



**University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 3.0 (Ethiopia 2021-2023)**

Call for applications for 1 scholarship for refugee students admitted to second level degree courses at the University of Salento for the academic year 2021-2022

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

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### **ART.1 Objectives, subject matter and deadlines**

The overall objective of the project **University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 3.0 (Ethiopia 2021-23)** is to promote the right to higher education of refugees through the creation of educational corridors from Ethiopia to Italy. The Project is promoted by a consortium of partners:

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
- Caritas Italiana;
- Diaconia Valdese;
- The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- Several Italian universities - specified in the memorandum of understanding.

The University's commitment was formally ratified in the national Memorandum of Understanding, approved by Rectoral Decree n.110/2021.

Project beneficiaries are refugees residing in Ethiopia and admitted to one of the second level courses listed in Article 9.

Benefits will be awarded for the 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 academic years. The merit requirements for maintaining and renewing the scholarship are specified in article 6.

#### **1.1 Local partners**

The University of Salento is supported in the project by two local partners: Caritas Diocesana Lecce and Fondazione Emmanuel.



## **1.2 Benefits**

Logistic and financial support for visa applications, travel tickets paid for, the pre-departure activities will be guaranteed by CARITAS Italiana (art. 2 of the national Memorandum of Understanding).

The benefits that will be provided to the winner directly by the University of Salento are:

- Scholarship amounting to €459.83 per month for each month of the academic year (\*), equivalent to €5,977.79 per year. The winner will receive detailed information about this during the enrolment process;
- Exemption from university fees and contributions;
- Free single room accommodation from the start of the first semester of the 2021/2022 academic year;
- Support for administrative procedures and access to local services;
- Free Italian language course at the Centro Linguistico di Ateneo;

The following services may be provided by local partners on the basis of possible memoranda of understanding:

- Registration with the national health service (CARITAS Diocesana Lecce);
- Purchase of personal computers/books/smartphones/clothing (if necessary) (CARITAS Diocesana Lecce);
- Provision of a pocket money of € 2.00 per day for two years (CARITAS Diocesana Lecce);
- Coverage of the administrative costs for the presentation of the application (and renewal) of the Residence Permit for Study Reasons (CARITAS Diocesana Lecce);
- Purchase of a telephone SIM card and payment of the first monthly subscription (CARITAS Diocesana Lecce);
- Setting up an agreement with a dedicated project partner for possible socio-legal assistance and psychological support (Emmanuel Foundation);



- Orientation to extra-academic services and activities in the area (Emmanuel Foundation);
- Seeking a supportive family for opportunities to meet and socialise (Emmanuel Foundation).

### **ART.2 Incompatibility**

The UNICORE 3.0 grant is incompatible with:

- Any type of scholarship or study award based on merit or income promoted by the University of Salento in favour of international students;
- Scholarships offered by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- CRUI scholarships for holders of international protection;
- Scholarships aimed at international students and promoted by foreign governments or institutions on the basis of agreements with the University of Salento;
- Scholarship for the "*Diritto allo Studio*" ("Right to study") of the region of Apulia (ADISU).

### **ART.3 Admission requirements**

The call is only open to candidates who meet the following requirements:

1. Resident in Ethiopia and have been granted refugee status through UNHCR intervention;
2. Hold a valid qualification for admission to the chosen master's degree course;
3. The qualification must have been obtained in a higher education institution accredited by the Ministry of Education of the Country that issued the qualification, and must allow access to a master's degree course on site;
4. Grade point average of at least 24/30 referred to the Italian grading system. For the conversion of the average marks from the foreign system to the Italian grading system, the official ministerial formula in attachment 2 of this call for applications will be used;



5. The qualification must not have been obtained before 2016;
6. Candidates must meet the specific requirements of the chosen Master's degree course;
7. Applicants must have a certificate of proficiency in English at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (<https://europa.eu/europass/it/common-european-framework-reference>). The English language skills of candidates who do not possess the above certificate will be assessed during the interview;
8. Not having previously been enrolled in a degree course at the University of Salento or any other partner of the initiative.

#### **ART.4 Selection criteria and documents required for application**

##### **Art.4.1 Selection criteria**

A maximum of five (5) candidates will be selected on the basis of merit requirements.

The evaluation will be carried out by a panel of experts appointed by Rector's Decree.

##### **Art.4.2 Application documents**

Students must submit the following documentation:

###### **MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**

1. A valid copy of the Refugee Identity Card issued in agreement with UNHCR or the PoR Card;
2. Certificate of completion of the qualification required for admission to the master's degree course;
3. The list of exams passed including marks;
4. Curriculum vitae - follow the format in Annex 1;
5. Any other document required for admission to the chosen degree course (see art. 9).

