



Education and Foreigner Nationals

ENTRIES IN ITALY FOR STUDY

EUROPEAN
JOB DAY

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ITALY

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🕒 02.12.2021
📍 Online event



Info to



The right to education is intrinsic to human dignity.

According to article 34 of **the Constitution**, education is open to all.

The right to education is guaranteed to Italians and foreign nationals in Italy, without any discrimination whatsoever based on citizenship or on the regularity of stay in Italy, including when individuals do not have the necessary financial resources.

Some distinctions are made according to whether referring to the education of minors or the training of adults, for which – as provided for by the main international provisions – higher education **may not be necessarily guaranteed to all**.

However, **the Italian Constitution states** that capable and deserving persons may reach the highest levels of education, although not endowed with any financial resources, through education grants, family allowances and other benefits (article 34, paragraph 3).

The right to education is intrinsic to human dignity.

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Both foreign minors and adults are supported in their educational pathway by the activation by the State, by Regional Governments and Local Authorities, of services and courses destined to the **learning of the Italian language**.

The regulations on the right to education for foreign minors also devotes particular attention to **intercultural education** by the school community, which welcomes language and cultural differences as a value at the basis of mutual respect and exchanges between cultures, therefore promoting initiatives aimed to the acceptance, the protection of the culture and the language of origin, and the implementation of common intercultural activities (article 38, paragraph 3, of the Consolidated Law on Immigration).

Info to



Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

In Italy, education is both a **right and a duty**, namely the right to study and the duty to attend school until the age of 16.

Foreign nationals with a valid residence permit in Italy are granted education on the same conditions as applied to Italians.

Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

Info to



Foreign children:

- **Are eligible for education** on the same conditions as applied to Italians independently of their legal or illegal status;
- **Are obliged to attend school** according to the relevant laws in force;
- **May apply for admission** during any school term.

If foreign children do not have any identity documents or if they have irregular or incomplete papers, one of the parents or the legal guardian of the children must take full responsibility for certifying each child's personal details.

In this case, foreign children are admitted on condition, without any detriment to final qualifications at the end of every level of education.

Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

Info to



Italian schools are organised as follows:

The Italian school system In Italy, education is compulsory from 6 to 16 years of age.

During this period, children are entitled to free education.

During primary school, books are also free, but must be purchased after that time. It is possible to request the reimbursement of costs incurred by participating in regional competitive exams (for further information ask your local Municipality).

Foreign minors, even if illegally present, have the right to compulsory education.

Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

Info to



Italian schools are organised as follows:

Kindergarden (or preschool): duration of three years.

It is not mandatory and is intended for all children aged 3 to 5 years.

To enrol you must go to the City's Department of Academic Services (Dipartimento dei Servizi Scolastici).

Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

Info to



The first cycle of schooling is divided into:

- **Primary School** five years in duration,
- **Secondary School** the first cycle has a three-year duration (up to middle school). Attendance at primary school is compulsory for all Italian and foreign children who turn six years of age by 31st December.

Attendance of the first cycle of Secondary School is compulsory for all Italian and foreign children who have completed primary school.

Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

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Middle school education culminates in a State examination, which, if passed, entitles the student to access to the second cycle of education.

The second cycle consists of the second level of secondary school and is divided into: high schools, technical schools, vocational schools and vocational training centres.

How to enrol

Children who must attend the school are enrolled by their parents - or by the legal guardian - in a grade corresponding to their actual age, unless the teaching board decides otherwise, taking into account various elements (home country school regulations;

knowledge assessment, skills and educational level of the student; educational courses attended in their home countries; any educational qualification).

Right to education for foreign children living in Italy

Info to



Public schools and private schools It is possible to enrol your children in public or private schools.

Private schools require fees

For information on the school system and enrolments: **Ufficio Scolastico Regionale**

www.istruzione.it - Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) See the “Intercultural” section under “Education”

Right to education for foreign adults living in Italy

Info to



Foreign adults are also entitled to receive education.

Their right to study allows them to learn Italian, which is their first need (literacy courses at various levels).

If you want to obtain a lower secondary school degree, you should apply to the school headmaster specifying your personal details and level of education.

Moreover, you have to prove that you have a good knowledge of the Italian language and a valid residence permit.

If you have already attended compulsory education and wish to carry on with your studies, you can directly enrol at a higher secondary school in order to get the relevant degree.

Right to education for foreign adults living in Italy

Info to



Adult Education At CTP's

– Centri Territoriali Permanenti (Permanent Territorial Centres) for the education and training of adults, it is possible to achieve the first cycle of education. It is also possible to:

- attend Italian language courses;
- attend courses in computers, foreign languages, and general culture.

As from the moment in which foreign minors turn 16, those among them who did not fulfil their education obligations may attend the **Permanent Territorial Centres (CTP)** providing courses including Italian, but also cultural activities and training for adults, as well as basic notions in civics and on the rights and duties of citizens. CTPs allow users – half of which are foreign nationals – to attend integrated courses with school education, vocational training and evening classes, where obtaining educational titles and language skills and qualifications.

