



Università  
di Catania

# International Students' Guide 2022 - 2023



# **International Students' Guide**

A.Y. 2022-23

## **UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA (UNICT)**

Established in 1434, the University of Catania is the oldest in Sicily. Plenty of historical university buildings are spread out in the old city centre, in stark contrast though with the modern hi-tech campus La Cittadella. UNICT offers an attractive portfolio of academic titles and is strongly committed to the creation of modern laboratories where the ancient Mediterranean culture meets most of the modern and state-of-the-art technologies for advanced training.

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# Chapter 1

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## 1. BEFORE ARRIVING

### 1.1 Apply for UNICT courses

These procedures are subject to the current and future emergency provisions of the Italian Government and the European Union regarding the prevention and containment of the COVID-19 virus epidemic.

In consideration of the provisions sent to higher education institutions by the Minister for Universities and Research and relating to the start of the academic year 2022/23 all lessons will be held in presence modality.

#### 1.1.1 Apply for a Bachelor's degree or a single cycle Master Degree (Medicine, Dentistry, Architecture, Pharmacy, CTF, Law)

First, be aware that all our Bachelor courses are in Italian and a B2 knowledge of the language is required in order to enrol. If you don't have a B2 Certificate of knowledge of the Italian language you will have to pass a language test at the beginning of September.

These are the steps to follow if you want to enrol at the University of Catania:

1. Check the list of available seats to see whether there are available places in the course you are interested in. The pre-enrolment can be carried out for one course only among those indicated. The list is available [here](#)
2. If you need a pre-admission letter for the Italian Embassy or you want to check if your high school diploma is suitable for admission, fill in

our online form (find the link [here](#)) for the evaluation of the application by entering your personal and academic data and upload the required documentation (copy of the passport, High school Diploma translated in Italian and possibly Statement of comparability or Declaration Of Value and language Certificates).

3. Once you have entered your data, uploaded the documents, and submit the online application form for administrative review you will soon receive an email informing you of whether you can proceed to pre-enrolment through the pre-enrolment system.
4. The request of the eligibility letter is not compulsory to enter a bachelor's degree!
5. Apply for pre-enrolment through the [www.universitaly.it](http://www.universitaly.it) website, once the approval form is received, the University will ask the embassy for a type D visa "Application to Italian Universities".
6. Contact the Italian Embassy in the country where the qualification was awarded to obtain the Dichiarazione di valore in loco (DOV-Declaration of Value) of your Secondary School leaving qualification.
7. If you prefer you can eventually contact an ENIC/NARIC evaluation centre to obtain a Statement of comparability, this procedure is online, and it takes normally 15 days. For Italy, you can do it through the [Cimea website](#).
8. Contact the Foreign Students Office [sestat@unict.it](mailto:sestat@unict.it) to check the procedure to register for an entry test and if you have to take an Italian language test.

## 1.2 Apply for a Master Degree

Master degree courses are aimed at providing students with an advanced level of education for the exercise of a highly qualified activity in specific areas.

Master Degree courses last 2 years, and the degree is awarded to students who have earned 120 credits.

Students that want to enrol in a Master degree course must possess a suitable foreign university or post-secondary qualification (Bachelor Degree) and should possess curricular requirements and personal competencies and skills.

### 1.2.1 Apply for a Master Degree in English

The University of Catania offers 9 Masters' Degree courses taught in English:

- LM 17 Physics
- LM 22 Chemical Engineering for Industrial Sustainability
- LM 25 Automation Engineering and Control of Complex Systems
- LM 27 Communications Engineering
- LM 28 Electrical Engineering
- LM 29 Electronic Engineering
- LM 33 Mechanical Engineering
- LM 62 Global Politics and Euromediterranean Relations
- LM 91 Data Science for Management

The call for non-EU students living abroad to enrol in English taught Masters' Degree courses is published each year in February on [our website](#):

1. Follow the instructions set in the call, in order to present your admission request and if admitted confirm your seat.
2. You'll receive an admission letter, and you'll have to apply for pre-enrolment through the [www.universitaly.it](http://www.universitaly.it) website once you received the approval from the University. Ask the embassy for a type D visa "Application to Italian Universities".



3. Contact the Italian Embassy in the country where the qualification was awarded in order to obtain the Dichiarazione di valore in loco (DOV – Declaration of Value) of your Secondary School leaving qualification and of your Bachelor Degree.
4. If you prefer you can eventually contact an ENIC/NARIC evaluation centre in order to obtain a Statement of comparability, this procedure is online, and it takes normally 15 days. For Italy, you can do it through [Cimea website](#).

