Selection notice to award scholarships for international students from Myanmar – a.y. 2023/24

This call for selection is to implement the decision by the University bodies to give practical support and help to the Burmese people, by welcoming students from that country. In particular, this call regulates access to two scholarships, a funding programme intended for Burmese students who are in a dangerous situation or have lost the opportunity to start or continue their university studies in Myanmar.

Myanmar was chosen as a target country, following the instructions of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Knowing the great sensitivity of the University of Padua for students and scholars at risk from all over the world, the Ministry invited the University to implement actions in support of the Burmese population. The repression imposed by the military council following the coup d’état of February 1st, 2021, threw the country on the verge of a civil war. This context is making it quite difficult for many promising Burmese young people to pursue their studies.

Starting from 2021 the University of Padua created financial programmes to support Afghan and Ukrainian students, and organised many initiatives in favor of scholars at risk.

To fund these two scholarships, the University allocated the proceeds from The Academy Night. Freshers & Students Welcome Concert organised on October 4th, 2022.

ART.1 - Scholarships

As decided by the Board of Administration in its meeting on 24 January 2023 (minutes no. 08/2023 Reg. n. 11874 dated 24/01/2023), the University of Padua offers two scholarships to international students with Burmese citizenship wishing to enrol on a degree programme of the University of Padua.

The scholarship includes an allowance of € 8,000.00 (gross for the recipient) and a tuition fee-waiver 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 an 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 scholarships run for a maximum of one (1) academic year. After that, students will be required to pay the due tuition fees until graduation. 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 (unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it) of any incompatibility with other scholarships.

ART. 2 - Admission requirements

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

- be Burmese citizens;
- not already reside in Italy;
- 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) valid for the enrolment in the Italian higher education system;
- apply to one or more degree programmes at the University of Padua according to the procedures and deadlines established by the course programme. Applicants can choose up to three courses.
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 purposes of awarding the 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 are mainly reserved for candidates applying for the first application period of English-taught degree programmes and open access Italian-taught Master’s degree programmes.

Scholarships selection results will be published at www.unipd.it/en/assessement-results:
- from 10 March 2023 for open access degree programmes (1st application period: 2 November 2022 – 2 February 2023);
- from 12 April 2023 for limited access degree programmes (1st application period: 7 January 2023 – 7 March 2023) only in case of not allocated scholarships;
- from 09 July 2023 for unlimited access degree programmes (2nd application period: 2 March 2023 – 2 May 2023) only in case of not allocated scholarships;

Any scholarship not allocated in the above mentioned application periods will be made available for students admitted to Italian-taught Bachelor's degree programmes, limited access Italian-taught Master's degree programmes and Italian/English- taught degree programmes with access limited on a national basis by the Italian Ministry of University and Research.

ART. 4 – Acceptance

Candidates admitted and selected for a scholarship will receive a specific communication by the Admissions and Welcome Unit of Global Engagement Office with the procedure and deadline to accept it.

To be granted the scholarship, selected candidates must:
- accept the admission and scholarship offer received from the the Admissions and Welcome Unit of Global Engagement Office and pay the admission fee by the deadline given;
- not benefit from other scholarships or grants;
- fulfill the admission requirements (e.g. obtaining the entry qualification and the language requirement) within the deadline given in the admission offer and finalise the enrolment procedure for the chosen degree programme;
- 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: unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it.

Should selected candidates not accept the admission offer and the scholarship granted, or not fulfill 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 A.Y. 2023/24

The scholarship shall be paid via bank transfer in 2 equal instalments of € 8,000.00 (gross for the recipient) per academic year.

Students shall be credited with the first instalment of the 2023/24 A.Y. upon arrival in Italy and only after:

1. completing the enrolment at the University of Padua;
2. opening a bank account - including an online bank account or a prepaid card with an IBAN - at any Italian bank or any other bank in the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA) of which the student is the holder or joint holder. It also might be possible for students to use the IBAN of their University Flash Card, provided the card has been upgraded at any Intesa Sanpaolo branch;
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 A.Y. 2023/24 upon registering exams for at least 6 credits before 31 March 2024 (winter examination session – 2023/24 A.Y.)

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 - 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 2024;
2. students transfer to another University or withdraw from studies.

In both circumstances, students shall pay back the amount of the scholarship already received.

Specific duly reasoned situations shall undergo examination by the designated University Committee.

ART. 7 - 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: https://www.unipd.it/en/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. 8 – 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. 9 – Final Provisions

The person responsible for the procedure is Mattia Gusella, Director of the Global Engagement Office.

For further information please email: unipd.rescuefund@unipd.it

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

Person appointed to oversee the administrative procedure
Dott. Mattia Gusella

The Head of the Division
Dott.ssa Dora Maria Cornelia Longoni

The Director General
Ing. Alberto Scuttari