

UNIVERSITÀ **DEGLI STUDI** 

Servizio orientamento e programmi DI BERGAMO | internazionali

### **University Corridors for Refugees - 6.0** (Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Suoth Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Mozambique-2024/2026)

Call for applications for 2 study grants and welcome services for refugee students registering for Second cycle degree programmes taught in English at the University of Bergamo, Academic Years 2024-25 and 2025-26

# APPLICATIONS DEADLINE: April 15th 2024 12,00 (noon, UTC +2)

INDEX	
ART. 1 - Subject, amount and duration	2
Art. 1.1 National Project Partners	2
Art. 1.2 Local Partners of the Project	3
Art. 1.3 Benefits and supports offered	3
Art. 1.4 Specific Benefits offered by University of Begamo	3
ART. 2 – Incompatibility	3
ART. 3 - Admission requirements	4
ART. 4 – Selection criteria and application documents	4
Art. 4.1 Selection criteria and evaluation committee	4
Art. 4.2 Application documents	4
Art. 4.3 Deadlines and modalities	4
Art. 5 - Selection process	5
Art. 5.1 Step 1 - Evaluation of the documentation	5
Art. 5.2 Step 2 - Interview	5
Art. 5.3 – Establishment and approval of the final ranking list	5
Art. 5.4 Acceptance	5
Art. 5.5 Ranking scroll and assignment of available seats	6
ART. 6 – Access to the scholarship and renewal requirements	6
Art.6.1 Access to the scholarship	5
Art. 6.2 Renewal requirements	6
Art.6.3 Additional Renewals	6
ART. 7 – Information notice concerning data processing	6
ART. 8 – Conditional issuing of the call for applications	6
Art. 9 – List of the Second Cycle Degree taught in English participating in the call for University of Bergamo	7



# ART. 1 - Subject, amount and duration

The general objective of the University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 6.0 project is to promote the right to high education for refugees through study corridors from Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Mozambique to Italy.

# **Art. 1.1 National Project Partners**

The project is jointly promoted by a consortium of partners:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- Commissione Sinodale per la Diaconia Diaconia Valdese (CSD)
- Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)
- following Univversities
- 1. Università Politecnica delle Marche Ancona
- 2. Università degli studi di Bari
- 3. Politecnico di Bari
- 4. Università degli studi di Bergamo
- 5. Università degli studi di Bologna Alma Mater Studiorum
- 6. Università degli studi di Brescia
- 7. Università degli studi di Cagliari
- 8. Università degli studi del Molise Campobasso
- 9. Università della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli Caserta
- 10. Università degli studi di Catania
- 11. Università degli Studi "Gabriele d'Annunzio" di Chieti-Pescara
- 12. Università degli studi del Piemonte Orientale, Vercelli
- 13. Università degli studi di Firenze
- 14. European University Institute di Firenze
- 15. Università degli studi dell'Aquila
- 16. Università degli studi di Messina
- 17. Università degli studi di Milano Bicocca
- 18. Università degli Studi di Milano Bocconi
- 19. Università degli Studi di Milano IULM
- 20. Università degli Studi di Milano La Statale
- 21. Politecnico di Milano
- 22. Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia
- 23. Università degli studi di di Padova
- 24. Università degli studi di Palermo
- 25. Università degli studi di di Parma
- 26. Università per stranieri di Perugia,
- 27. Università di Pisa
- 28. Università degli studi di di Reggio Calabria
- 29. Università degli studi di di Roma, La Sapienza
- 30. Università di Roma, LUISS Guido Carli
- 31. Università degli studi di di Roma, Roma Tre
- 32. Università degli studi del Salento Lecce
- 33. Università degli studi di di Siena
- 34. Università per stranieri di Siena
- 35. Università degli studi di Trento
- 36. Università degli studi di Torino
- 37. Politecnico di Torino
- 38. Università degli studi della Tuscia, Viterbo
- 39. Università degli studi di Urbino Carlo Bo
- 40. Università degli studi di Venezia, luav
- 41. Università degli studi di Verona



The benefits are intended for holders of International Protection living in Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Mozambique and admitted in a programme among those offered at one of the partner university for Academic Year (A.Y.) 2024-25.