### 1.2.2 Apply for a Master Degree in Italian

A B2 knowledge of the language is required to enrol. If you don't have a B2 Certificate of knowledge of the Italian language you will have to pass a language test at the beginning of September.

These are the steps to follow if you want to enrol at the University of Catania:

1. Check the list of available seats to see whether there are available places in the course you are interested in. The pre-enrolment can be carried out for one course only among those indicated. The list is available [here](#).
2. Fill in our online form (find the link [here](#)) for the evaluation of the application by entering your personal and academic data and upload the required documentation (copy of the passport, Transcript of records, Syllabus, and language Certificates are compulsory). Possibly attach also Statement of comparability or DOV.
3. Once you have entered your data and uploaded the documents, then proceed to submit the online application form for administrative and academic review. You will receive an email (normally within 30 days and not later than 2 months) informing you of whether you can proceed to pre-enrolment at the embassy.

4. Apply for pre-enrolment through the [www.universitaly.it](http://www.universitaly.it) website once you received the approval from the University. Ask the embassy for a type D visa "Application to Italian Universities".
5. Contact the Italian Embassy in the country where the qualification was awarded in order to obtain the Dichiarazione di valore in loco (DOV-Declaration of Value) of your Secondary School leaving qualification and of your Bachelor Degree.
6. If you prefer you can eventually contact an ENIC/NARIC evaluation centre in order to obtain a Statement of comparability, this procedure is online and it takes normally 15 days. For Italy, you can do it through [Cimea website](#).
7. Contact the Foreign Students Office [sestat@unict.it](mailto:sestat@unict.it) to check the procedure to register for an entry test and if you have to take an Italian language test.

### 1.3 Pre-Enrolment procedure

The pre-enrolment application for the issue of visas to candidates of study courses at Italian universities must be submitted using the [UNIVERSITALY portal](#) by the 30th July of each year. **The preliminary acceptance by the university does not confer any right to obtain a visa.**

#### 1.3.1 Pre-Enrolment request for a Bachelor Degree or a single cycle Master Degree

Students interested in a Bachelor Degree or a single cycle Master Degree course should access the UNIVERSITALY portal and fill in the related “pre-enrolment application” which must be submitted subsequently to the Italian Mission of the place of residence once validated digitally by the university of reference. For those study courses where a unique national access test is

necessary (Medicine and Surgery, Dentistry and Dental Protheses, Veterinary Medicine and specific courses to become an Architect), the pre-enrolment request is to be considered automatically presented to all the other Universities indicated at the time of enrolment for the test as alternatives to the first choice.

To the competent diplomatic-consular Missions you should present:

- original copy of final secondary education qualification, obtained after at least 12 scholastic study years, or a fully legal substitute certificate;
- certificate declaring the pass grade of an eventual special academic competence exam eventually required for entry to University in the Country of origin;
- two photographs (of which one must be authenticated by the Italian Mission having jurisdiction for that territory);
- a summary of the pre-enrolment request as validated by the university.

### 1.3.2 Pre-Enrolment request for a Master Degree

Students interested in a Master degree course must register on the UNIVERSITALY portal and pre-enrol. They will then communicate to the Italian Mission in the country of origin the summary of the pre-enrolment application generated within the UNIVERSITALY portal, as validated by the institution of higher education.

To the competent diplomatic-consular Missions you should present:

- academic qualification gained from a University or post-secondary qualification gained in a non-university Higher Institute which allows them to proceed in loco to further studies at academic institutions at the next level;

- certificate released by the competent University declaring the exams passed, as well as, for each subject, detailed programmes for the completion of said qualifications;
- two photographs (of which one must be authenticated by the competent Italian Mission for that territory)
- admission letter;
- the summary of the pre-enrolment request as validated by the University.

## 1.4 Study visa

The procedures for issuing these visas must be concluded, normally, by 30 November 20xx, to allow the effective enrolment of international students. To obtain an entry visa for STUDY purposes for University Enrolment (type D “national”) and, subsequently, of a residency permit, the foreign student must demonstrate being in possession of the following requisites:

1. Economic means for subsistence during the planned stay. These means are quantified as € 460.28 per month for each month of duration of the academic year, equal to € 5,983.64 per year. The availability in Italy of such means of support must be proven through personal or parental economic guarantees or provided by Italian Institutions or Authorities of proven liquidity, including Universities, local Government, foreign Institutions or Authorities deemed reliable by the Italian diplomatic Mission; they cannot be demonstrated through the exhibition of a bank guarantee, or of a guarantee insurance policy, and neither with cash or guarantees supplied by third parties.
2. The availability of the necessary sum for repatriation, which can also be demonstrated by showing a return ticket.
3. Suitable lodgings in the national territory.

