

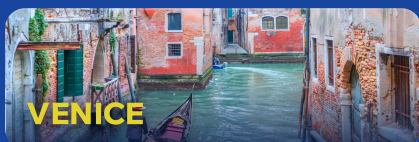
A photograph of the Colosseum in Rome at dusk. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. The Colosseum's arches are illuminated from within, casting a warm orange glow. The foreground is a cobblestone plaza. The text "STUDENT GUIDE TO ITALY" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

STUDENT GUIDE TO ITALY

STUDY ABROAD REFERENCE • 2026/27 INTAKE

ABOUT ITALY

- Italy has **20 regions**, with **Rome** as the capital and largest city.
- Home to around **59 million people** and one of the **world's largest economies**.
- A global leader in **design, fashion, engineering and heritage**.
- **Italian** is the official language; a growing number of **English-taught** programmes are available.
- The **Euro (€)** is the official currency.
- Some of the most popular student cities:



INDIA TO ITALY

CURRENCY

Euro (€) · 1 EUR ≈ ₹100 (indicative)

Delhi	≈ 8h 30m	Italy
Mumbai	≈ 8h 00m	Italy
Bengaluru	≈ 10h 00m	Italy
Chennai	≈ 10h 15m	Italy
Hyderabad	≈ 9h 30m	Italy



FACTS

- Capital: **Rome**
- Flight distance: ~5,900 km
- Time zone: **CET (UTC+1)**
- Public tuition: €900–4,000 / yr*
- Proof of funds: ~€6,900 / yr
- Main intakes: **Sep · Oct**

*Public tuition is income-based (ISEE) — many students pay at the lower end. Figures indicative — verify per intake.

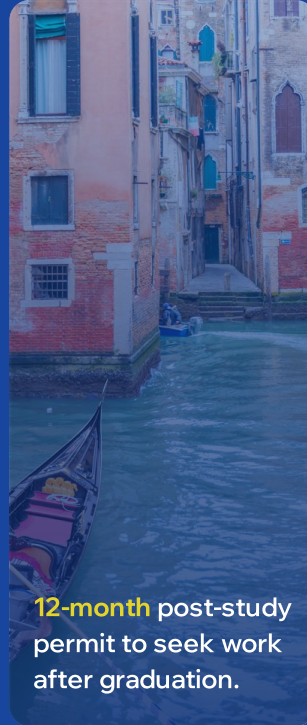
WHY STUDY IN ITALY?



Income-based public tuition — affordable for most families.



Home to the **world's oldest university** and deep academic heritage.



12-month post-study permit to seek work after graduation.



English-taught master's in design, engineering and business.



Italy pairs **world-leading design and engineering** with **centuries of academic tradition**.

TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

- Italy has around **90+ universities** plus specialised institutes.
- They fall into three broad groups:



PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

Broad, income-based degree programmes across all disciplines.



POLYTECHNICS

Engineering, architecture and design (Politecnico institutions).



ACADEMIES & INSTITUTES

Fine arts, fashion, design and music (AFAM institutions).



Campuses set in **historic cities** and **leading design capitals**.

TOP UNIVERSITIES

- Italy hosts several **globally ranked** universities and polytechnics.
- Admission is **merit-based**, with entrance tests for some programmes.

University of Bologna

BOLOGNA · EST. 1088

The world's oldest university — strong across all disciplines.

Politecnico di Milano

MILAN

Engineering, architecture and design — top-ranked in Europe.

Sapienza University of Rome

ROME

One of Europe's largest universities, broad research strength.

University of Padua

PADUA

Sciences, medicine and humanities with a long history.

University of Milan

MILAN

Sciences, economics, law and the humanities.

Politecnico di Torino

TURIN

Engineering, technology and automotive innovation.

Indicative selection — confirm each programme's entry requirements and intake before applying.

POPULAR FIELDS OF STUDY

- Italy is world-renowned for fields that blend **creativity and technical excellence**.



DESIGN & FASHION

A global capital of fashion, product and interior design.



ARCHITECTURE

Centuries of heritage and world-leading architecture schools.



ENGINEERING

Mechanical, automotive and aerospace engineering strength.



BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Respected business schools and management programmes.



ARTS & HUMANITIES

Art history, conservation, languages and culture.



FOOD & CULINARY SCIENCE

Gastronomy, food science and hospitality.

TUITION & COSTS

- Public tuition is **income-based (ISEE)** — many international students pay modest fees.

