



Università di Foggia

Project UNICORE 7.0 – University corridors for refugees

UNICORE 7.0 (University Corridors for Refugees) PROJECT / CALL FOR APPLICATIONS for nr. 1 scholarship and support services for refugee students eligible to be admitted to master's degree courses delivered in English at the University of Foggia.
aa. aa. 2025/2026, 2026/2027.

Submission Deadline: 18th April 2025

ART. 1 – Objectives

The general objective of the University Corridors for Refugees UNICORE 7.0 project is to promote the right of refugee students to higher education through the creation of university corridors, from the following countries:

Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The project is supported by:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
- Caritas Italiana;
- Centro Astalli - JRS Jesuit Service for Refugees in Italy;
- The Waldensian Deaconry
- Gandhi Charity;
- University for Foreigners of Perugia
- University for Foreigners of Siena
- Italian Universities listed in the national cooperation agreement.

The University of Foggia supports the project and offers 1 (one) scholarship upon admission to one of the master's degree courses listed in Article 2 below.

The call will be published on the University of Foggia's web site www.unifg.it and on the web page <https://www.unifg.it/it/unicore>

The scholarship and additional support services will be allocated for the academic years 2025/2026 and 2026/2027. The terms and conditions of the grant and the requirements for its renewal are set out in Article 11 below.

ART. 2 – List of master's degree courses in English

The target beneficiaries of the project are holders of international protection status residing in Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe who are planning to enrol in one of the following English master's degree courses (two years, 120 CFUs) at the University of Foggia during the academic year 2025/2026:

- **CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY**

https://www.unifg.it/en/ugov/course/second_level_degree-2024-10573



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- **AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

<https://www.unifg.it/it/studiare/corsi-di-laurea/lauree-magistrali/scienze-e-tecnologie-agrarie>

ART. 3 – Local project partners

The Project is supported by the following local partners:

- ADISU Puglia;
- SOLIDANIA ong;
- Student associations of the University of Foggia;
- local associations and local authorities.

The activation of the local partnership is functional to support and sustain the project with the offer of additional services in favour of the student. Any additional services offered by partners will be communicated to the winner before his/her arrival or during his/her stay.

ART. 4 – Benefits

The benefits are as follows:

- total coverage of the expenses incurred to fly to Italy (UniFG);
- annual scholarship of € 6,500.00 for study and stay in Foggia (for each of the academic years 2025/2026 and 2026/2027). This one-year grant includes the registration cost with the National Health System (€ 700.00 per year; registration to the SSN is to be understood per calendar year, as it is not possible to pay reduced fees for shorter periods) and any other expenses incurred in order to stay in Italy for the activities related to this call for applications (UniFG);
- total exemption from university fees (UniFG);
- free enrolment to Italian language courses organised by the University of Foggia's Centro Linguistico di Ateneo / Campus Linguistic Centre in the period 2024/2026 (UniFG);
- matriculation procedures support (UniFG);
- further support services, such as psychological counselling, skills assessment, etc. (UniFG);
- senior students mentoring, aimed at supporting with administrative procedures, learning activities and social inclusion in the local student community (Student Associations – UniFG);
- free Italian language course, delivered online in synchronous mode by the University for Foreigners of Siena and the University for Foreigners of Perugia for the period between July and September 2025;
- support for the procedures related to the issuance of the Italian student visa (both first-time application and renewal) for the statutory duration of the course of studies and support for the procedures necessary to be registered in the Italian National Health System (Local Partners);
- any additional support from local public and private partners as yet to be defined (e.g. public transport and/or cultural activities subscriptions, etc.).
- any additional support services from local public and private partners being defined will be made known to the winner before his arrival or during the stay (e.g. accommodation service, canteen services, public transport passes, cultural activities, etc.).



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ART. 5 – Incompatibilities

UNICORE 7.0 scholarship is incompatible with:

- other scholarships and/or allowances issued by the University of Foggia on either a merit or income basis;
- other scholarships issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- other scholarships issued by the CRUI in favour of holders of international protection status;
- international student scholarships issued by foreign governments and bodies under an agreement with the University of Foggia;
- other scholarships for the right to study offered by ADISU Puglia.