4. Adequate insurance cover for medical expenses and hospital stays which the student must demonstrate being in possession of, at the time of the residency permit request.

## 1.5 Arriving in Catania

The second-largest city in Sicily by population, Catania spreads out over the Plain of Catania, between the Ionian Sea and the slopes of Etna.

### 1.5.1 How to reach Catania

**Flights:** The main airport in Catania is the Catania-Fontanarossa Airport (IATA: CTA) with scheduled and charter planes arriving from destinations throughout Italy, Europe and several other countries around the world.

Common international airlines flying to Catania Fontanarossa are:

- Brussels Airlines
- Turkish Airlines
- Ryanair
- ITA Airways

**Buses:** Frequent buses run to Catania from Taormina, Messina, Enna, Caltanissetta, Ragusa and Syracuse and back. Less frequent buses run to Catania from Naples, Rome etc. The main bus station is opposite the railway station and 10 minutes walk from the city centre.

**Trains:** Frequent trains run up the east coast to Catania from Taormina (but the station in Taormina is a long walk below the town, better to take the Bus) and Messina, then on to Naples and Rome etc, and back. Trains also run to Catania from Enna, Palermo (slower than the buses) and Syracuse. A scenic

route runs inland to Caltagirone and Gela. There is one daily train to Catania from Agrigento.

Ferries: Several Ferries run from mainland Italy to Catania. There is an overnight car ferry that runs daily between Naples and Catania as well as ones from Genova and Civitavecchia. One can also get a ferry to/from Valletta, Malta.

### 1.5.2 How to move from the airport

If you are arriving in Catania by plane, you will want to know how to get from Catania Airport into the city centre and then eventually to your hostel (or your temporary accommodation). A shuttle bus runs from the airport to Catania Centrale railway station and is your only option other than a taxi (or a rented car).

- The bus takes 25 minutes, with departures every 30 minutes. The ticket is € 4.00, and it could be bought from the driver.
- The Taxi ride costs € 15.00 – € 25.00. Agree on the price before entering.

Once at the main bus station, you tend to experience Catania's public transport network which is made up of a metro system with a single line and buses. To reach your accommodation you have the city's public buses which can be useful depending on where you're going. Tickets are sold at the tobacco shops (Tabacchi) or and usually validated with the machines inside the buses.

- The ticket costs € 1.00 and last 90 minutes, irrespective of how many buses you take.
- A combined bus and metro ticket is € 1.20 and lasts 120 minutes.

NB! The metro service runs from Monday to Saturday, from Nesima to Stesicoro and back, with intermediate stops. The service runs every 15 minutes, in both directions from 06.40 to 21.00.

It will be valuable to utilize the local transit and mobility app Moovit when travelling within Catania.

