AMMINISTRAZIONE CENTRALE
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIVISION
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE



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Selection notice to award scholarships for International students *at risk* 2024/25 – Palestinian Territories

This Call for selection implements the decision taken by the University bodies to welcome and provide concrete support to Palestinian scholars and students affected by the conflict escalated in the Gaza Strip, giving execution to the commitment taken by the Academic Senate (motion of 14 May 2024). This Call supplements the scholarships made available by the Selection notice to award scholarships for international students at risk 2024/25, published with Rectoral Decree rep. n. 970/2024, reg. n. 47601 of 11 march 2024.

ART.1 - Students at Risk - Palestinian Territories

As decided by the Board of Administration in its meeting on 28 May 2024, the University of Padua integrates the *Students at Risk* programme by offering five (5) additional scholarships for the academic year 2024/25 for students coming from Palestinian universities, through an extraordinary *Students at Risk* selection notice.

The scholarship includes an allowance of € 12,000.00 (gross for the recipient) and a tuition fee-waiver per academic year. The only amount to be paid by scholarship recipients is the admission fee, consisting of the regional tax for the right to education and the revenue stamp. Such an amount is not refundable. Reimbursement of travel expenses, insurance or other expenses is not included in the scholarship and will not be covered by the University of Padua.

The scholarship run for one academic year and can be renewed according to the terms defined in art. 6. The renewal consists in an allowance of \in 8,000.00 (gross for the recipient) and tuition fee-waiver per academic year. The scholarship can be renewed for one academic year for master's degree students or two academic years for bachelor's degree students. Once the above-mentioned period has elapsed, students who do not benefit from the renewal will be required to pay the tuition fees due until graduation, according to the <u>call for applications for tuition fees and fee waivers</u>, which details also all the exemption possibilities. Moreover, from the second year, students will be able to apply for the regional scholarship, according to the procedures explained at https://www.unipd.it/en/veneto-region-scholarship.

Students at Risk scholarships cannot be combined with any other grant awarded by other public institutions. Candidates selected for more than one scholarship must choose which one to accept. Candidates are responsible for notifying the Admissions and Welcome Unit - Global Engagement Office (unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it) of any incompatibility with other scholarships.

ART. 2 - Admission requirements

To be eligible for selection, under penalty of exclusion, applicants must:

- come from the Palestinian Territories;
- hold, or are in the process of obtaining, a secondary school diploma (for students enrolling in a Bachelor's degree or Single-cycle Master's degree) or a Bachelor's degree diploma (for students enrolling in a Master's degree) obtained in Palestinian higher secondary schools and/or higher education institutions, and valid for access to the Italian university system;

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- reside outside of Italy;
- apply during the extraordinary Call for application to one or more unlimited-access degree programmes taught in English or Italian offered by the University, whose Call for applications have already closed, and get admission, or have been already admitted during the ordinary Call for applications.

Applicants who fail to meet one or more of these requirements are not eligible for selection of this scholarship.

ART. 3 - Selection procedure and awarding criteria

Applicants must send their application through the apply.unipd.it portal during the extraordinary Call for applications opened for unlimited access degree programmes from 24 June and no later by 11.59 pm (Italian time zone) of 15 July 2024. Applicants can apply to up to three degree programmes. Applicants are not required to pay an application fee.

Candidates should provide the following documents (illustrative list):

- 1. copy of an identity document written in English (passport) or officially translated in English or Italian;
- 2. secondary school diploma (for those wishing to enrol in a Bachelor's or a Single-cycle Master's degree) or Bachelor's degree diploma (for those wishing to enrol in a Master's degree) obtained outside of Italy and valid for access to the Italian university system;
- 3. last two year of school records for students who have obtained a secondary school diploma
- 4. transcript of grades for students who obtained a Bachelor's degree;
- 5. enrolment certificate to a first- or second- or single-cycle degree programme (according to the Bologna Process criteria) in a Palestinian higher education institution duly accredited according to the national educational accreditation system on the date of 7 October 2023;
- 6. Transcript of grades of exams taken during the above-mentioned study cycle (point 6) until 7 October 2023;
- 7. official translation in English or Italian of the above-mentioned documents unless already officially issued in English or Italian;
- proof of knowledge of the language required for enrolment to the chosen degree programme according to the instructions provided in the webpage https://www.unipd.it/en/language-requirement-admission-degreeprogrammes;
- any additional document useful to certify their status or studies carried out.

Applicants with incomplete or partial documentation required for the application can contact the Admissions and Welcome Unit of the Global Engagement Office via email: unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it

Applications will be primarily assessed by the Academic Committee designated for each degree programme chosen during the application phase.

On a second instance, the University Committee designated with Rectoral Decree Rep n. 1346/2024, reg. n. 60216 of 4 April 2024, shall assess applications for the purposes of awarding the Students at risk scholarships 2024/25. Scholarships shall be awarded to the most deserving candidates based on the quality and records of their prior education, their language competence, motivation and "at risk" status. In the event of a tie, preference shall be given to female candidates and to younger candidates.

The Committee might schedule an interview with an applicant, if deemed necessary to examine their documents.

The results of the selection and the awarding of the scholarships will be available at https://www.unipd.it/en/students-atrisk starting from 18 July 2024 for unlimited-access degree programmes.