UNICORE 6.0 benefits are assigned for A.Y. 2024-25 and A.Y. 2025-26. Maintenance merit requirements and additional renewal conditions are listed in Art. 6.

The full list of the programmes available at University of Bergamo is specified in Art. 9.

# Art. 1.2 Local Partners of the Project

University of Bergamo will be supported in the project by Commissione Sinodale per la Diaconia - Diaconia Valdese (CSD).

Details of the service offered by the partners are better specified in the letters, by which the partners have agreed to join the partnership.

# Art. 1.3 Benefits and supports offered by CSD:

- Payment of the regional tax for the right to study a.y. 2024-25 and 2025-26 and related stamp duty
- Financial contribution of 100,00 euro upon arrival to cover the first personal expences
- Coverage of administrative costs related to application (118,46 Euro), and renewal (118,46 Euro), of Residence Permit for study purposes
- Health Insurance coverage for the entire duration of the project
- Telephone sim card and payment of the first monthly subscription
- financial contribution of 500,00 euro for the purchase of a personal computer
- Support for issuing of documents needed for the stay in the Italian territory
- Orientation to services and extra academic activities in the area, and support for inclusion in the local community

Detailed services offered by the University of Bergamo are listed in Art. 1.4.

The above mentioned academic benefits are applicable only to the beneficiaries of the scholarship and cannot be extended for any reason to relatives or third parties.

# Art. 1.4 Specific Benefits offered by University of Bergamo

- Accommodation in one of University residences
- Monthly scholarship of 500,00 Euro (including all charges for the beneficiary)
- A daily meal in our student canteen
- Pre-enrollment fee and tuition fee exemption (only the regional fee of 156,00 Euro will have to be paid)
- Annual bus service subscription for University of Bergamo students, a.y. 2024-25 and 2025-26, and further six months if it will be necessary
- Full support from the International Desk staff and by teaching staff in charge of the project
- Italian Course organized by the Language Center of the University of Bergamo
- Peer to peer tutorship

# ART. 2 – Incompatibility

The UNICORE 6.0 study grants cannot be combined with:

- merit-based study grants/prizes issued by the University of Bergamo for the support of international students;
- study grants issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- CRUI grants for beneficiaries of international protection;
- study grants issued by foreign governmental bodies or institutions, on the basis of agreements with the University of Bergamo, aimed at assisting the enrolment of international students at the University of Bergamo.



## ART. 3 - Admission requirements

UNIVERSITÀ

DEGLI STUDI

Application is open exclusively to candidates who:

- 1. are residing in Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Mozambique and have been recognized the refugee status in collaboration with UNHCR;
- 2. hold a gualification valid for admission to the chosen Second Cycle Degree Programme by the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2024;
- 3. the degree must be issued by a higher education institution accredited in the Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Mozambique higher education system or any other country;
- 4. have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.0 according to the Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Mozambique tertiary education grading system;
- 5. the degree must not be obtained before the year 2019;
- 6. meet the specific admission requirements of the Second cycle degree program of interest; for more information about specific requirements see Art. 9;
- 7. have never been enrolled before in a degree programs at any of the Partner Universities listed in art. 1.

### ART. 4 - Selection criteria and application documents

### Art. 4.1 Selection criteria and evaluation committee

Candidates are selected on the basis of merit requirements.

For the University of Bergamo, the evaluation will be carried out by a Committee of Experts composed by professors Paola Scevi and Alberto Brugnoli (Teaching staff in charge of the project), a member of the International Desk, the Professor in charge of the Master Programmes concerned - or her/his delegates - and any other teaching staff the Professors will consider appropriate.