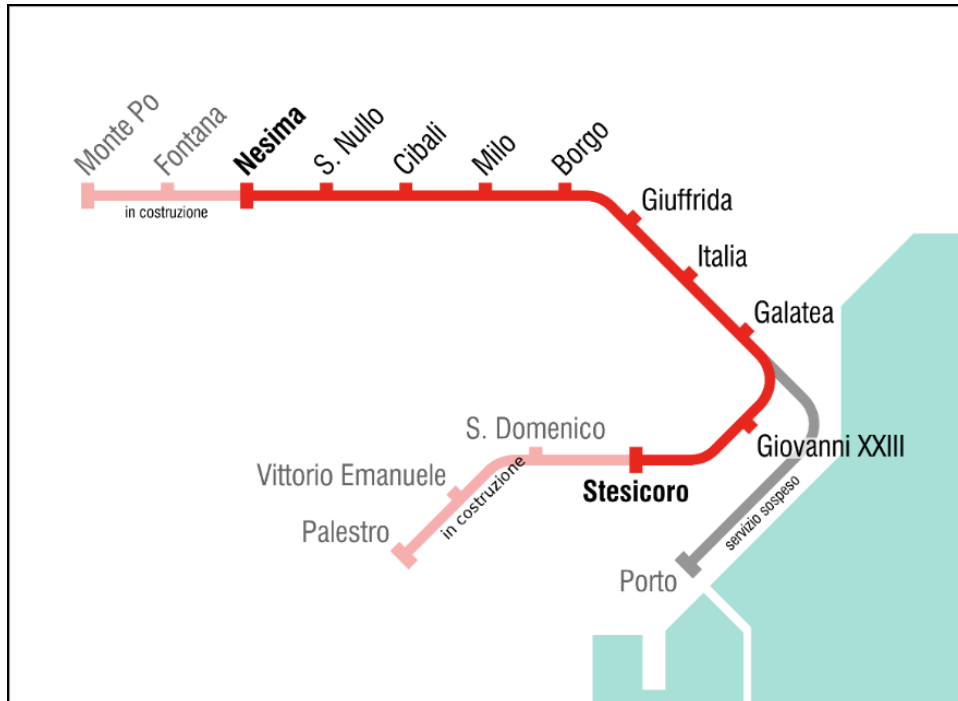


Figure 1.1: Catania Metro Route. With paths under construction and suspended services.

As of now, the metro runs from **Nesima** to **Stesicoro**.

## Chapter 2

### 2. IN CATANIA

#### 2.1 Italian phone number

While you are in Italy, an Italian phone number is extremely useful.

To obtain a rechargeable SIM card with a regular Italian phone number, go to one of the mobile phone company stores (e.g. WindTre, Tim, Vodafone, Fastweb) with a valid passport. The provider will give you a sim card that will be associated with a calling/data plan.

#### 2.2 Codice fiscale (tax code)

Codice fiscale (or fiscal code in English) is the Italian tax number for the identification of a Taxpayer for the local Tax Authorities. The *codice fiscale* is composed of the letters of your name, surname, and numbers related to the date and place of birth.

It would be much better to request the fiscal code from the Italian Consulate/Diplomatic Representation in your country before your arrival. The Italian Consulate/Diplomatic Representation in your Country will give you a temporary A4 document with your fiscal code, which you will be able to use in Italy. Upon arrival, you will need to apply for the fiscal code card at the Welcome office of the University of Catania. Please note that you can apply for the fiscal code only after receiving your residence permit's receipt after making a request in the post office. Alternatively, you can apply directly at Agenzia



delle Entrate from Monday to Friday at 08:30-13:00. Via Monsignor Domenico Orlando No.1 – 95131, CATANIA.

Email: [dp.catania.utcatania@agenziaentrate.it](mailto:dp.catania.utcatania@agenziaentrate.it)

## 2.3 Permesso di soggiorno (Residence permit)

The permesso di soggiorno allows extra-EU students to reside in Italy for more than 90 days. The application must be submitted within 8 days following your arrival in Italy.

The necessary documents for the issue of the permit are:

- The Application Kit, is available at the Welcome office (or available at the post office for free).
- Photocopies of the pages of your passport containing your personal information, your Italian visa and the passport pages containing stamps and other visas.
- Photocopy of the *codice fiscale*.
- Photocopy of the health insurance valid for 1 year.
- The Letter of Enrolment from the University of Catania stamped by the Italian Consulate/Diplomatic Representation in your country.
- Copy of the documents attesting the availability of appropriate financial means for one year (the time for which the residence permit is valid).

Tip! The same document that you used to obtain a visa can be submitted

- € 16.00 (marca da bollo) stamp that can be purchased in any Tabacchi shop.
- The document attesting the accommodation in Italy.

NB! The photocopy of your rental contract must be registered at the local tax office. Or, if you got the scholarship and place in the residence from ERSU, you can request the document from the ERSU office.

- Passport-size photos (2 for the Immigration Office (Questura), 2 for the fingerprints' office).
- The document attesting the payment of the University fee. The document can be printed from your university student portal Smart\_Edu.
- The study plan with the University Stamp.

Once you are in the post office, you will have to pay the Residence Permit Fee (€ 70,46) and office expenses (€ 30.00). After completing these steps, you will be given a ricevuta (receipt) by the post office indicating the date of your appointment at the Questura. Please note that it is very important to keep it in the passport, to prove to have applied for it.

On the date of your appointment, you will need to go to Questura di Catania (Viale Africa, No.25). Do not forget your passport, original documents of the photocopies that were enclosed in the Application Kit, photos and any missing documentation that you were not able to insert in the Kit and obtained later. On this appointment, you will get a note for the fingerprinting appointment in another police office. Do not forget to take 2 passport-sized photos, a copy of the passport and the receipt there.

