

A JOURNEY INTO
ADVANCED LEARNING,
QUINTESSENCE OF
LIVING AND CULTURE

STUDY IN ITALY

A Practical Guide for
Myanmar Students



Ambasciata d'Italia
Yangon

2nd edition—April 2024

Cover design: Carlotta Soutar



Ambasciata d'Italia
Yangon

This guide is meant to help students from Myanmar wishing to continue their studies in Italy. It contains useful information on practical issues, such as enrollment and visa procedures. We would like to thank the students who have contributed to the creation of this guide.

The Embassy of Italy in Yangon



The word "laurea" comes from the laurel wreath that Italian students traditionally wear during their graduation ceremony.

The Italian Higher Education System

The Italian Higher Education System includes Universities and Higher Education for Fine Arts, Music and Dance sector (AFAM - *Alta Formazione Artistica e Musicale*). These institutions can be either public or private.

Universities offer different levels of education in a broad range of disciplines:

- the *Corso di Laurea* (BA/BSc) is an undergraduate 3-year programme. The requirement for admission is the diploma awarded at the end of secondary school. Entry to undergraduate degree programs can either be restricted or open, or can be subject to a motivational test or entry examination.
- the *Corso di Laurea Magistrale* (MA/MSc) is a 2-year graduate programme. A Laurea or an equivalent degree is required for admission.
- the *Corso di Laurea Magistrale a Ciclo Unico* is a single-cycle degree programme lasting 5 or 6 years that is normally provided for some subjects, including Medicine and Law. A secondary school diploma is required for admission and an entry test may be necessary in some cases (e.g. International Medical Admissions Test - *IMAT*).
- the *Dottorato di Ricerca* (PhD) is a study and research programme lasting at least 3 years. It is the highest level of university education and requires that candidates pass a comprehensive examination and complete original research leading to a dissertation.
- the *Master Universitario di I livello* and *Master Universitario di II livello* are post-graduate courses aimed at providing specific professional knowledge and skills, that can be taken after a *Laurea* or a *Laurea Magistrale* respectively. These qualifications are not part of the European university system as defined in Bologna in 1999 and the diplomas may not be recognized internationally.

Institutes for Higher Artistic Education (AFAM) offer a wide range of courses in the artistic field such as visual arts, musical, dance, drama and design. They include Academies of Fine Arts, Higher Schools of Design, Music Conservatories and Higher Institutes for Musical Studies, the National Dance Academy and the National Academy of Drama.



How to Find Information

You can find information on studying and living in Italy on the following websites.

Study in Italy (<https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/>) provides foreign students with information on relevant topics, such as the Italian higher education system and student life in Italy. It also allows to search available courses at Italian Universities and Higher Education Institutions.

Further information is also available on **Universitaly** (<https://www.universitaly.it/>).

FAQ on studying in Italy are available on the website of the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** (https://www.esteri.it/en/sportello_info/domandefrequenti/studiare-in-italia/).

Uni-Italia (<https://www.uni-italia.net/>) can provide counselling and assistance throughout the application process. They are based in Rome and other cities around the world. The closest office is in Hanoi, covering South-East Asia

Uni-Italia Office in Hanoi

9, Le Phung Hieu, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi – Vietnam

Ph: +84 4 38240579

email: info@uni-italia.vn

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uni.italia.vietnam>

Website: <https://www.uni-italia.net/uni-italia-in-vietnam>



For detailed information concerning a specific Universities or Institutes and/or their courses –and services, you should visit their respective websites.

General Requirements

In order to enroll in a *Laurea* (BA/BSc) programme, it is usually required to hold a secondary school qualification released after a minimum of **12 years of schooling**. Students with less than 12 years of schooling can be granted access to Italian universities, if they can prove that they satisfy additional conditions, such as completion of one or more years of university studies, or attendance of a Foundation course at an Italian or foreign institution.

