



Università di Foggia

UNICORE Project 8.0 – University Corridors for Refugees

UNICORE 8.0 (University Corridors for Refugees) PROJECT / CALL FOR APPLICATIONS for number 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.
Academic years 2026/2027, 2027/2028.

Application Deadline: April 14, 2026

ART. 1 – Objectives

The overall objective of the **University Corridors for Refugees UNICORE 8.0** project is to promote the right to higher education of refugee students, through the creation of university corridors, coming from the following countries: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The project is supported by:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)
- Italian Caritas
- The Waldensian Deaconry
- Centro Astalli - JRS Jesuit Service for Refugees in Italy
- 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 for proposals 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 **2026/2027 and 2027/2028**. 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 Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe who intend to enroll in one of the following master's degree courses in English (two years, 120 CFUs) at the University of Foggia for the academic year 2026/2027:

- **CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY**
https://www.unifg.it/en/ugov/course/second_level_degree-2024-10573
- **AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**
<https://www.unifg.it/it/studiare/corsi-di-laurea/lauree-magistrali/scienze-e-tecnologie-agrarie>



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ART. 3 – Local project partners

The University of Foggia is supported in the Project 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 their arrival or during their stay.

ART. 4 – Benefits

The benefits are as follows:

- total coverage of the expenses to be incurred for arrival in Italy (airline tickets, etc.);
- annual scholarship of € 6.500,00 relating to study and stay in Italy (for each academic year 2026/2027 and 2027/2028). Such an annual exchange is to be understood including the cost of enrolling in the National Healthcare System (€ 700.00 per year; Membership in the NHS is to be understood by calendar year, as it is not possible to pay reduced fees for shorter periods) and of any other expenses necessary to remain in Italy for the activities related to this call;
- canteen and accommodation services for the duration of the project (2026/2027 and 2027/2028 academic years). An agreement is being finalized with ADISU Puglia to cover these services. If the Regional Agency for the Right to Education is unable to guarantee these benefits, at its own expense, an increase in the scholarship will be expected for the winning student (according to the ADISU Puglia tables) up to a maximum amount of €2.500,00 for year (for each academic year 2026/2027 and 2027/2028);
- total exemption from university fees;
- free registration for Italian language courses organized by the University Language Center of the University of Foggia in the period 2026/2028;
- matriculation procedures support;
- further support services, such as psychological counselling, skills assessment, etc.);
- senior students mentoring, aimed at supporting with administrative procedures, learning activities and social inclusion in the local student community (Student Associations);
- free Italian language course, delivered online in synchronous mode by the University for Foreigners of Siena and the University for Foreigners of Perugia, before departure;
- support for the procedures related to the issuance of the Italian student visa (both first-time application and renewal) for the legal duration of the course of studies and support for the registration procedures in the Italian National Healthcare System (Local Partners);
- any further support benefits from local public and private partners as yet to be defined will (e.g. accommodation service, canteen services, public transport and/or cultural activities subscriptions, etc.).

ART. 5 – Incompatibilities



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UNICORE 8.0 scholarship is incompatible with:

- merit-based or income-based scholarships and/or study awards promoted by the University of Foggia;
- other scholarships issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- other scholarships issued by the CRUI for holders of international protection status;
- scholarships intended for international students and issued by foreign governments and bodies on agreements with the University of Foggia;
- other scholarships for the right to education offered by ADISU Puglia.

ART. 6 – Admission requirements

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

1. being resident in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe and have been granted recognition of refugee status, in collaboration with UNHCR;
2. having obtained a valid qualification for admission to the master's degree course chosen. The qualification must have been awarded by a higher education institution accredited within the higher education system of the country in which the qualification was awarded.
3. hold a qualification obtained no earlier than 01/01/2021 and no later than the call for applications deadline (14th April 2026);
4. holding a GPA (Grade Point Average) equal to at least 3.0, referring 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/ANNEX 2 SSM Call 2020-2021 - Title Conversion.pdf](https://www.mur.gov.it/sites/default/files/2021-05/ANNEX_2_SSM_Call_2020-2021_-_Title_Conversion.pdf));
5. being in possession of the specific requirements of the chosen master's degree course;
6. have never been enrolled in an academic study program at the University of Foggia or at any other Italian university that is member of the UNICORE 8.0 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 – Required Application Submission Documents

ART. 8.1 – Required documents

Applicants are required to submit the following documents, in Italian or English, to be uploaded on the appropriate platform (documents translated by candidates are accepted at the time of the question):



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MANDATORY DOCUMENTS

1. a copy of a valid Refugee Identity card issued in concert 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 of exams passed and grades achieved;
4. GPA documentation;
5. a detailed, dated and signed curriculum vitae;
6. a motivational letter (maximum two A4 pages) to explain the reasons relating to the application;

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

7. a certification or a self-declaration of English language knowledge;
8. a letter of reference from the supervisor/consultant in support of the application.