###### **NON-MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:**



6. Motivation letter (maximum two A4 pages);
7. References from a supervisor or advisor;
8. Applicants are strongly recommended to record a short CV video (e.g. using their mobile phone) where they introduce themselves and explain their motivation. Some examples can be found by using the Google search engine.

At this stage, translations of documents not in English, French, Spanish, German or Italian may be done directly by the applicant.

#### **Art.4.3 Deadlines and sending methods**

Applications must be sent from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at 12pm (UTC+1) to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 at 12pm (UTC+1).

Students are required to send their applications using the form attached to this call (All.1), including all the documents listed above, to the following email address:

- [unicore@unisalento.it](mailto:unicore@unisalento.it)

Once the candidates have sent their application, they will receive a confirmation email to the mailbox indicated in the application form.

Incomplete or incorrectly completed applications will not be considered.

Students are only allowed to apply for one degree course. It is possible to apply to two universities in total.

#### **ART.5 Selection process**

The selection process is divided into two stages:

- Step 1: Evaluation of documentation;
- Phase 2: Online interview.

#### **Art.5.1 Step 1: Assessment of documentation**

The committee will assess the documentation received using the following criteria:

- Academic background and GPA (score: 0-15);



- Curriculum vitae (score: 0-15);
- Compatibility between the course of study and the degree course chosen for admission (score: 0-10);

At the end of the first assessment session, a merit list will be drawn up and **only the first five candidates will be admitted to the interview phase**. In the event of a tied score, the youngest candidate will be preferred.

Candidates admitted to the second phase will be notified by e-mail by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021, the partial ranking will also be published on the website <http://www.unisalento.it/> on the page dedicated to the initiative.

#### **Art.5.2 Step 2: Online interview**

All candidates admitted to stage two will be required to undergo an interview with the selection board. The interview will assess technical skills, educational background and mastery of the English language.

The maximum score awarded will be 40 points.

The interviews will be scheduled from 3 June and will be held online.

Candidates will be notified of the date and time of the interview by e-mail, and it will also be published on the website <http://www.unisalento.it/> on the page dedicated to the initiative.

During the interview, applicants will be asked to show the Refugee Identity Card or PoR Card indicated at the time of admission.

#### **Art.5.3 Formulation and approval of the final ranking list**

Candidates scoring less than 50/80 at the end of the two stages will not be considered eligible.

The merit list will be drawn up by the committee by adding up the partial results obtained in the two selection phases.



Candidates will be listed in descending order of points.

The ranking list will then be approved by Rectoral Decree.

In the event of a tie, the youngest candidate takes precedence.

The winner will be notified by e-mail by 5<sup>th</sup> June 2021, and the final ranking will be published on <http://www.unisalento.it/> on the page dedicated to the initiative.

#### **Art.5.4 Acceptance**

The candidate must accept the scholarship by responding to the University's communication within 10 days of receiving it. Failure to respond will constitute automatic renouncement of the scholarship.

By accepting the scholarship the candidate approves without reservation the benefits offered by the UNICORE 3.0 Project under the conditions indicated in the present call for applications. The candidate also declares under his/her own responsibility that he/she does not fall under any of the incompatibility conditions listed in article 2 of the present call.

#### **Art.5.5 Ranking and allocation of available places**

In the event that the winner of the scholarship officially withdraw by 10<sup>th</sup> July 2021, the benefit will be allocated to the next eligible candidate in the ranking.

If, at the end of the ranking, the position remains vacant, the University of Salento reserves the right to search for a suitable candidate from the lists of the partner universities. The candidates selected must meet the specific requirements of the master's degree courses at the University of Salento.

#### **ART.6 Renewal**

##### **Art.6.1 Renewal requirements**

In order to renew the scholarship, the student must obtain at least 30 university credits (CFU) by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022. In the event that the study plan for the first year of the degree course in which the student is enrolled provides for fewer than 60 credits, the requirement for renewal will be calculated on the basis of half of the credits provided for the first year.





In order to continue receiving benefits, the student must complete at least 60 university credits (CFU) by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

The student must graduate by the last available session of their cohort, i.e. April 2024.

### **ART.7 Renunciation**

A student who renounces their studies will automatically lose all the benefits referred to in article 2 of this notice.