Although the most common teaching language is Italian, many courses at Italian Universities and Higher Education Institutions are taught in English. Knowledge of either **English or Italian language** is generally required and it is assessed for admission purposes.

Information on specific requirements by single programmes should be verified on the website of the relevant University or Institution.

Enrollment

In order to enroll in an Italian University or Higher Education Institution, international students must register on Universitaly (<https://www.universitaly.it/>) and fill in the **Pre-Enrollment Application**.

Applications are reviewed by Universities and Higher Education Institutions. Admitted students will receive further instructions on the same website.

The documents generally required to pre-enroll are:

- a passport-size **photo**;
- **passport** copy;
- **qualifications** that allow access to the chosen course, with any required translations and supporting documents, and language certificates.

When the high school diploma has been issued by a non-Italian school, students must apply to embassies or consulates for a document called *Dichiarazione di Valore* (Declaration of Value).

Declaration of Value

Universities usually require admitted students to present a Declaration of Value (a document attesting the validity of your Diploma) to complete their enrollment. The DoV are issued by Italian Embassies and Consulates free of charge when they are required by Universities. In the absence of a specific request, consular fees may be applicable.

The Embassy of Italy in Yangon may only issue DoV concerning certificates issued by schools or Universities in the Myanmar educational system.

The required documents are the following:

- original **Matriculation Examination** certificate and transcript in Myanmar language;
- certificates of **additional qualifications** (e.g. Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree etc.) and transcripts (including the final mark, or CGPA), if applicable;
- **notarial translations** of the above-mentioned documents into English legalized by MOFA;
- **Italian translations** of the above-mentioned documents to be certified by the Embassy;
- detailed **curriculum** of studies (number of years of study and institutions that the student attended);
- **passport** copy.

The Embassy can provide a list of English-Italian translators upon request.

Please contact the Consular Office to apply for a Declaration of

Value: consolare.yangon@esteri.it



Attention: the Embassy can only provide a DoV for degrees or qualifications that have been fully completed by the student at the time of the request. No DoV can be issued on parts of a study programme (e.g. single years of education).



The University of Bologna, founded in 1088, is considered as the oldest university in the world still operating.

Tax Code

The Tax Code (*Codice Fiscale*) is an alphanumeric code of 16 characters freely issued by the Italian Tax Agency (*Agenzia delle Entrate*) to identify Italian citizens and foreign residents when dealing with public offices or administrations, including universities. For instance, you need to have your own Tax Code to open a bank account, sign contracts (rental, phone line, etc.) or register at the National Healthcare Service (SSN).

Foreign students who need to obtain the tax identification number can apply for it at any *Agenzia delle Entrate* Local Office or at the Italian Embassy or Consulate in their Country of residence. The application form and the instructions to fill it in can be found on the Italian Tax Agency website: https://www.agenziaentrate.gov.it/portale/web/guest/schede/istanze/richiesta-ts_cf/modello-e-istruzioni-cf-aa4_8/aa48-inglese.



In order to obtain your tax code at the Embassy, you can send the application form and a copy of your passport to the Consular Office: consolare.yangon@esteri.it

Please, be very careful when indicating your personal data and spell your name as it is written on your passport: if you have a Myanmar name, you should write your name under *nome* and nothing under *cognome* (last name).



Tuition Fees

Italy is renowned for an excellent higher education at an affordable cost. **Tuition fees** are set by each Institution; they are calculated on the basis of the student's family income and can vary according to the course. Fees normally range from €900 to €4,000 at public universities and from €6,000 to €20,000 per year at private universities. Fee payment terms and conditions should be verified with the respective University or Higher Education Institution.

In order to calculate the tuition fees, foreign students are required to present a document called **ISEEU parificato** that is issued by a *CAF* (tax consultancy office). The *ISEEU parificato* also allows students to apply for need-based financial aid and other benefits from Regional Governments.