Education for foreign nationals living abroad

Info to



Foreign nationals living abroad may attend higher education courses or technical-vocational training courses by applying for a student visa to the competent Italian diplomatic or consular authorities in their country of origin.

Education for foreign nationals living abroad

Info to



Requirements:

- ✓ Age over fourteen;
- ✓ Enrolment certificate on the chosen vocational or specialization training course issued by an Italian school or institute;
- ✓ Insurance policy for medical treatments and hospitalization, if not entitled to health care in Italy;
- ✓ Proof of sufficient financial resources not less than half of the Italian minimum annual social security allowance;
- ✓ Documents proving that the foreign national has money to return to his/her country at the end of study.

Education for foreign nationals living abroad

Info to



Furthermore, it shall be determined:

- Conformity between education attained in their home country and courses in Italy;
- Correspondence between school programmes in Italy and a foreign national's real educational and cultural requirements.

As regards minors, restrictions and protective measures are to be taken.

What to do after having received a student visa

Having obtained a student visa, you must go to the *Questura* (Provincial Police Headquarters) in the place where you want to live and apply for a residence permit for study purposes within 8 days of your arrival.

If foreign students are under age, their parents or the legal guardian should apply on their behalf: the residence permit has the same duration as the entry visa.

UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

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University After completing the second cycle, it is possible to enrol in a university.

In Italy there is a wide range of university courses.

University is currently divided into two levels:

- **Bachelor's Degree:** at the end of this first cycle, you obtain a degree that can be used to enter into employment, access a first level masters, commence specialisation courses, or a specialised degree;
- **Specialised Degree:** second-tier and of two-year duration, issuing the highest qualification in a specific field. Following this degree, it is possible to continue onto a second level masters, graduate school or doctoral research.

UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

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Some first cycle degree courses do not have this subdivision, but they provide a continuity of 5-6 years, for example, degree courses in Medicine or Surgery.

University enrolment costs can sometimes be quite high, however, it is possible to apply for scholarships at the Segreteria Studenti (Students' Office) or the 'Ente per il Diritto allo Studio' (Organization for the Right to Education) of individual universities.

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Every year by 31st December, universities fix the number of places reserved for foreign students wishing to enrol on university courses for the following academic year.

However, the admission of foreign nationals is subject to the availability of accommodation facilities at universities and the result of the entry examinations.

As to university enrolment, the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representation in the foreign national's country validate secondary school diplomas issued in the home country and give all information about the local evaluation system and scale of grades, which determined the grade or the evaluation indicated in his/her diploma.

Recognition of previous qualifications In general, certification of validity should be requested from the Italian Consulate in the country of origin or from the Consulate of the place where the qualification was awarded.

UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

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Where and how to apply for a study visa

You (and any of your relatives coming to Italy) can apply for your entry visa to the Italian diplomatic or consular representation in your home country.

Application shall state:

- ✓ All your personal details and those of your relatives;
- ✓ Essential data contained in passport or any other travel document;
- ✓ Destination country;
- ✓ Purpose of stay and its length.

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When applying, you shall produce the following documents:

- ✓ Passport or any other equivalent travel document;
- ✓ Documents concerning travel purposes;
- ✓ Accommodation availability;
- ✓ Documents proving that you have enough funds to come to and stay in Italy;
- ✓ Certificate of validity in Italy of your secondary school diploma issued by the competent Italian diplomatic or consular representation in your home country.

UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

Info to



When and how to renew residence permits

Residence permits for study purposes are renewed:

- If in the course of **the first year** you have passed an examination;
- If in **the following years** you have passed at least two exams (however, residence permits cannot be renewed for more than three years beyond the legal length of the degree course concerned).

Moreover, residence permits can be further renewed to obtain a PhD or post-graduate qualification for the whole length of the course, and at the end of the course for one more year.

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Study and work

By previous agreement with schools, residence permits for study purposes entitle foreign nationals to have subordinate work for no more than 20 hours a week and for a maximum of 1.040 hours a year.

As regards minors, restrictions and protective measures are envisaged by the Italian child labour law and regulations.

UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

Foreign students living in Italy

Info to



You are admitted to university on the same conditions as applied to Italians if:

- You live in Italy and have a Long-Term Residence Permit or a residence permit issued for subordinate work, self-employment, family, political asylum or humanitarian protection and religious reasons;
- You have lived in Italy with a regular residence permit for at least one year and have high education qualifications issued in Italy;
- You hold final diplomas awarded by Italian schools abroad or by foreign/international schools operating in/outside Italy, recognized through bilateral agreements or specific legal provisions, irrespective of your place of residence.

UNIVERSITY ENROLMENT

Info to



How to change a residence permit for study purposes into a residence permit for work purposes

If you have graduated, you can change your **residence permit for study purposes into a residence permit for work** purposes independently of fixed migrant quota (their number will be deducted from the fixed migrant quota of the following year).

To this end, you must submit the relevant application to the *Sportello Unico per l'Immigrazione* (Front Desk for Immigration) and produce your university diploma.



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