Public university tuition
income-based, per year

€900–4,000

Regional tax
per year

€140–200

Polytechnics & private schools

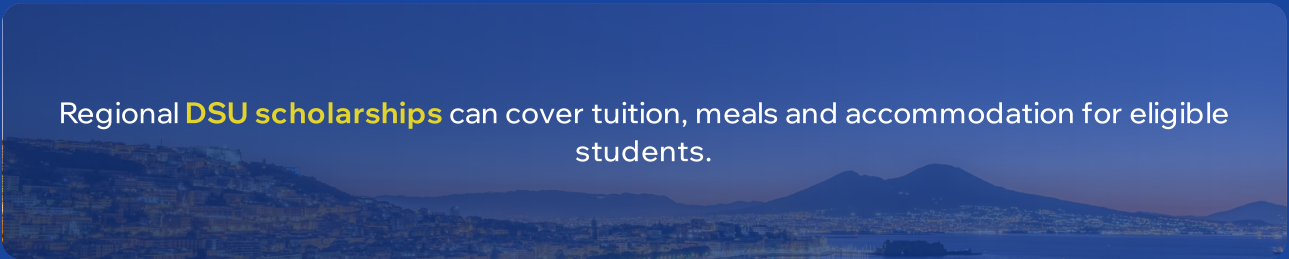
€4,000–20,000 / yr

Fashion & design academies

higher, varies

Proof of funds for visa

~€6,900 / yr



Regional **DSU scholarships** can cover tuition, meals and accommodation for eligible students.

COST OF LIVING

- Students typically need around **€800–1,000 per month**; Milan and Rome are costlier.

Accommodation student housing or shared flat	€300–600
Food & groceries	€200–250
Transport student passes	€25–40
Health cover national health registration	~€15
Phone, internet & leisure	€100–150
Estimated monthly total	~€900

Figures indicative for 2026 — costs vary widely between northern cities and the south.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDING

- Generous regional and government scholarships support international students.

DSU Regional Scholarships

NEED-BASED

Can cover tuition waivers, free meals and student accommodation.

Italian Government (MAECI)

MERIT

Scholarships for international master's and research students.

Invest Your Talent in Italy

FOR SELECT COUNTRIES

Scholarships plus internships in engineering, ICT and design.

Erasmus+ & University Awards

EU & INSTITUTIONAL

Mobility grants and merit scholarships from individual universities.

Eligibility, deadlines and amounts change each cycle — confirm on the official scholarship pages.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR'S

- **12 years** of schooling with a strong Class 12 record.
- **IELTS 6.0–6.5** / TOEFL for English-taught courses.
- **Italian B1–B2** for Italian-taught programmes.
- Entrance tests apply for some programmes (e.g. design, medicine).

MASTER'S

- A recognised **bachelor's degree** in a relevant field.
- **IELTS 6.5** / TOEFL; GRE/GMAT for some programmes.
- Italian proficiency for Italian-taught master's.
- Portfolio required for design and architecture.

INTAKES & PRE-ENROLMENT

- **September–October** — main intake · apply roughly Jan–Jul
- **February** — limited courses
- Pre-enrol through the **Universitaly** portal before applying for a visa.

STUDENT VISA & FUNDS

1**UNIVERSITY PRE-ENROLMENT**

Complete pre-enrolment for your chosen programme online.

2**ADMISSION LETTER**

Secure your acceptance from an Italian university.

3**PROOF OF FUNDS**

Show around €6,900 for the year to cover living costs.

4**APPLY VIA VFS**

Submit your national (Type D) long-stay student visa application.

5**HEALTH COVER**

Arrange health insurance or register with the national health service.

6**RESIDENCE PERMIT**

Apply for your permesso di soggiorno within 8 days of arrival.

WORK & POST-STUDY

- Students may work up to **20 hours a week** (around 1,040 hours a year) alongside studies.

12-Month Job-Search Permit

AFTER GRADUATION

A residence permit to look for work or start a business in Italy.

Work Permit Conversion

SKILLED ROUTE

Convert your student permit to a work permit once employed.

EU Access

MOBILITY

An Italian qualification is recognised across the European market.

In-Demand Sectors

GROWTH AREAS

Design, engineering, manufacturing, luxury and tourism.

HOW TO APPLY

1

SHORTLIST

Choose universities and programmes matching your profile and intake.

2

PRE-ENROL

Register your choice on the University portal.

3

LANGUAGE & DOCUMENTS

Complete IELTS/Italian tests, transcripts, SOP, LORs and portfolio.

4

APPLY

Submit to your chosen universities and sit any entrance tests.

5

ADMISSION & FUNDS

Accept your offer and arrange proof of financial means.

6

VISA & DEPARTURE

Apply for your long-stay student visa and prepare to move.



Your Italian study journey — one step at a time.