The documents that must be generally submitted to CAFs are (for Academic Year 2024-2025):

- updated family registration list, reporting each family member's name, date of birth and relationship to the student (as of the current year);
- income received by each member of the family unit during year 2022;
- any other income received for assistance, social security or indemnity in 2022;

- any income received or given for child maintenance in cases of legal separation or divorce in 2022;
- any real estate assets (buildings, land etc.) owned by member of the family unit as of 31/12/2022 (the absence of assets must be expressly specified);
- (if the family unit resides in a rented accommodation) the value of the rent per year as stated in the lease contract as of 31/12/2022;
- the balance of current accounts, deposits and savings as of 31/12/2022 and their average balance for the year 2022, and the balance of every other type of investment (bonds, shares, life insurance etc.) as of 31/12/2022.

The documents listed above must be issued by the relevant authority in the country in which the income was produced, translated into Italian and legalised by the relevant Italian Embassy or Consulate.



In order to obtain a **legalisation**, the following documents are required:

- original document in Myanmar (or English) language;
- notarial translation of the above-mentioned document into English legalised by MOFA;
- Italian translation (the Embassy can provide a list of English-Italian translators upon request).



Please contact the Consular Office to submit a request for legalisation: consolare.yangon@esteri.it





Lower Income Students

Students coming from Myanmar and other countries included in the list of particularly poor countries by the Ministerial Decree pursuant to Art. 13 of the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers 9 April 2001 "Regulation on equal treatment regarding the right to higher education" may apply to their University for a reduction of tuition fees.

Therefore, students who do not belong to a well-known high income and high social status family may ask the Embassy to issue a **lower-income status declaration**, in order to have their tuition fees reduced and apply for other benefits (e.g. student housing, scholarships awarded by Universities or Regional Authorities for the Right to Higher Education). The Embassy verifies the student's family income by requiring proof of income of family members, properties and assets.

In order to apply for a lower-income status declaration, prepare the documents listed above for the ISEEU parificato and contact the Consular Office: consolare.yangon@esteri.it

In addition, the tuition fees may also be reduced or waived based on merit by individual Universities to talented international students.

Scholarships and Opportunities

Several Italian institutions offer scholarships to foreign students.

Every year, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** offers grants to foreign students to complete study, research and training programmes in public or legally recognized Italian educational institutions.



Call for applications and further information are available on Study in Italy (https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/en/home_borse).

Many **Italian Universities and Higher Education Institutes** offer scholarships to their students by setting their own terms and conditions. Some of them (including the Universities of Padua and Florence) have offered special scholarships to Myanmar students in the past. You can find information on scholarships and other opportunities on their respective websites.

Regional Governments also grant scholarships through their Offices for the Right to Study. They can give international students the opportunity to have free accommodation, free meals, free tuition fees or other kind of facilities. Please check the relevant Regional Office for the Right to Study website according to the institutions you are going to apply to.

Study Visa

Once the pre-enrollment has been successfully completed and requirements by the University are fulfilled, admitted students can apply for a 1-year study visa. Please note that an admission letter from a university does not ensure that students will obtain a visa.

In order to submit an application, the following documents are required:

- visa application form ([http://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/Moduli/it/Formulario Visto Nazionale.pdf](http://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/Moduli/it/Formulario_Visto_Nazionale.pdf));
- recent passport-size photograph;

- valid passport whose expiry date is three months longer than the duration of the requested visa;
- proof that the applicant has adequate accommodation in Italy, or at least a temporary one for the initial period;
- proof that the applicant has sufficient financial means to support his/her stay in Italy (at least €467.65 per month for the academic year, a total of €6,079.45 per year) and repatriation, including evidence of personal or financial resources, scholarships etc.;
- complete enrolment or pre-enrolment in the course to be followed in Italy, including all the documents requested by the university (e.g. DOV);
- adequate insurance coverage for medical treatment and hospitalization.

The study visa application fee is €50.

