CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIVISION GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE



Università degli Studi di Padova

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Call for selection for scholarships reserved for international students from Afghanistan - Unipd 4 Afghanistan

This call for selection is to implement the decision by the University bodies to give practical support and help to the Afghan people, by welcoming students from that country. In particular, this call regulates access to the Unipd 4 Afghanistan scholarships, a funding programme intended for Afghan students who are in a dangerous situation or have lost the opportunity to start their university studies as a result of the worsening political situation in Afghanistan.

ART.1 - Unipd 4 Afghanistan

As decided by the Board of Administration in its meeting on 9 September 2021 (minutes no. 200/2021 dated 09/09/2021), the University of Padua financed up to 50 scholarships to international students with Afghan citizenship wishing to enrol on a degree programme of the University of Padua and launched a fundraising campaign for additional scholarships financed by public and private institutions.

This Call for applications covers the assignment of a minimun of 16 three-year scholarships for Bachelor's and Singlecycle degree programmes up to a maximum of 23 two-year scholarships for Master's degree programmes financed through the funds received from the fundraising campaign launched from the University of Padua. Any further scholarships may be added in case additional external funds are made available.

The scholarships have been financed thanks to the support of the following Donors:

- Fondazione Cariparo
- Intesa Sanpaolo- IMI Corporate & Investment Banking Division
- Intesa Sanpaolo
- The European House Ambrosetti
- CCIAA Treviso-Belluno
- Fondo Anuska Svircich
- CIAI-Centro Italiano Aiuti all'Infanzia
- Department of Surgery, Oncology and Gastroenterology
- Other various Donors

The Unipd 4 Afghanistan scholarship includes an allowance of € 12,000.00 (gross for the recipient) and a tuition feewaiver per academic year. The only amount to be paid by scholarship recipients is the admission fee, consisting of the regional tax for the right to education and the revenue stamp. Such amount is not refundable. Reimbursement of travel, insurance or other expenses is not included in the scholarship and will not be covered by the University of Padua.

The Unipd 4 Afghanistan scholarships run for a maximum of

- two (2) consecutive academic years, for Master's degree programmes;
- three (3) consecutive academic years, for Bachelor's and Single-cycle degree programmes.

Once the above-mentioned period has elapsed, students will be required to pay the tuition fees due until graduation. Students can maintain their scholarship eligibility also in the following years if enrolled on the same degree programme as of first enrolment. Scholarships cannot be combined with any other grant awarded by other public institutions. If a candidate has been awarded more than one scholarship, he/she must choose which one to accept. Candidates are responsible for notifying the Admissions and Welcome Unit - Global Engagement Office (unipd4afghanistan@unipd.it) of any incompatibility with other scholarships.

ART. 2 - Admission requirements



To be eligible for selection, under penalty of exclusion, applicants must:

- have Afghan citizenship;
- hold a non-Italian upper secondary school certificate (to access Bachelor's or Single-cycle degree programmes) or a non-Italian Bachelor's degree (to access Master's degree programmes);
- reside outside Italy
- or
 be fled from Afghanistan by airlift or other means as a result of the political deterioration in Afghanistan, as proved by an asylum, international protection, family reunification application or any other documentation to be examined by the Committee:
 - apply for one or more English-taught degree programmes of the University of Padua according to the procedures and within the deadlines set. Please note that you can apply for up to three degree programmes;
 - be eligible, as a result of the extraordinary Call for selection opened from the 20th September 2021 to the 21st October 2021.

The applicants who fail to meet one or more of these requirements are not eligible for selection for scholarships.

ART. 3 - Selection procedure and awarding criteria

All the students fulfilling the above-mentioned requirements are automatically admitted to selection. Neither a separate application form nor further documents are needed in addition to those required for applying for the chosen degree programme.

A dedicated Committee shall assess the applications for the sole purpose of awarding of scholarships. Scholarships shall be awarded to the most deserving candidates on the basis of the quality and records of their prior education, their language competence, and motivation. In the event of a tie, preference shall be given to female candidates and to younger candidates.

Scholarships selection results will be made available on the <u>University's website</u> from the 10 of June 2022 for open access and limited access degree programmes.

Should scholarship recipients not accept or withdraw from the benefit granted, a scholarship could be assigned to a candidate admitted to the single cycle degree in *Medicine and Surgery*; the results will be available following publication of IMAT test results.

ART. 4 – Scholarship acceptance

Candidates selected for a scholarship will receive a specific scholarship offer from the Admissions and Welcome Unit - Global Engagement Office with the procedures and deadlines for accepting it.