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Any unallocated scholarship (in case of withdrawals or failure to accept) might be assigned to students admitted during the additional ordinary Call for applications for international students (e.g. degree programmes with access limited on a national basis); in such event, results of reallocations will be available after admission to the chosen degree programme or publication of the ranking lists.

ART. 4 - Acceptance

Candidates admitted and selected for a scholarship will receive a specific scholarship offer from the Admissions and Welcome Unit - Global Engagement Office with the procedures and deadlines for accepting it.

To receive the scholarship, selected candidates must:

- accept the admission and/or scholarship offer received from the Admissions and Welcome Unit -Global Engagement Office and pay the admission fee by the deadline given;
- not benefit from other scholarships or grants;
- fulfil the admission requirements (e.g. obtaining the entry qualification and/or the language certificate) within the deadline given in the admission offer and finalise the enrolment procedure for the chosen degree programme;
- meet the requirements and conditions for an Italian student visa (D enrolment);
- finalise the enrolment to the degree programme, which will be completed after verification of the authenticity of the documentations provided and the fulfilment of all elements relevant to enrolment.

Should selected students be unable to meet any of the above conditions, they are required to inform the Admissions and Welcome Unit of the Global Engagement Office at the following address: unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it

Should selected candidates not accept the scholarship, or not fulfil one of the criteria above, the Committee may award scholarships to the next eligible candidates meeting the requirements.

ART. 5 - Payment methods and requirements to maintain scholarship eligibility A.Y. 2024/25

The scholarship shall be paid via bank transfer in two equal instalments for a total amount of € 12,000.00 (gross for the recipient) per academic year.

Students shall receive the first instalment of the A.Y. 2024/25 upon arrival in Italy and only after:

- 1. finalising the enrolment at the University of Padua;
- 2. opening a bank account (including an online bank account or a prepaid card with an IBAN) at any Italian bank or any other bank in the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA) of which the student is the holder or joint holder. It also might be possible for students to use the IBAN of their University Flash Card, provided the card has been upgraded at any Intesa Sanpaolo branch;
- signing the Declaration of acceptance, through which students undertake to accept the scholarship terms and conditions and confirm that no incompatibility arises within the meaning of article 1 of this Call for applications.

Students shall receive the second instalment of the A.Y. 2024/25 by 31 March 2025 (winter examination session - A.Y. 2024/25) upon registering at least 6 credits.

In case of enrolment with recognition of prior learning, the credits earned during previous university education do not count for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements to maintain scholarship eligibility.

The Global Engagement Office will organise a training session with required attendance by beneficiaries. The aim is to help students in placing their experience in Padua in their career path. The course will invite them both to reflect on their

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status and to deepen their understanding of the psychological, legal and professional dimensions that may be relevant in maximising the outcomes of their activity in Padua and lay the foundations for pursuing their careers in Italy or abroad.

Students can attend the Italian language courses offered by the University. Attendance is highly recommended.

ART. 6 - Scholarship renewal and requirements to maintain the scholarship eligibility A.Y. 2025/26 and 2026/27

The scholarship may be renewed for one (1) academic year for students enrolled in a Master's degree programme, or for two (2) academic years for students enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme.

The subsequent instalments of \in 4,000.00 each will be paid out on the basis of the fulfilment of the following merit requirements:

- First instalment of A.Y. 2025/26: at least 30 ECTS credits by 30 September 2025 (summer and fall examination session A.Y. 2025/26);
- Second instalment of A.Y. 2025/26: at least 42 ECTS credits by 31 March 2026 (winter examination session -A.Y. 2025/26);

Only for Bachelor's degree students:

- First instalment of A.Y. 2026/27: at least 80 ECTS credits by 30 September 2026 (summer and fall examination session A.Y. 2026/27);
- Second instalment of A.Y. 2026/27: at least 92 ECTS credits by 31 March 2027 (winter examination session -A.Y. 2026/27).

Specific duly reasoned situations where the aforementioned merit requirement threshold is not reached, shall undergo examination by the designated University Committee appointed for the selection and award procedure of the scholarship in question.

ART. 7 - Revocation of the scholarship

If the aforementioned merit requirements are not met within the deadline, the payment of the scholarship shall be stopped.

The University of Padua is entitled to revoke scholarships when:

- 1. students do not obtain at least 20 ECTS credits by 30 November 2025;
- 2. students transfer to another University or withdraw from studies.

In both circumstances, students shall pay back the amount of the scholarship already received.

Specific duly reasoned situations where the aforementioned merit requirement threshold is not reached, shall undergo examination by the designated University Committee appointed for the selection and award procedure of the scholarship in question.

ART. 8 - Processing of personal data statement

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: https://www.unipd.it/en/privacy.

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The Administration reserves the right to check the truthfulness of the admission and incompatibility requirements. Without prejudice to the criminal sanctions provided for in art. 76 of Italian Presidential Decree DPR no. 445/2000, should checks prove statements to be false, the scholarship recipient shall lose the benefit eligibility.

ART. 9 - Dispute resolution

This call for selection 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.

ART. 10 - Final Provisions

The person responsible for the procedure is Mattia Gusella, Director of the Global Engagement Office.

For further information please email: unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it

The Rector Prof.ssa Daniela Mapelli digitally signed pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree no. 82/2005