For further information, please refer to the regulation of Ministry of University and Research on "Procedures for entry, stay, registration of international students and the related recognition of qualifications for Higher Education courses in Italy" (<https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/>) or the Embassy's website (<https://ambyangon.esteri.it/it/servizi-consolari-e-visti/servizi-per-il-cittadino-straniero/visti/documents-you-need-to-apply-for-visa/>).





When your documents are ready, you can make an appointment to submit your application by contacting our Visa Office: visti.yangon@esteri.it



Attention: submitting the required documentation does not automatically guarantee visa issuance.

Upon entering Italy and the Schengen Area, even if you have a visa, Border Authorities are authorized to check once again the documents required for the visa issue.

Stay Permit

As soon as you arrive in Italy, you must apply for the stay permit within 8 working days after your arrival. The residence permit is issued by the Immigration Office of the local Police Headquarters (*Questura*). The stay permit application kit (*kit per il permesso di soggiorno*) is a yellow-striped envelope that can be collected - free of charge - at any Post Office. Many universities assist their students in submitting their stay permit application: please check with your university if they have an office that can help you through this procedure.

In order to submit your stay permit application, you will need to attach the following documents:

- 2 copies of the pages of your passport containing your personal data, your visa for Italy and other visas or stamps;
- copy of your tax code (*codice fiscale*);
- proof of your enrollment at University in Italy (enrollment certification);
- a 16.00 € revenue stamp (*marca da bollo*), that you can purchase at any Tobacco store;
- proof of your accommodation;
- proof of financial resources and health insurance.

You must submit the kit for the stay permit at the Post Office. The application cost is €116.46 (€16 for the revenue stamp + €70.46 for the Electronic residence permit + €30 Application Fee). Do NOT put any original document inside the envelope, only their copies, but bring your passport with you.

After the payment, you will be given:

- The receipt with the password needed to check your application status online;
- A letter with the details (date and time) of your appointment at the Immigration Office (*Questura*) to complete the procedure.


Attention: always carry a copy of these documents with you! They prove your legal status in Italy until you receive the electronic stay permit.

When you go to the Immigration Office for your appointment, you are required to take with you:

- 4 passport-size photographs
- the original copies of the documents you sent with the kit;
- your passport;
- the stay permit application receipt.

After 3 or 4 weeks, you will receive an SMS with the details of your appointment to collect your stay permit at the Immigration Office. You can check either the website of the Police (<http://www.poliziadistato.it/articolo/15002/>) to find out whether your stay permit is available for collection.

For more information, you can check the following website:

 www.portaleimmigrazione.it



Attention: stay permits are normally valid for 1 year. In case you need to stay longer, please remember to apply for an extension before your stay permit expires!



Healthcare

If you would like to study in Italy, you need to have health insurance. You will need to present proof of your health insurance when you enroll at university and apply for a residence permit. Make sure to take care of your health insurance status before you arrive in Italy.

Registering with the Italian National Healthcare Service (SSN) is warmly recommended because it entitles you to services such as: choice of a general practitioner, who can visit you, prescribe medicines and refer you to specialists (dentists, orthopedics, etc.); admission to public hospitals; doctor on duty continuous assistance service (*guardia medica*); lower fees for tests (blood tests, radiological tests, etc.); vaccinations.

Registration with the SSN can be done at the Local Healthcare Authority (ASL) in your city of residence, after you submitted your stay permit application. The registration fee for students is 149.77 € per year; the payment is valid until the 31 December of the year when the payment has been made. In order to subscribe, you will have to pay 149.77 € at any post office, and then go to the ASL, bringing along: your passport, your residence permit receipt, your payment receipt.

For further information on the Italian Healthcare system, please follow the link www.salute.gov.it. In case you are in an emergency situation, you can dial 118 to call an ambulance or directly go to the *Pronto Soccorso* (Emergency room) of the closest hospital.

