

## UNISALENTO4TALENTS PROGRAMME

### CALL FOR 25 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

(ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024)

#### Art. 1 OBJECT

The *Unisalento4Talents* Programme is an initiative developed within the framework of the University of Salento's internationalisation policies and aimed at increasing the number of international students. The call for applications is therefore aimed at all international students who enrol in the 2022/2023 academic year as full-time students on two-year Master's degree courses at the University of Salento.

In the context of this Call, by International Student is meant any EU student (excluding any Italian citizen) and non-EU student residing abroad who has obtained a qualification valid for access to his/her chosen Master's degree course in an institution outside the Italian system.

Simultaneous enrolment at more than one Italian or foreign university, or at university and equivalent institution, or on different courses at the same university is prohibited.

In the context of this Call, enrolment means only the first year of enrolment in the first year of a Master's degree course. Enrolment in years subsequent to the first or transitions and transfers is not considered enrolment.

With the *Unisalento4Talents* Call 2022, **25 scholarships will be awarded to international students** who intend to enrol on the following **Master's degree courses taught in English**:

**LM-6** *Coastal and Marine Biology and Ecology*

**LM-27** *Communication Engineering and Electronic Technologies*

**LM-31** *Management Engineering*

**LM-53** *Materials Engineering and Nanotechnology*

**LM-20** *Aerospace Engineering*

#### Art. 2 BENEFITS

Selected students will be entitled to the following benefits:

- Exemption from university fees, charges and the regional ADISU tax (\* The stamp duty of €16,00 must be paid by the student);
- Free single or double room accommodation from the beginning of the first semester of the academic year 2023/2024 or, if the accommodation is not available, a scholarship of the value of €3000,00 per year that will be paid to the student monthly (the students must enter their person IBAN on the student portal) ;
- Free Italian language course at the Centro Linguistico di Ateneo (University Language Centre);

#### Art. 3 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Call is only open to applicants who meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant must be either an EU citizen (excluding Italian citizens) or a non-EU national resident outside Italy.

2. The applicant must have already obtained a qualification valid for admission to the chosen Master's degree course (e.g. three-year Bachelor's degree) or will be in possession of such a qualification at the time of enrolment.
3. The applicant must have obtained a qualification in an Institute of Higher Education accredited by the Ministry of Education of the country that issued the qualification, and which, in that same country, allows access to a Master's degree course.
4. The applicant must have obtained an average of marks/grades, at Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification that allows access to a Master's degree course, of at least **24/30**. For the conversion of the marks average from the foreign system to the Italian system, the ministerial formula in Attachment 2 of the present call will be used;
5. The applicant must be in possession of the specific requirements of the chosen Master's degree course (see Art. 9);
6. The applicant must have a competence in the English language of at least B2 level. This competence can be attested by an English Language certificate at **B2 level** or above of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (<https://europa.eu/europass/it/common-european-frameworkreference>). An applicant who has attended a degree course where English was the language of instruction may present a document from their university confirming that English was the language of instruction on that course. Such a document will be valid as a proof of adequate linguistic competence.
7. The applicant must not be currently enrolled, or have not ever previously been enrolled, on a degree course at the University of Salento or at any other Italian university, and they must not already have obtained an Italian degree.
8. The applicant must be aware of all the requirements set out in the "Procedures for the entry, stay, enrolment of international students and the relative recognition of qualifications, for higher education courses in Italy" published annually by the MUR on the site "Studiare in Italia" in the "Foreign students" section (<https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/>) and in particular the provisions containing parts concerning the entry visa to Italy for study purposes with particular reference to the requirements for obtaining it, including **the proof that they have at their disposal the necessary financial resources to support themselves during their stay** ([https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/moduli/2021/Circolare\\_2021\\_2022\\_parte4.pdf](https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/moduli/2021/Circolare_2021_2022_parte4.pdf));

#### **Art. 4 AGE REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must not have been born before 1 January 1998.

#### **Art. 5 SELECTION CRITERIA AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE APPLICATION**

##### **Art. 5.1 Selection criteria**

A maximum of **twenty-five (25) applicants** will be selected on the basis of merit. The scholarships will be distributed as follows:

- - 5 scholarships to the 5 highest ranked applicants for the Master's Degree in **LM-6 Costal and Marine Biology and Ecology**;
- - 5 scholarships to the 5 highest ranked applicants for the Master's Degree in **LM-27 Communication Engineering and Electronic Technologies**;
- - 5 scholarships to the 5 highest ranked applicants for the Master's Degree in **LM-31 Management Engineering**;

- - 5 scholarships to the 5 highest ranked applicants for the Master's Degree in **LM-53 Materials Engineering and Nanotechnology**;
- - 5 scholarships to the 5 highest ranked applicants for the Master's Degree in **LM-20 Aerospace Engineering**;

In case the eligible candidates for one or more the Master's Degree courses are fewer than the scholarships, these remaining scholarships will be proportionally assigned to the eligible candidates applying for the Master's Degree course with more applicants compared to available positions.