ART. 6 – Admission requirements

The call is addressed exclusively to candidates who meet the following requirements:

1. being resident in Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe in possession of the UNHCR refugee status;
2. having a valid pre-admission qualification for the chosen master's degree course. The qualification must have been issued by a higher education institution accredited within the higher education system of the Country where it was issued.
3. holding a qualification obtained no earlier than 01/01/2020 and no later than the call for applications deadline (18th April 2025);
4. holding a GPA (Grade Point Average) equal to at least 3.0, when compared to the Italian system. In order to convert the grade point average from the foreign system to the Italian grading system, the official conversion formula of the Italian Ministry of University and Research will be used for these purposes (<https://www.mur.gov.it/sites/default/files/2021-05/ALLEGATO%20%20bando%20SSM%202020-2021%20-%20Conversione%20Titoli.pdf>);
5. being eligible for the specific requirements of the chosen master's degree course;
6. never been enrolled in an academic program at the University of Foggia or at any other Italian university that is member of the UNICORE 7.0 consortium;
7. possessing proper knowledge of the English language.

ART. 7 – Admission Committee

Each student will be selected on the basis of merit criteria.

The evaluation will be carried out by a committee specifically appointed by rectoral decree.

The Evaluating Committee will be composed as follows: the coordinators of the relevant courses of study and the technical and administrative staff from the international education office and third mission & major projects office, respectively.

ART. 8 – Application Submission Documents



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ART. 8.1 – Required documents

Applicants are required to produce and upload on the relevant platform the following documents, in Italian or in English, (documents translated by applicants are accepted at the time of application):

MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

1. a copy of a valid Refugee Identity Card issued in agreement with UNHCR or a Proof of Refugee Registration (PoR) Card;
2. a certificate testifying the academic qualification required for admission to the chosen master's degree course;
3. a certificate attesting the exams passed and the grades achieved;
4. GPA documentation;
5. a detailed, dated and signed curriculum vitae;
6. a motivational letter (max two A4 pages) to explain the reasons for one's application;

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

7. a certification or a self-declaration attesting English language knowledge;
8. a recommendation letter from a supervisor/consultant in support of one's application.

ART. 8.2 – Submission of applications

Applications can be submitted by filling out the form on the online platform, from the 3rd March 2025 to 18th April 2025 (noon, UTC +2). Applicants must submit their applications, together with all the documents listed above, by filling in the online application at the following link

<https://universitycorridors.unhcr.it/>

Submission of fraudulent education documents is a serious offence. All documents submitted by applicants will be carefully checked by the selection committee. The attached documentation, published in pdf format, must be readable and clear, otherwise the candidate will be excluded from the selection process. After submitting one's application, it will not be possible to modify it.

Any incomplete or incorrectly compiled applications will not be considered.

Applicants must select only 1 master's degree course provided by the University of Foggia and can only apply for maximum two universities participating in the UNICORE 7.0 project.

This is a mandatory requirement: failure to comply with this clause will result in the immediate rejection of the application.

ART. 9 – Selection process

The selection process will be carried out in two steps:

- Step 1: evaluation of the documents submitted for the application;
- Step 2: Online interview.

ART. 9.1 – step 1: evaluation of documents received

The admissions committee will evaluate the documents according to the following criteria:

- a) academic training and GPA (score: 0-20);
- b) curriculum vitae: professional experience and personal skills (score: 0-10);
- a) correspondence between the education background and the chosen master's degree course (score: 0-10);

The highest awardable score in the first step will be 40 points.

Candidates receiving a score of less than 25 will not be admitted to step 2 of the selection process.

At the end of step 1, a provisional ranking will be published and only the first 4 candidates will be admitted to step 2 (online interview).

In case of same scores, the youngest candidate prevails.



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Candidates admitted to step 2 will receive an email notification.

The provisional ranking will be published on the University of Foggia web site www.unifg.it and on the web page <https://www.unifg.it/it/unicore>

ART. 9.2 – step 2: online interview

Candidates admitted to step 2 will be invited to take an online interview, with the Admissions Committee, in which they will be assessed about:

- personal skills;
- technical skills;
- knowledge of the English language.

The maximum score awardable in the second step will be 40 points.

Candidates will be informed by email about the date and time of the interview.

Before the interview, the applicant must show the Refugee Identity Card or the PoR Card attached to his/her application.

ART. 9.3 – Formulation and approval of the final ranking list

The short-list will be formulated by the admission committee by summing up the partial results obtained in the two selection phases (step 1 and step 2). Candidates with a total score of less than 50/80 at the end of the two steps will not be considered eligible. Candidates will be listed in descending order of score. In case of equal score, the youngest candidate prevails.

The ranking list will be approved by Rectoral Decree. The winner will be notified by email, and the ranking list will be published on the University of Foggia website www.unifg.it and on the web page <https://www.unifg.it/it/unicore>

ART. 9.4 – Acceptation

The winning candidate must accept the scholarship within 10 days from the receipt of the e-mail sent by University of Foggia. Not replying within the above-mentioned deadline will cause the loss of one's admission and the relevant financial benefits. Acceptance of the scholarship means that the applicant unreservedly approves the benefits offered by the UNICORE 7.0 Project under the terms and conditions set out in this call for applications.