To be granted the scholarship, selected candidates must:

- accept the admission and/or scholarship offer received from the *Admissions and Welcome Unit Global Engagement Office* and pay the admission fee by the deadline given;
- not benefit from other scholarships or grants;
- fulfil the admission requirements (e.g. obtaining the entry qualification) within the deadline given in the admission offer and finalise the enrolment procedure for the chosen degree programme;
- [only for non-EU candidates residing abroad] meet the requirements and conditions for an Italian student visa (D enrolment);

If scholarship recipients fail to meet one of the aforementioned criteria, they must notify the *Admissions and Welcome Unit* - *Global Engagement Office* of it by emailing <u>unipd4afghanistan@unipd.it</u>.

Should selected candidates not accept the admission offer and the scholarship granted, or not fulfil one of the criteria above, the Committee may award scholarships to the next eligible candidates meeting the requirements.

ART. 5 – Payment methods and requirements to maintain scholarship eligibility 2022/23 A.Y.



The Unipd 4 Afghanistan scholarship shall be paid via bank transfer in 3 instalments of \in 12,000.00 (gross for the recipient) per academic year.

Students shall be credited with the first instalment of the 2022/23 A.Y. upon arrival in Italy and only after:

- 1. completing enrolment at the University of Padua;
- 2. opening an Italian bank account, or prepaid card with an IBAN, of which the student is the holder or joint holder;
- 3. signing the Declaration of acceptance, through which students undertake to accept the scholarship terms and conditions and confirm that no incompatibility arises within the meaning of article 1 of this call for applications;

Students shall be credited with the second instalment of the 2022/23 A.Y. upon gaining at least 6 ECTS credits by 31 March 2023 (winter examination session – 2022/23 A.Y.). Students shall be credited with the third instalment of the 2022/23 A.Y. upon gaining at least 20 ECTS credits by 31 July 2023 (summer examination session – 2022/23 A.Y.).

The terms and dates of the scholarship could be adjusted from the *Admissions and Welcome unit* - *Global Engagement Office* according to the date of arrival of the selected candidates

In case of enrolment with recognition of prior learning, the credits earned during previous university education do not count for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements to maintain scholarship eligibility.

ART. 6 - Scholarship renewal: payment methods and requirements to maintain scholarship eligibility

Scholarship recipients shall receive the *Unipd 4 Afghanistan* scholarship for the second academic year (2023/24 A.Y.) provided that they meet the following merit requirements:

- 30 ECTS credits by 30 September 2023 (summer and extra examination sessions 2022/23 A.Y.), in order to be credited with the first instalment;
- 42 ECTS credits by 31 March 2024 (winter examination session 2023/24 A.Y.), in order to be credited with the second instalment;
- 60 ECTS credits by 31 July 2024 (summer examination session 2023/24 A.Y.), in order to be credited with the third instalment.

Bachelor's and Single-cycle degree students shall receive the *Unipd 4 Afghanistan* scholarship for the third year (A.Y. 2024/25) provided that they meet the following merit requirements:

- 80 ECTS credits by 30 September 2024 (summer and extra examination sessions 2023/24 A.Y.), in order to be credited with the first instalment;
- 92 ECTS credits by 31 March 2025 (winter examination session 2024/25 A.Y.), in order to be credited with the second instalment;
- 110 ECTS credits by 31 July 2025 (summer examination session 2024/25 A.Y.), in order to be credited with the third instalment.

In case of enrolment with recognition of prior learning, the credits earned during previous university education do not count for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements for scholarship renewal and to maintain scholarship eligibility in the second and third year (if applicable).

ART. 7 – Revocation of scholarship

If the aforementioned merit requirements are not met within the deadline, the payment of the scholarship shall be stopped. The University of Padua is entitled to revoke scholarships when:

- 1. students do not obtain at least 20 ECTS credits by 30 November 2023;
- 2. students transfer to another University or withdraw from studies.

In both circumstances, students shall pay back the amount of the *Unipd 4 Afghanistan* scholarship already received. Specific duly reasoned situations shall undergo examination by the designated University Committee.



ART. 8 - Processing of personal data statement

Personal data shall be processed in compliance with the principles and provisions of EU Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation) and for the sole purposes of competition procedure. For detailed information: http://www.unipd.it/privacy.

The Administration reserves the right to check the truthfulness of the admission and incompatibility requirements. Without prejudice to the criminal sanctions provided for in art. 76 of Italian Presidential Decree DPR no. 445/2000, should checks prove statements to be false, the scholarship recipient shall lose the benefit eligibility.

ART. 9 – Dispute resolution

This call for selection is translated into English for informational purposes only. Should any disputes arise and for all legal purposes, only the Italian version shall be considered valid.

ART. 10 - Final Provisions

The person responsible for the procedure is Mr Mattia Gusella, Head of the Global Engagement Office. For further information please email <u>unipd4afghanistan@unipd.it</u>

The Rector Prof.ssa Daniela Mapelli digitally signed as per Italian legislative decree no. 82/2005

Person appointed to oversee the administrative procedure	The Head of the Division	The Director General
Dott. Mattia Gusella	Dott.ssa Dora Maria Cornelia Longoni	Ing. Alberto Scuttari
Date	Date	Date