



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MASTER'S DEGREES THESIS
PREPARATION
ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026 - FIRST EDITION¹**

1. Purposes

The University of Milan offers scholarships to prepare all - or part of - a student's Master's Degree thesis abroad at an international academic or research institution.

To be eligible for these scholarships, students must submit a detailed research proposal (see template in Annex A). Destinations are chosen at the student's discretion. Research may be conducted at any academic or research institution in the world, without any geographical restrictions.

The project submitted by each candidate must demonstrate that the period of research abroad is **the central and distinctive element of their thesis project**, either being essential for its completion or adding value to it.

In order to ensure a fair distribution of resources, the university funding allocated to the initiative is initially divided among the disciplinary areas based on the average number of graduates from the last three academic years.

Candidates eligible for the scholarship are those enrolled in Master's degree programmes or single-cycle Master's degree programmes who plan to complete their degree by the first graduation session of the academic year 2026/2027.

The minimum duration of the stay abroad is two months and the maximum is five months; the mobility can be extended up to nine months upon submission of a justified request and the approval of the student's thesis supervisor.

2. Admission requirements

To be eligible for this mobility abroad, students must be duly enrolled at the University of Milan for the academic year 2025/2026 and must remain enrolled throughout the entire study-abroad period. Students must also have a grade-point average falling within the upper range of the

¹ This English version is a translation of the original in Italian and is published for information purposes only. In case of a discrepancy, the Italian original will prevail.



average grades earned over the past three years by the majority of students in the applicant's study programme, as reflected in the "Grade-point average required to apply for 2025/2026 International Thesis Preparation Scholarship", published at:

<https://www.unimi.it/it/internazionale/studiare-allestero/tesi-allestero>

An essential requirement for applying is that the candidate possesses adequate language skills. Specifically, **a minimum level B1 is required in the language(s) of study/work** at the host institution.

The level of language proficiency is determined according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR - Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - <https://www.coe.int/en/web/language-policy/home>).

3. Scholarship amount and compatibility

The scholarships, each in the amount of € 800.00 per month, gross of legal obligations, are awarded for periods of **at least 2 months and a maximum of 5 months**. The scholarships **contribute to the total taxable income and are subject to income tax (IRPEF), being considered as employment income (Article 50, paragraph 1, letter c of the Italian Consolidated Income Tax Code - TUIR)**.

Any months of extension granted beyond the five months (up to a maximum of nine months of total mobility) are not to be covered by any financial contribution.

The mobility scholarship is compatible with the Excellence Scholarship, with contributions for stays abroad, and with the interregional mobility scholarships provided by Ministerial Decree No. 755 of September 4, 2013.

Simultaneous participation in mobility periods funded or activated under different programmes and/or agreements is not allowed. In the case of overlapping periods, the scholarship amounts corresponding to the overlapping period must be refunded.

Taking into account the available annual budget, the total number of scholarships available for this call equals 275 monthly payments, which correspond to 55 five-monthly grants distributed proportionally as follows, based on the number of graduates in the three years preceding the calendar year of the issuance of the call, expressed as a percentage:



FACOLTA'	mensilità (arrotondate per eccesso)	borse 5 mesi
LAW	30	6
MEDICINE	35	7
VETERINARY MEDICINE	15	3
AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES	15	3
PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES	20	4
SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY	45	9
SPORTS SCIENCES	15	3
POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	40	8
SMLC	15	3
HUMANITIES	45	9

Any unassigned scholarships will be distributed based on the criteria used during the allocation phase of the funding, namely the number of graduates in the three years prior to the calendar year in which the Call for applications was published, expressed as a percentage.

The scholarship will be credited to La Statale Card. Therefore, selected candidates must activate their university card as a **Flash Up Studio La Statale prepaid card**, well in advance. More information on this is available at <https://www.unimi.it/en/study/student-services/carta-la-statale-badge>

The scholarship will be paid as a lump sum once the winners are announced and after the completion of all the necessary administrative procedures. Scholarships may not be used retroactively. Under no circumstances may the scholarship amount be supplemented with additional contributions. **Mobility periods can begin as of March 1st, 2026**. Under no circumstances may the scholarship be retroactive.