The evaluation will be carried out by a commission of experts appointed by Rector's Decree. **Each applicant may apply for only one course.**

### **Art. 5.2 Application documents**

Applicants must submit the following documents.

#### **MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**

1. Final list of all examinations passed with the relative marks/grades and the final mark (Bachelor Degree);
2. Students who have completed their studies but have not yet obtained their degree certificate – or received the final transcript of all previous examinations – must also submit an official document from their university certifying that they have completed their course programme (Bachelor's Degree) and that they are awaiting their degree certificate;
3. Document attesting to the achievement of the qualification (e.g. Bachelor's Degree certificate) required for admission to the Master's degree course;
4. Motivational letter (**maximum 500 words**);
5. Letter of reference from a member of academic staff who supervised the applicant during his/her Bachelor's degree;
6. Curriculum vitae - drawn up according to the format in Attachment 1;
7. Valid passport or any other official identification document (e.g. National Identity Card);
8. Any other document required for admission to the chosen degree course (see Art. 9);
9. Self-declaration that the candidate has all the prerequisites to apply. This self-declaration must be signed under penalty of exclusion (All. 3).
10. Evidence of English language of at least B2 level (CEFR) coming in one of the following forms: a certificate issued by an internationally recognized certifying body; a certificate issued by the relevant body in the country of origin of the applicant; a document from the applicant's university confirming that English was the language of instruction; or a self-declaration made by the applicant of their level of competence in English.

All documents must be in either Italian or English.

In the case of any translated documents, a copy of the original must also be provided.

**Incomplete applications will not be accepted.** It is not possible to send additional documents by email after the applicant form has been submitted.

### **Art. 6**

#### **PROCEDURE FOR THE PRESENTATION OF APPLICATIONS**

Applicants must submit their applications no later than 30 days after the publication of the Call on the **Albo online** of the UniSalento website. This notice will be published, together with the Attachments, on the UniSalento website at the following link: <https://international.unisalento.it/admission/scholarships-grants/unisalento4talents>.

Students interested in applying for a grant for the *Unisalento4Talents Call 2023* should apply at the following link: <https://international.unisalento.it/admission/scholarships-grants/unisalento4talents>.

Only correctly completed applications will be accepted. Applicants should attach the following documents:

- certificate issued by the university where they did their Bachelor's degree listing the exams that they have taken (e.g. transcript of records). Applicants with a degree for access to the chosen Master's degree course must also provide a copy of the degree diploma or certificate issued by the university attesting that the said degree or qualification allows access to a Master's degree course in that country;
- Curriculum Vitae written in English;
- copy of a valid passport or any other official identification document (e.g. National Identity Card);
- Evidence of English language of at least B2 level (CEFR) coming in one of the following forms; a certificate issued by an internationally recognized certifying body; a certificate issued by the relevant body in the country of origin of the applicant; a document from the applicant's university confirming that English was the language of instruction; or a self-declaration made by the applicant of their level of competence in English;
- any other document required for admission to the chosen degree course (see Art. 9);
- Letter of motivation (**maximum 500 words**);
- Letter of reference from a member of the academic staff who supervised the applicant during his/her Bachelor's degree;
- Any other documentation (Art. 5.2 c.c. 10 and 11);
- Self-declaration that the candidate has all the prerequisites to apply. This self-declaration must be signed under penalty of exclusion (All. 3).

Applicants are also free to produce any other language certificates or certifications.

**Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

In the event of multiple applications from the same applicant, only the last regularly received application will be considered as validly submitted.

**Art. 7  
DURATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP**

The scholarship will cover a period of study of 12 months starting from **1 September 2023** and renewable for other 12 months from **1 September 2023**. The scholarship will end on the **31 August 2025**.

In case the candidate will be assigned an accommodation, the accommodation can be used until the **31 August 2025**.

**Art. 8  
RENEWALS**

In order to obtain a renewal of the grant, the student must obtain at least **30 university credits (ECTS) by 10 August 2024**. If the study plan for the first year of the degree course on which the student is enrolled provides for less than 60 credits, the renewal requirement will be calculated on the basis of half of the credits required for the first year.

The student must graduate by the last available session for those enrolled in his/her year of student intake, i.e. **April 2026**.

If the students does not graduate by April 2026, he must pay the university fees, charges and the regional ADISU tax for the Academic year 2025/26.