### Art. 4.2 Application documents

By April 15th, 2024 at 12,00 (noon, UTC +2) candidates are required to submit the following documentation:

#### MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:

- 1. UNHCR Refugee card or Proof of Registration
- 2. Official Degree certificate
- 3. Official transcript of exams passed and grades
- 4. GPA documentation (each semester GPA)
- 5. GPA documentation (cumulative GPA)
- 6. Curriculum Vitae
- 7. Motivation letter

### NOT MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:

- Letter/s of references written by supervisor/advisor supporting the application.
- \_ English Language Certification
- Other relevant documents (specify)

### All documents presented by applicants must be in English or Italian.

All documents in any language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by a **translation**. During the application phase, the translation can be done directly by the candidate.



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# Art. 4.3 Deadlines and modalities

UNIVERSITÀ

DEGLI STUDI

Applications can be sent from 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 to 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024, 12,00 (noon, UTC +2). Students are due to send applications, including all the documents listed in article 4.2, through the UNICORE website, at https://universitycorridors.unhcr.it/.

Once the application has been submitted, a confirmation email to the mailbox indicated in the online form will be sent.

Incomplete or incorrect applications will not be taken into consideration.

Students are allowed to apply for maximum two second Second Cycle Degree programmes offered by University of Bergamo and for only two Universities among those participating in the UNICORE 6.0 project (including University of Bergamo).

This is a mandatory requirement: non-compliance with this clause will cause the immediate rejection of the application.

# Art. 5 - Selection process

The application process is divided into two steps:

- Step 1: preliminary evaluation of the documentation
- Step 2: interview

# Art. 5.1 Step 1 - Evaluation of the documentation

The Committee of Experts will evaluate the documentation according to the following criteria:

- academic background and Grade Point Average (score: 0-15);
- \_ evaluation of CV: professional experience and personal skills (score: 0-15);
- coherence between previous studies and selected Second Cycle Degree programme (score: 0-10).

Candidates receiving a score of less than 25 will not be admitted to phase 2 of the selection process. Only the first 10 candidates of the ranking will be admitted to the Step 2 (interview). Candidates admitted to Step 2 will be notified by email by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

# Art. 5.2 Step 2 - Interview

The 10 candidates admitted to step 2 will be interviewed by the Committee of Expert, who will evaluate their technical skills, competence on the subject as well as their mastering of the English language.

Interviews will be graded on a scale of 40 points.

Interviews will take place starting from 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and will be held on-line.

Candidates will be notified by email about the date and time of the interview.

Candidates are requested to come to the interview with the Refugee Identity Card used during the on-line application. A third party must be present during the beginning of the interview for the identification of the candidate.

# Art. 5.3 - Establishment and approval of the final ranking list

Candidates who will score less than 50/80 points will not be included in the final ranking. Candidate rankings are drawn up by the Committee of Experts summing up the results of the two phases and are approved by decree. The rankings are organised in decreasing order of points.

The two available seats are awarded on a gender balance ratio and the committee will elaborate two different rankings according to the gender of the candidates.

Only in the case that the list of eligible candidates does not include representatives of the two genders, the seats can be awarded to two representatives of the same gender.

For equal points, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

Winners will be notified by email by 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

# Art. 5.4 Acceptance

The winner candidates must reply to the University communication accepting the scholarship by 10 days from the reception. Failing to provide a feedback by the given deadline will cause the loss of the benefits.



By accepting the scholarship, candidates fully accept without reserve UNICORE 6.0 project support and financial benefits at the conditions established in this call for applications. With the acceptance candidates also confirm under their own full responsibility that they do not fall within any of the conditions of incompatibility established in article 2 of this call for applications.

Candidates will receive from the International desk of the University of Bergamo detailed information about the procedure to follow in order to complete the enrolment.

Candidates selected for the UNICORE 5.0 project support and financial benefits are not automatically enrolled in the chosen Second cycle degree Programme. Candidates must comply with the applicable provisions and deadlines, including enrolment regulations, established by the Memorandum issued by the Italian Ministry of University and Research, concerning foreign students' access to university degree programmes.