4. Application procedure and deadlines

In order to apply for the selection process, interested candidates must complete and submit the application online with university credentials on the online platform through the following link:

https://elixforms.unimi.it/rwe2/module_preview.jsp?MODULE_TAG=studenti_tesi_estero2526ed1

In the online procedure, applicants will be required to upload the following documentation in PDF, unless otherwise stated:



1. **Letter of acceptance**, signed by both the tutor and the international relations office (or equivalent administrative office) at the host institution, drafted according to the template attached to this call for applications (**Annex B**). Unsigned letters or letters signed in a manner different from the one specified in the attached template will be rejected.
2. **Certification of the minimum level B1**, stating the candidate's language skills in the working language used at the host institution, namely:

a) An official certification recognised by the university. A list of accepted certifications is available at the following link:

<https://www.unimi.it/it/studiare/competenze-linguistiche/altre-lingue-test-e-corsi>;

Certifications are valid if obtained no more than five years before the application submission date;

b) A language certificate, issued by the University Language Service (SLAM), confirming a minimum B1 level in the working language. For the purpose of this call, SLAM certificates are valid if obtained within the last five years;

c) Screenshot of the academic record from Unimia, provided that the requested language level is explicitly stated. Whether this is from an officially recognised certification or a SLAM-verified level, for the purpose of this call, its validity is unlimited;

Students who have already taken the English Placement Test with SLAM or their language proficiency test and do not have a level statement may contact SLAM via Informastudenti ("TEST DI LINGUA") and request a language proficiency statement of the test they took.

Students who are enrolled in degree programmes entirely taught in English, or attend curricula taught in English, are considered to own the language proficiency corresponding to the entry requirement for their degree programme. These students must self-certify their English skills through "Annex C" form.

Students with a higher language proficiency level are required to prove it as outlined in either point a), b) or c).

Students whose **mother tongue** is the language they need to certify are also required to follow the same procedures described in this article.

3. **Reference letter for the candidate**, signed by the thesis supervisor;



4. **Transcript of grade-point average** for the student's academic career, obtained via a screenshot taken on the UNIMIA system (which may also be submitted as a .jpeg); the certification must bear the applicant's student ID number;
5. **A photocopy of a valid ID;**
6. **The thesis proposal**, in either Italian or English, generated based on the template annexed to the call for applications (**Annex A**): the proposal must be approved and countersigned by the professor acting as the applicant's thesis supervisor and by the tutor at the host institution; students should include the following content in their proposal:
 - Theoretical framework of the topic to be addressed;
 - Statement of research objectives;
 - Explanation of the methodology;
 - Nature of the sources to be collected abroad (archives, interviews, databases, etc.);
 - Bibliography;

The online application procedure also requires the submission of a “personal motivation supporting the application,” in which the candidate must thoroughly explain the **relevance of their choice of host institution in relation to the thesis project and the educational motivations behind the experience abroad.**

Applications must be completed and submitted by **no later than 2:00 pm (Italian time) on 1 December 2025** through the following online platform:

https://elixforms.unimi.it/rwe2/module_preview.jsp?MODULE_TAG=studenti_tesi_estero2526ed1

Students must inform the Office of any technical issues before the deadline, by writing to Informastudenti > International > Bando Tesi all'Estero and providing clear proof (e.g. screenshot) of the encountered problem.

Incomplete applications **will not be accepted.**

In case of more than one application from the same student, the Office will only consider the latest application submitted.

5. Online application instructions

All sections of the online application must be completed unless otherwise specified. Before moving on to the next section, click on the “Save and continue” button. Applicants who wish to complete



the application in a different order, or close the session and complete their application at a later time, may instead select “Save”.

Once the application has been filled out, applicants may review and print a summary of their entries. Once reviewed, the applicant must download the file as a PDF, sign their application (with a handwritten or digital signature), and then upload their signed application onto the system.

A final confirmation screen will appear once the application is submitted for review. Additionally, the system will send two notifications to the student’s official e-mail address:

1. notice of submitted application;
2. notice with the registration number assigned to the submitted application.
The second notice may arrive a few hours after the first, and shall serve as an official confirmation that the application has been successfully delivered.