Accommodation

You will need proof of accommodation in Italy for your visa application, but it can be temporary. We recommend you find a stable accommodation for the



first few weeks in Italy and use these days to personally visit houses/rooms you may want to rent. Student housing prices in Italy can range from €300-600 a month (per room), depending on the size and location (they are usually more expensive in big cities). You can find rent ads on many sources, such as the internet, social media pages and groups, your university campus (they often have ad boards) and local real estate agencies.

Attention: be aware of scams! Do not take for granted what online advertisements tell you and do not pay in advance unless you are 100% positive that everything is fine.

Many Italian universities have student services and housing offices that can provide information on renting student apartments, generally more affordable than accommodation on the private market, and manage university housing facilities. Common kind of university accommodation are: university dorms (*residenze universitarie* and *case dello studente*), university guestrooms (*foresterie* – usually for short stays), and university colleges or residences (*collegi* or *residenze universitarie*). For further information check the following link: www.collegiuniversitari.it. Admission to university residences is usually based on the student's financial status and merit.

Banking

Opening an account at an Italian bank may be necessary if you need to receive a scholarship and may be useful to facilitate some actions, such as opening mobile and internet contracts, or subscribe to a local transportation service. As an alternative, you can consider opening pre-paid cards or online bank accounts that have an IBAN (International Bank Account Number). Banking services are offered by both commercial banks and by post offices (*Poste Italiane*). Please check their respective websites for further information on their services.

In order to open a bank account, you must generally have a valid passport and a tax code. Non-EU citizens might be required to be in possession of the stay permit or the receipt of the application for a stay permit.

Attention: please note that due to the current international restrictions on transactions with Myanmar, you may incur in refusals or delays in opening bank accounts. Make sure to have enough money to cover your expenses in the first months.

Emergencies

In case of emergency or assistance you can dial 112 (one-one-two), the single European emergency number. Calls will be transferred to a single Assistance Unit, which will get you in contact with the competent authority, such as:

- *Carabinieri* (Gendarmerie) - www.carabinieri.it;
- *Polizia di Stato* (Police) - www.poliziadistato.it;
- *Vigili del fuoco* (Firemen) - www.vigilfuoco.it;
- Ambulance and emergency medical care - www.118italia.net;
- *Guardia di Finanza* (Financial crime Police) - www.gdf.it.



Tips from Older Students

Here are some tips from some Myanmar students who have studied in Italy before:

- Although many people speak or understand English, especially in larger cities, learning Italian can make your life easier and help you make friends. Universities usually offer **Italian language classes** for incoming foreign students, especially at the beginning of the academic year.
- Many universities offer support to their international students through various procedures, such as applying for stay permits, subscribing for health insurance, registering for healthcare, opening bank accounts. Make sure to connect with the **International Students office** to find out more.
- Connecting to **local and international students** (e.g. Erasmus network) can be useful to get practical information and help you in your everyday life.
- Be ready to adapt to **different food habits**: do not expect to find a full meal for breakfast, as Italians usually have a croissant and coffee in the morning and eat their main meals for lunch and dinner.
- Be aware that, while Italy is generally a safe country, you may incur in **petty crime**. Be careful about your personal belongings, especially while you are on public transportations or public places.



Table of Contents

The Italian Higher Education System	5
How to Find Information	6
General Requirements	7
Enrollment	7
Declaration of Value	8
Tax Code	9
Tuition Fees	10
Lower Income Students	12
Scholarships and Opportunities	13
Study Visa	13
Stay Permit	15
Healthcare	17
Accommodation	18
Banking	19
Emergencies	19
Tips from Older Students	20

Embassy of Italy in Yangon

3, Inya Myaing Road, Golden Valley,
Bahan Tonwship, Yangon, Myanmar

www.ambyangon.esteri.it

Facebook: @ItalianEmbassyYangon

Twitter: @ItalyinMyanmar

Instagram: @italyinmyanmar

YouTube: @ItalyinMyanmar

