

REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLYING FOR A STUDY VISA AT THE
EMBASSY OF ITALY IN
WASHINGTON, DC

**Before approaching the counter make sure you have the following documents in the following order
(a COMPLETE set of documents is required for EACH individual applicant)**

1. **application form** properly and clearly filled out – you can find the form here:
<https://ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/en/servizi-consolari-e-visti/servizi-per-il-cittadino-straniero/visti/modulistica/> ;
2. passport size **photo** with white background (3,5 x 4cm)
https://www.icao.int/sites/default/files/FAL/Annex_A-Photograph_Guidelines.pdf . (NOTE: printed, scanned or photocopied photos will NOT be accepted).
3. **valid passport** plus 1 photocopy of the page with photograph and expiration date. The passport or travel document must be valid at least three months after the visa expiration date. Please make sure the passport is no older than 10 years and has at least two blank pages to affix the visa.
4. **NON-USA citizens:** original plus 1 photocopy of **Permanent Residence Card** OR other US immigration document allowing re-entry into the United States (e.g. valid long-term US visa, Advance Parole, etc.). The US Residence permit or visa should be valid at least three months beyond the intended departure from the Schengen territory.
International students must submit original and copy of F-1 Visa and valid re-entry (“travel”) signature on I-20. Please provide copy of old passport if US Visa is affixed there;
5. **original and copy of Driver’s License or State ID** as proof of residence within the jurisdiction of this Embassy of Italy.
Full-time students may also use original and copy of Student ID. If you recently moved and have not updated your ID, you must submit another proof of current address (e.g. utility bills, bank statements, etc.);
6. **summary of the pre-enrollment application** as validated by the University. Please note that only students whose pre-enrollment applications have been validated without conditions (or conditionally validated solely in cases where the language proficiency test and admission examination remain to be completed) may apply for a study visa.
7. **proof of financial means** (minimum **€10,179.85** per year). Applicants must submit the last three bank statements for a checking or savings account (no investments, certificates of deposit, etc.) from a US banking institution. **Dependents** must submit relevant documentation of the parent(s) (or of relatives up to the fourth degree of kinship) sponsoring the trip with an **Affidavit of Support** — which must be **notarized** or signed before the visa officer and presented together with a copy of the dependent’s birth certificate, a copy of the sponsor’s passport, and a copy of the sponsor’s most recent bank statement.
8. **availability of funds for repatriation.** The financial resources required for return to the United States are in addition to the minimum requirement of **€10,179.85** and may be demonstrated by presenting a return ticket.
9. **proof of suitable accommodation** in Italy, which can be satisfied by a valid hotel reservation for the initial period, a duly executed lease agreement, a suitable declaration of hospitality, or an assignment of accommodation in a university residence. Please note that merely applying for, or being deemed eligible for, accommodation in a university residence is not sufficient.

10. adequate insurance coverage for medical treatment and hospitalization, which must also be presented when applying for a residence permit (*permesso di soggiorno*). The following forms of coverage are accepted:

- **consular declaration** certifying the right to health care under an agreement between Italy and the country of origin;
- **foreign insurance policy**, accompanied by a consular declaration concerning its validity in Italy, duration, and forms of coverage provided, which must not entail limitations or exceptions to the rates established for emergency hospitalization throughout the entire validity period;
- **insurance policy with Italian entities or companies**, accompanied by a declaration from the insurance provider specifying the absence of any limitations or exceptions to the rates provided for urgent hospital admission for its entire duration.

11. educational qualification: based on the chosen course of study, students shall present:

- for bachelor's/first-level academic degree (*laurea/diploma accademico di primo livello*) and integrated master's degree (*ciclo unico*) courses:
 - a. original final secondary school qualification (e.g. high school diploma), obtained after at least twelve years of schooling, which must be accompanied by either:
 - a Statement of Comparability and a Statement of Verification of Authenticity issued by the Italian ENIC-NARIC center (CIMEA); or
 - a Declaration of Value (*Dichiarazione di Valore*) for the foreign educational qualification, if the CIMEA statement does not explicitly confirm that the authenticity of the submitted qualification has been verified.
 - b. certificate attesting the successful completion of any academic qualification examinations that may be required for admission to universities in the country of origin
 - c. Italian translations of the documents indicated in points "a" and "b", certified as conforming to the originals
 - d. any other documentation relating to the verification of the authenticity of the foreign educational qualification
- for master's/second-level academic degree (*laurea magistrale/diploma accademico di secondo livello*) and, more generally, for second- and third-cycle courses:
 - a. original official foreign degree that corresponds to a first- or second-cycle qualification under the Bologna Process and is classified at Level 6 or 7 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), depending on admission to second- or third-cycle programs. The degree must have been awarded by a higher education institution that, in the home country, provides access to the next level of academic study (i.e. second- or third-cycle programs / EQF Levels 7 or 8). The qualification must also show no substantial differences compared to Italian standards, in accordance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention and the assessment methodology used by the Italian ENIC-NARIC center (CIMEA). The degree must be accompanied by either:
 - a Statement of Comparability and a Statement of Verification of Authenticity issued by the Italian ENIC-NARIC center (CIMEA); or
 - a Declaration of Value (*Dichiarazione di Valore*) for the foreign educational qualification, if the CIMEA statement does not explicitly confirm that the authenticity of the submitted qualification has been verified.

- b. certificate issued by the competent higher education institution attesting the examinations passed, as well as, for each subject, the detailed syllabi required for the attainment of the aforementioned qualifications
- c. any Italian translations of the documents indicated in points “a” and “b”, certified as conforming the originals
- d. any other documentation relating to the verification of the authenticity of the foreign educational qualification

12. language certification. For courses in Italian, at least a B2 level of Italian is required. Apart from the result of the language test, the only certifications valid for the issuance of the visa are those of at least B2 level issued by Italian Cultural Institutes or schools belonging to the CLIQ network. **For courses not in Italian**, certification of proficiency of at least B2 level in the language in which the course is held is required, which may be issued by internationally recognized institutions or the universities themselves, provided that they attest to the possession of language skills in all four abilities (listening, reading, speaking, and writing).

13. Visa fee - (non-refundable). **Money Orders** or **Cashier's checks**, payable to the **Embassy of Italy** in Washington D.C., with applicant's name. Personal checks and credit cards **will not be accepted**.

TO BE KEPT IN MIND:

- If you will be signing a lease to cover your accommodations, you will have to present the registered and executed lease contract.
- If you will be staying at a private home (i.e. you will be “hosted”), then you must have your host fill out the appropriate form (“proof of accommodation”), sign and date it and present it with proof of legal residence in Italy and copy of their identity card (*carta di identità*) or passport.

USEFUL SITES:

- The Embassy of Italy in Washington - <https://ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/en/>
- Visto per l'Italia - <https://vistoperitalia.esteri.it/>
- CIMEA - <https://www.cimea.it/EN/index.php>
- Studiare in Italia - <https://www.universitaly.it/studenti-stranieri>
- Study in Italy - <https://studyinitaly.esteri.it/>