6. Announcement of winners

Candidates will be selected by an ad-hoc committee, with balanced representation amongst the applicants’ own disciplines. The Committee will review the documents submitted by the candidates according to the following criteria (see point 7).

The results shall be published by **14 January 2026**, unless otherwise communicated, and posted on <https://www.unimi.it/it/internazionale/studiare-allestero/tesi-allestero>

7. Assignment criteria

To award the scholarships, a specific ranking will be generated based on the following criteria:

- a) quality and originality of the Thesis proposal (max. points awarded: 15);
- b) candidate's GPA, if higher than the average required for scholarship eligibility (max. points awarded: 6);
- c) working language proficiency, as required by point 2 of paragraph 4 (“Application procedure and deadlines; required documentation”) (max. points awarded: 4);
- d) candidate’s motivations (max. points awarded: 5)

Students scoring at least **21 points** will be considered as eligible for a scholarship.



The scholarships will be awarded until all slots are assigned, in a manner that ensures a balanced representation of the University's study programme areas.

In case of a tie, the younger candidate will have priority.

8. Compliance required after awarding the scholarship

Before leaving

Scholarship recipients will be contacted by the International Mobility and Promotion Office to receive additional instructions on the forms to be completed before their departure.

Study-abroad students are personally responsible for completing all paperwork and interviews that may be required for a student VISA, in accordance with the specific requirements applicable to the country of destination. Departure can only take place after the completion of the required formalities and subject to any mobility restrictions imposed by national or international authorities².

Under no circumstances will a change of destination be authorised.

Students participating in mobility programmes are insured for accidents and third-party liability during their official activities. Any health insurance coverage, if needed, will be the student's responsibility.

Upon the student's return

Within 30 days of their return, students will be required to upload the following documents to the portal

https://elixforms.unimi.it/rwe2/module_preview.jsp?MODULE_TAG=PresentazioneCertificateStay_TesiEstero (posted to <https://www.unimi.it/en/international/study-abroad/thesis-abroad>):

- a. a "certificate of stay" from the host institution, indicating the student's date of arrival and departure;

² Mobility to countries or regions considered at risk by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and listed on the website <https://www.viaggiare Sicuri.it/find-country> must be evaluated and approved by the Office before departure.



- b. a statement by the student's thesis supervisor stating the research carried out according to the thesis proposal, and the outcomes reached according to the project planned;
- c. the Learning Agreement bearing the signatures of the host institution and the UNIMI tutor.

The recognition of activities carried out abroad for the preparation of the thesis in relation to the final exam is the responsibility of the student's degree programme, according to the procedures defined by the programme itself. For further details, students should refer to the Academic Offices.

9. Scholarship withdrawal

Winning candidates who, after accepting the scholarship, are unable to carry out the project abroad due to personal reasons must inform the Office within 5 days, providing the reasons for their withdrawal (Informastudenti > Internazionale > Bando Tesi Estero), and return all fundings received, according to the procedures described by the Office.

10. Refunds

In the case of a stay shorter than the one declared in the application, the scholarship recipient will be required to reimburse the scholarship amounts received, proportional to the period not spent abroad. In the event of cancellation or interruption due to force majeure, or situations that are unforeseeable and beyond the control of the parties, the scholarship corresponding to the uncompleted period of mobility will be requested for return. However, reimbursement may be considered for any documented extraordinary expenses incurred in relation to the cause of the interruption.

PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING

Pursuant to EU Regulation 2016/679 ("GDPR") and Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 (as amended) regarding personal data protection, the Institution pledges to safeguard the confidentiality of all information submitted by the Participant: any data supplied shall be processed in strict accordance with the purposes for which they were collected, as needed for the student's participation in the Programme. Information on the implementation of these personal-data protection rules is



available on the University's website, <http://www.unimi.it/ateneo/73613.htm> - www.unimi.it > University > Privacy.

Information regarding the instant call for applications may be requested through [Informastudenti](#) by selecting the category BANDO TESI ALL'ESTERO - THESIS ABROAD CALL FOR APPLICATION”

Milan, 8 September 2025

Signed
THE RECTOR
(Marina Brambilla)

Protocollo n. 0032609/25
P. Ass. 5192468 del 08/09/2025