By accepting, the winning candidate also confirms under his/her own responsibility that he/she does not fall under any incompatibility conditions set out in Article 5 of this notice.

ART. 9.5 – Scrolling of the ranking list and reallocation of available posts

In case of one's rejection of the scholarship for the admission to the master's degree course, the University of Foggia will proceed with a scrolling of the ranking list by assigning the grant to the next eligible candidate.

If vacancies still persist in the ranking list, the University of Foggia will be entitled to search for a suitable candidate within the ranking lists of the project partner universities. The successful candidate must meet in any case the specific qualifications required by the master's degree courses provided by the University of Foggia.

ART. 10 – Scholarships and renewals

The amount of the scholarship for the first academic year will be credited as follows:

- An IBAN code of one's bank account has to be sent to the e-mail address unicore@unifg.it, where a deposit equal to 70% of the total amount of the scholarship will be credited within 45 days from the date of communication.



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- the residual 30% of the sum will be credited within 45 days after the achievement of at least 12 CFUs.

In order to obtain the renewal of the scholarship for the second academic year, students must complete their registration to the academic year 2026/2027.

The amount of the scholarship for the second academic year will be credited as follows:

- a deposit, equal to 50% of the total amount of the scholarship, will be credited upon the achievement of at least 30 CFUs by 30th September 2026;
- the residual 50% of the sum will be credited upon the achievement of at least 70 CFUs, by 31st July 2027.

The student must graduate within the terms of the last available session of his or her current study period, i.e. March-April 2028.

Any enrolment to academic years which exceed the prescribed statutory timeframe of one's course of studies does not extend the financial benefits of the scholarship.

Appropriately motivated cases may be assessed by the Admission Committee upon request.

ART. 11 – Registration

Information concerning registration procedures and deadlines will be sent to the grant assignee by e-mail unicore@unifg.it.

The requested documents for registration purposes are as follows:

- the original Diploma (or an equivalent certificate) of the foreign academic qualification accompanied by a sworn translation in either Italian or English, legalised by the authorities of the issuing Country and accompanied by a Declaration of Value (DOV) issued by the Italian Diplomatic Representation in the country in which the qualification has been obtained or, as an alternative to the aforementioned Declaration of Value, a Certificate of Verification and/or a Certificate of Comparability issued by CIMEA (National Information Centre belonging to the ENIC NARIC networks);
- a certificate showing the list of the exams taken and their respective scores, in either Italian or English, legalised by the relevant authorities of the issuing Country.

In exceptional circumstances, the authenticity of the foreign academic title may be demonstrated through direct contact with the University that issued the foreign qualification.

Applicants must also produce a valid student visa along with the travel documents necessary for their temporary stay in Italy, in accordance with current Italian rules and regulations.

ART. 12 – Waiver

Students who drop out will automatically lose their right to the grant, all benefits and their permit to stay in Italy for study purposes.

ART. 13 – Personal Data Processing

Personal data will be processed in accordance with the principles set out in the EU Data Protection Regulation 679/2016. The data controller is the University of Foggia / registered office in Foggia, Via Gramsci 89/91, certified email: protocollo@cert.unifg.it. The Legal Representative of the University of Foggia is the *Rector pro tempore* Prof. Lorenzo Lo Muzio, who for these purposes is domiciled at the registered office of the Institute, in Via Gramsci 89/91, 71122 Foggia. The Data



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Protection Officer is Mr. Nicola Fabiano, who is also domiciled at the University of Foggia and can be reached at the following email address: dpo@unifg.it / certified email: rpd@cert.unifg.it

ART. 14 – Dispute resolution

This notice is translated into English for dissemination purposes only.

For the request and settlement of all disputes and for all legal effects only the Italian version of this document is considered valid.

Art. 15 – Responsible for the procedure

Dr. Luigi Marchitto - Head of the Social Innovation Unit, Third Mission & Major Projects office is appointed Head of the administrative procedure, pursuant to art. 4 of Law no. 241 of 7th August 1990. For information and/or clarifications, please contact the following email address: unicore@unifg.it – Dr. Ferdinando Dolce – International Admissions Office Manager.

ART. 16 – Final provisions

Please note that, according to Article 71 of Presidential Decree 445 of 28th December 2000, this Administration will proceed to carry out all appropriate checks, incl. on a random or sample basis, and in all cases in which well-founded doubts arise as to the truthfulness of the substitute documentation.

This call will be published on the University's Official Register.

For all that is not provided for by this call for applications, the laws and regulations on public competitions and university allowances apply.

F.to II RETTORE
(Prof. Lorenzo LO MUZIO)
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