ART. 8.2 – Submission of applications

Applications can be submitted by filling out the form on the online platform, from March 9 to April 14, 2026 (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 study documents is a serious crime. 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, under penalty of exclusion from selection. After submitting 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 up to 2 universities participating in the UNICORE 8.0 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) CV assessment: professional experience and personal skills (score: 0-10);
- a) consistency between the education background and the chosen master's degree course (score: 0-10);

The maximum score awarded 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 comes first.

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>



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ART. 9.2 – step 2: online interview

Candidates admitted to step 2 will be invited to take an online interview, with the Admissions Committee, where the following will be assessed:

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

The maximum score awarded 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 PoR Card sent together with the application for admission.

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 comes first.

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

ART. 9.4 – Acceptance

The winner must accept the scholarship by responding to the communication, sent via email from the University of Foggia, within 10 days of receipt. Not replying within the above-mentioned deadline, will result in the loss of admission and the relevant financial benefits. Acceptance of the scholarship means that the applicant unreservedly approves the benefits offered by the UNICORE 8.0 Project under the terms and conditions set out in this call for applications.

By accepting, the winning candidate also confirms under their own responsibility that they do not fall under any incompatibility conditions set out in Article 5 of this notice.

ART. 9.5 – Scrolling of ranking and reassignment of available positions

In case of winner'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 scholarship to the next eligible candidate.

If vacancies still arise at the end of 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, relating to the first academic year, will be credited as follows:

- A deposit, equal to 70% of the amount of the scholarship, will be credited within 45 days from the date of communication of the bank current account details (IBAN code) on which to make the payment all' email address: unicore@unifg.it ;
- 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 2027/2028.



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The amount of the scholarship, relating to 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 September 30, 2027;
- the residual 50% of the sum will be credited upon the achievement of at least 70 CFUs, by July 31, 2028.

The student must graduate within the terms of the last available session of their current study period, i.e. March-April 2029.

Any enrollment 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 assignees by e-mail unicore@unifg.it.

The documents required for registration purposes are as follows:

- the original Diploma (or an equivalent certificate) relating to the foreign academic qualification accompanied by a sworn translation in either Italian or English, issued by the authorities of the issuing Country and accompanied by a Declaration of Value (DOV) issued by the Italian Diplomatic Representation in the country of achievement of the title, alternatively to the aforementioned Declaration of Value Verification Certificate and Comparability Certificate issued by the CIMEA (National Information Centre affiliated with the ENIC NARIC networks);
- a certificate showing the list of the exams taken and their related grades, 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, pursuant to current Italian legislation and regulations.

ART. 12 – Renunciation

Students who give up their studies will automatically lose their right to the scholarship, all benefits and the residence permit for study purposes.

ART. 13 – Personal Data Processing

Personal data will be processed in compliance with the principles set forth in the EU Regulation No. 679/2016 on the protection of personal data. The data controller is the University of Foggia / registered office in Foggia, Via Gramsci 89/91, certified email (PEC): protocollo@cert.unifg.it. The Legal Representative of the University of Foggia is the *Rector pro tempore* Professor Lorenzo Lo Muzio, who for these purposes is domiciled at the registered office of the University, in Via Gramsci 89/91, 71122 Foggia. The Data Protection Officer is Mr. Nicola Fabiano, Attorney of Law, who is also domiciled at the University of Foggia and can be reached at the following email address: dpo@unifg.it / certified email (PEC): rpd@cert.unifg.it



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ART. 14 – Dispute resolution

This notice is translated into English for dissemination purposes only.

For the request and settlement of any dispute 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 as the Administrative Procedure Responsible, pursuant to art. 4 of Law no. 241 of August 7, 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 28 December 2000, this Administration will proceed to carry out suitable checks, including random checks and in all cases where well-founded doubts arise about the veracity 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 in force on public competitions and university allowances apply.

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

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