More specifically, to complete the enrolment process, candidates selected as winners will have to submit to the International desk the following documents:

- the original bachelor's degree certificate, or its certified copy, legalized by the competent Italian embassy/consulate, along with its translation in Italian and *dichiarazione di valore in loco*;
- the original transcript of records, legalized by the competent Italian embassy/consulate, along with its translation in Italian.

# Art. 5.5 Ranking scroll and assignment of available seats

Candidates selected as winners can withdraw by sending an e-mail to <u>international.students@unibg.it</u> In case a candidate winner of the scholarship will officially withdraw by June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the scholarship will be allocated to the next eligible candidate in the gander-based ranking.

If after having scrolled all the rankings, seats will still be available, the University of Bergamo reserves the right of searching for eligible candidates from other rankings issued by the Universities partners of the project, listed in article 1.1. Potential candidates must undergo any additional selection process that University of Bergamo will consider appropriate in order to verify the specific entry requirements.

# ART. 6 - Access to the scholarship and renewal requirements

# Art. 6.1 Access to the scholarship

Winners will receive detailed information on how to access to the benefits by e-mail.

# Art. 6.2 Renewal requirements

- First year: by August 10, 2025: **30 CFU/credits**.
- Second year: by August 10, 2026: **60 CFU/credits**.

# Art. 6.3 Additional Renewals

Students are required to graduate by the second session available for their matriculation year, e.g. September – November 2026.

Students who do not succeed to graduate within November 2026 can request a 6 months extension of the scholarship, at the condition to have earned at least 80 university credits by 31 March 2026. Extension request must be submitted to the International Student Office per e-mail: international.students@unibg.it

# ART. 7 - Information notice concerning data processing

In compliance with European data protection policy the personal data collected are processed as described in the section "Privacy and protezione dei dati personali" available (in Italian) at: <u>https://www.unibg.it/privacy-e-protezione-dei-dati-personali</u>

Personal data collected are also processed in compliance with UNHCR Data Protection Policy available at <a href="https://www.refworld.org/docid/55643c1d4.html">https://www.refworld.org/docid/55643c1d4.html</a> and its guidance available at <a href="https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b360f4d4.html">https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b360f4d4.html</a>

The Administration reserves the right to verify the truth of the information provided. Without prejudice to the penal sanctions of article 76 of Italian Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, in the event of



fraudulent information being discovered as a result of such verification the applicant will forfeit the right to the study grant.

## ART. 8 - Conditional issuing of the call for applications

The implementation of the project and the assignment of the expected benefits are subordinate to the signing of the cooperation agreement and its addendum for the project "University Corridors for Refugees 6.0" (Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Suoth Africa, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Mozambique, 2024-2026) among the parties listed in art. 1.

# Art. 9 – List of the Second Cycle Degree taught in English participating in the call for University of Bergamo

By clicking on the name of the program you will get access to all the information about, including study plan and entry requirements.

Department of Management Accounting, Governance and Sustainability International Management and Marketing

Department of Economics <u>MA Economics and Data Analysis</u> <u>MA Economics & Finance</u>

Department of Management, Information and Production Engineering <u>MA Management Engineering</u> <u>MA Engineering and Management for Health</u> <u>MA Medical Engineering</u>

Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures <u>MA Intercultural studies in languages and literatures</u> <u>MA Planning and Management of Tourism Systems</u>

Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences MA Mechatronics and Smart Technology Engineering

Any candidate may opt for maximum two Programmes. Candidates must autonomously check the entry requirements of the chosen Second Cycle Degree Programmes, as specified in the Admission criteria table.

Candidates must hold a certificate of English proficiency at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The English language competence of candidates who do not hold the above mentioned certificate will be assessed during the interview (see art. 5.2).

For information please contact Fax +39 035 2052198 Email <u>international.students@unibg.it</u>

Office hours: - Monday and Thursday: 9.30 am - 12.30 am, 1:45 pm - 3:30 pm

> The Chancellor Prof. Sergio Cavalieri