in Italian language and culture and to training/refresher courses for Italian language teachers. For these courses, a monthly payment of the enrolment and tuition fees is required.**

Art. 10

#### **HEALTH AND MEDICAL INSURANCE**

Scholarship holders shall benefit from a health insurance policy to bear any expenses due to illnesses or accidents for the duration of the scholarship.

Illnesses related to pre-existing physical or pathological conditions shall be excluded from the insurance cover.

Art. 11

#### **PAYMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP**

**Candidates who have been granted a MAECI Scholarship will receive the relevant allowance on a quarterly basis into an Italian bank account in their name.** (see Guidelines for the scholarship holder [http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio\\_stranieri.html](http://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/servizi/stranieri/opportunita/borsestudio_stranieri.html)).

The payment of the scholarship shall be made after the scholarship holder has enrolled at their chosen institution, according to the necessary administrative time schedules and deadlines.

In some cases, candidates who have been granted a MAECI Scholarship shall receive their monthly allowances from their University. The following is a list of the universities in alphabetical order that MAECI has reached agreements with for the academic year 2017-2018:

1. University of Bologna
2. University of Cassino and Southern Lazio (new agreement)
3. University of Calabria (new agreement)
4. Polytechnic University of Milan
5. Bocconi University of Milan
6. University of Milan
7. University for Foreigners of Perugia
8. University of Rome Tor Vergata
9. Roma Tre University
10. "Dante Alighieri" University for Foreigners of Reggio Calabria
11. University for Foreigners of Siena
12. Polytechnic University of Turin
13. University of Turin
14. Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Art. 12

**PROHIBITION OF RECEIVING MULTIPLE SCHOLARSHIPS**

Those who are granted MAECI Scholarships may not concurrently receive any other scholarship offered by the Italian Government or by another Public Administration.

**NOTES**

\* The scholarships named IRE Scholarships are offered only for the following countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ethiopia, Peru, South Africa, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

\* For Albania, 6 additional Scholarships are offered (6 Scholarships for three months for Italian language courses), which are granted to the best year-12 students of the bilingual classes at high schools in Tirana, Shkodër, and Korçë. The evaluation and selection of candidates shall be made by a Joint Committee, established pursuant to Art. 7 of this call for proposals, which will meet after the end of the school year 2016-2017:

\* Students of the Kenyan University of Garissa who were granted MAECI Scholarships in the academic year 2016-17 are eligible to apply for renewal of their scholarships, regardless of their chosen degree course.

\* The evaluation and selection of candidates for Libya and Syria shall be made by the DGSP - Office VII.

\* According to the Executive Programme of the Cultural Cooperation Agreement between Italy and Chile of 18<sup>th</sup> April 1991, Chilean students who are granted a Scholarship shall be entitled to the reimbursement of an economy class return air ticket to/from Italy.