### **ART.8 Processing of personal data**

Personal data will be processed in accordance with Regulation 2016/679, GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation), "on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data", available at the following link: <https://www.unisalento.it/privacy> and according to UNHCR's data protection regulations, available at the following link: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/55643c1d4.html> and its regulation:

<https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b360f4d4.html>

Applicants also consent to the publication of their Refugee Identity Card number or PoR card number on the ranking list on both the website:

[www.unhcr.it/universitycorridors](http://www.unhcr.it/universitycorridors) and the website: <http://www.unisalento.it/>

The administration reserves the right to verify the accuracy of the declared data as indicated in Article 76 of DPR 445/2000. In the event of false declarations, the candidate will lose the right to participate in the call and/or the benefits awarded.

### **ART.9 List of second level study courses at the University of Salento participating in the call for applications**

Clicking on the programme name will take you to all the information about the course including study plans and specific entry 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>
- Computer Engineering  
<https://www.unisalento.it/didattica/cosa-studiare/percorsi/-/dettaglio/corso/LM55/computer-engineering>
- Digital Humanities  
<https://www.unisalento.it/didattica/cosa-studiare/percorsi/-/dettaglio/corso/LM70/digital-humanities>
- Euro-Mediterranean Migration Policies and Governance  
<https://www.unisalento.it/didattica/cosa-studiare/corsi-di-laurea-magistrale/-/dettaglio/corso/LM67/governance-euro-mediterranea-delle-politiche-migratorie>
- Management Engineering  
<https://www.unisalento.it/didattica/cosa-studiare/percorsi/-/dettaglio/corso/LM54/management-engineering>

The Rector  
Fabio Pollice



ANNEX 1

University of Salento

**UNICORE 3.0 APPLICATION FORM**

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

Name and Surname: .....

Date and place of birth: .....

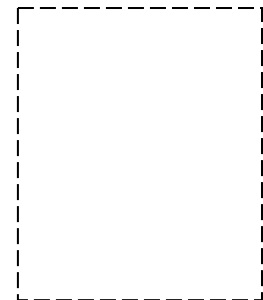
Address:.....

Mobile phone: .....

E-mail: .....

refugee ID card number .....

OR ration number card of PoR: .....



**PROGRAMME OF INTEREST**

(please choose one of the options)

- Coastal and Marine Biology and Ecology
- Computer Engineering
- Digital Humanities
- Euro-Mediterranean Migration Policies and Governance
- Management Engineering

**HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR OTHER UNIVERSITIES?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



### **PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Summarize in about 5 lines a presentation of professional profile, future professional goals and your motivation.

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

From.... To....

Job role

Company name

Describe responsibility and what do you do in this role

From.... To....

Job role

Company name

Describe responsibility and what do you do in this role

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Degree**

Date - University, Faculty/Department, Degree course: thesis title and score

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) should be stated in the CV, and GPA documentation should be included in the application (including each semester GPA and cumulative GPA).

#### **High school**

Date - name of high school and type of diploma - score

#### **Other formative experiences**

From.... To.... **School name, town, course title**



**LANGUAGES**

Levels of knowledge: M: mother tongue, A: elementary, B: intermediate, C: advanced

<b>LANGUAGE</b>	<b>WRITTEN LEVEL</b>	<b>SPOKEN LEVEL</b>

**Language certifications:**

Please list here any language certification you have gained. Scanned copy of the certification must be attached to the application

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

.....

**PERSONAL SKILLS**

.....

**HOBBIES**

.....

I authorize the processing of personal data contained in my curriculum vitae according to art. 13 of Legislative Decree 196/2003 and art. 13 GDPR (EU Regulation 2016/679) for the sole purpose of personnel research and selection.

I hereby declare to accept without reserve all the terms and condition specify in the **UNICORE 3.0 Call for applications for 1 study grant and welcome services for refugee students registering for Second cycle degree**



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DEL SALENTO**

**programmes taught at the University of Salento, for the Academic Year 2021-2023.**

**I also declare to promptly inform the University about any change in the provided data.**

**Place, Date and Signature**

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ANNEX 2



*Al Ministro dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca*

**Allegato 5 – Tabella di conversione dei Titoli stranieri**

**Valutazione esami**

I candidati che hanno conseguito esami di laurea in una Università straniera hanno a disposizione sul sito <http://www.university.it/> un sistema di conversione dei voti ottenuti sulla base della seguente formula:

$$\text{Voto} = \frac{V - V_{\min}}{V_{\max} - V_{\min}} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$$

V= Voto da convertire

V<sub>min</sub>=Voto minimo per la sufficienza nell'Università di provenienza

V<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nell'Università di provenienza

I<sub>min</sub>= Voto minimo per la sufficienza nelle Università Italiane (= 18/30)

I<sub>max</sub>= Voto massimo nelle Università Italiane (=30/30)

Per le valutazioni su scala qualitativa si fa riferimento alla seguente scala di conversione:

Valutazione da convertire	Voto
A	30
B	28
C	26
D	23
E	18