**Art. 9  
LIST OF MASTER'S DEGREE COURSES  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SALENTO PARTICIPATING IN THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

By clicking on the name of the course, you can access all the information on the course including the study plans and the specific admission requirements:

- **Coastal and Marine Biology and Ecology**  
<https://www.unisalento.it/didattica/cosa-studiare/corsi-di-laurea-magistrale/-/dettaglio/corso/LM51/coastal-and-marine-biology-and-ecology>
- **Management Engineering**  
<https://international.unisalento.it/studying/international-degree-programmes/-/dettaglio/corso/LM54/management-engineering>
- **Communication Engineering and Electronic Technologies**  
<https://international.unisalento.it/studying/international-degree-programmes/-/dettaglio/corso/LM65/communication-engineering-and-electronic-technologies>
- **Aerospace Engineering**  
<https://international.unisalento.it/studying/international-degree-programmes/-/dettaglio/corso/LM52/aerospace-engineering>
- **Materials Engineering and Nanotechnology**  
<https://international.unisalento.it/studying/international-degree-programmes/-/dettaglio/corso/LM76/materials-engineering-and-nanotechnology>

#### Art. 10

#### EVALUATION CRITERIA, CONSTITUTION AND APPROVAL OF THE RANKING LIST

The Evaluation Committees will be appointed by the by Rectoral Decree. The Committees will carry out the selection process taking into account the following criteria:

- Curriculum and motivation **max 20 points**
- Final average of all exams passed or final grade for the Bachelor's degree **max 40 points**

All applicants who meet the minimum requirements **will be interviewed by the Selection Committee**. The interview will assess the applicant's technical skills, educational background, command of English and any other qualifications submitted. The maximum number of points awarded **will be 40 out of a total of 100**.

Interviews will be conducted **online**. Applicants will be notified of the date and time of the interview by e-mail and the date and time will be also published on the university website (<http://www.unisalento.it/>) on the page dedicated to the initiative. During the interview, applicants will be asked to show their passport or any other official identification document (e.g. National Identity Card).

The Commission will draw up 6 (six) different merit list which will be approved by Rectoral Decree. In the event of a tie, priority will be given to the applicant with the lowest age.

The ranking will be published on the institutional website of the University of Salento under "Albo online" and "Bandi e Concorsi".

- All candidates are admitted to the selection process subject to conditions. The person in charge of the procedure may at any time exclude candidates from the selection procedure on the grounds that they do not meet the requirements. If the reasons for exclusion are ascertained after the selection procedure has been completed, the person in charge of the procedure will disqualify candidates from any right arising from their

having initially taken part in the selection procedure; candidates whose statements in the application form or statements made pursuant to Presidential Decree 445/2000 are found to be false will also be disqualified.

#### **Art. 11 MEDICAL INSURANCE**

The University will provide insurance coverage against accidents and civil liability.

Beneficiaries must take out a health insurance policy to cover any expenses that may be incurred by illness or accident.

In the event that the current epidemiological conditions persist, COVID self-certification must be submitted.

#### **Art. 12 INCOMPATIBILITY**

The *Unisalento4Talents Call 2023* scholarship is incompatible with:

- any other type of merit-based or income-based scholarship or award promoted by the University of Salento in favour of international students;
- the scholarships provided by the *Invest Your Talent in Italy* programme of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) or those provided by Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI) for students with international protection.
- scholarships aimed at international students and promoted by foreign governments or institutions on the basis of agreements with the University of Salento;
- scholarships refugee students offered within the project University Corridors for Refugee (UNICORE 4.0) for the academic year 2023-2024.

#### **Art. 13 RENUNCIATION**

Students who abandon their studies will automatically lose all the benefits referred to in Article 2 of the present Call.

#### **Art. 14 ACCEPTANCE**

Winners will receive notification of the award of the scholarship at the e-mail address that they provide on the application form. Within and **no later than 10 days** from the date of the communication of the award of the scholarship, the recipient must send an e-mail to [amministrazione.centrale@cert-unile.it](mailto:amministrazione.centrale@cert-unile.it) with a declaration of acceptance of the scholarship under the conditions of the call for applications, under penalty of forfeiture.

Furthermore, the successful candidates will receive by UniSalento via email a **letter of eligibility for enrollment**, following which the candidate, within the deadline indicated in the letter, must register on the **Universitaly portal** to request a visa, under penalty of forfeiture. The successful candidates, before the enrolment to the second year, must send the Declaration of value, otherwise the benefit will be not renewed.

#### **Art. 15 SCROLLING OF THE RANKING LIST**

Successful applicants who, after having initially accepted the scholarship, find that they cannot complete the enrolment on the chosen degree course, due to personal impediments, must send their rejection of the offer by e-mail to [amministrazione.centrale@cert-unile.it](mailto:amministrazione.centrale@cert-unile.it), within and **no later than 30 days** after having sent their formal acceptance. The enrolment will be completed upon the arrival in Italy and, in any case, by and no later than 30 November 2023.

In case of renunciation by any of the winners, the applicants below them on the list will be moved up accordingly.

For all that is not provided for in this notice, one must refer to the provisions contained in the Manifesto degli Studi for the academic year 2023/2024.

#### **Art. 16** **INFORMATION ON DATA PROCESSING**

Personal data will be processed in accordance with Regulation 45/2001 of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe for the protection of individuals, with respect to the processing of personal data by EU institutions and bodies and the free movement of such data, in accordance with Regulation 2016/679 (so-called GDPR) on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data and in accordance with Legislative Decree 196/03 (and successive modifications and integrations).

#### **Art. 17** **PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE PROCEDURE**

The person responsible for the application procedure is **Ennio Guidato**.

THE RECTOR

*Prof. Fabio POLLICE*