Once your residence permit is ready, you will be notified through a text message with the details of its release and date for collection. The Residence Permit Card can only be personally collected by the applicant.

To track the status of your application, after the appointment at the Questura, you can enter on [questure.poliziadistato.it/stranieri/](https://questure.poliziadistato.it/stranieri/) the code allocated to the file or the password written on the receipt given by the post office.

According to the Polizia di Stato *website*, students are responsible to renew their Residence Permit within 60 days before the expiry date. The renewal process does not require a new visa, but you will have to repeat the Residence Permit application procedure anew.

If you need help to complete the “Permesso di soggiorno” request or you have any doubt you can contact Maria Sanfilippo [via e-mail](#) to fix an appointment.

## 2.4 Insurance

The Italian immigration law requires students to have health insurance during their stay in Italy. If you have private insurance in your country, please be sure that:

- it has validity in Italy with not less than € 30,000.00 amount of coverage,
- it is stamped by the Italian Consulate/Diplomatic Representation in your country
- the exact coverage period is 1-year. Since the duration of your residence permit is connected to the duration of the insurance.

Alternatively, once in Italy, you can request insurance coverage at Welcome Association Italy (WAI) for extra-EU students, for a 1-year subscription. This is an option that still allows you to apply for a Residence Permit. You can get it by:

1. Register on the website [www.waitaly.net/accedi/](http://www.waitaly.net/accedi/) and choose the membership plan (€ 120 for 1-year).
2. You can either pay with your card online or at the post office.
3. After the payment, you will be able to save the document both in Italian and/or English.

Another option is to register with the National Health System (€ 149,77), but it is very important to know that this insurance covers you from January till December no matter when you pay the tax.

## 2.5 Bank Account

All foreign students upon arrival to Catania need to open an Italian Bank account, whose IBAN code is crucial for financial transactions. The main banks

are Intesa Sanpaolo, UniCredit and BNL. However, there is an opportunity to open a bank account through Poste Italiane. Each of them has different requirements which are changing every year, so it is highly crucial to check the student-friendly solutions before choosing the bank where you want to open an account.

The following documents are usually required:

- Residence permit (or the receipt for its application)
- Passport and its photocopy
- Rental contract (for your address identification)
- Fiscal code
- Photocopy of the Admission Letter

## 2.6 Completion of enrolment

Another fundamental task, once you arrive in Catania, is achieving the procedures necessary to complete your enrolment. This process is fundamental to confirming your enrolment to the University of Catania that you already started while you were still in your country of origin.

To complete your enrolment, you will be asked to contact the International Students Office ([sestat@unict.it](mailto:sestat@unict.it)) to fix an appointment, where the responsible person will help you to finalize the procedure.

The documents required to complete your enrolment are:

- copy of the passport (the personal details page and the VISA page)
- copy of the request of the residence permit (the 3 papers the post office gave you while applying for residence permit)
- copy of the fiscal code
- DOV in original or Statement of Comparability together with the legalized copy of the study documents

## 2.7 Housing

It is imperative that you find a place to sleep in Catania before arriving in the city, considering that the University does not offer housing services. You can temporarily stay in a B&B or a hostel. For a longer period of stay, you can seek a room/apartment in the city. There are different websites on which you can have a look to find the most suitable solution for your stay in Catania.

It is important to stress that those applying and being ASSIGNEE of the bed and scholarship of ERSU should consider these housing solutions. Because it is possible that by the moment of your arrival you will not be in possession of some documents necessary for ERSU, and you will not be immediately able to get the room you got assigned in.

Finally, ERSU Foresteria, is another housing solution offered by ERSU allowing a short stay (max 90 days) in their guesthouses (see chapter 3, section 3.4).

## 2.8 Transportation within the city (Buses and Metro)

In 1.4.2, brief mobility around Catania was highlighted, where the Catania Centrale railway station was taken as a reference point for transportation around the city using either the Buses and/or the Metro, which, as it was stated, are the main public transportation in the city. However, while in Catania, transportation is key to your study experience, thus a further transportation guide in the city of Catania is presented:

- The buses are managed by Azienda Metropolitana Trasporti Catania SPA (AMT), and tickets, as mentioned earlier, could be bought at the Tabacchi shop. A special bus BRT-U, short for BRT Università, connects the Metro station Milo and the Cittadella Universitaria and some university centres nearby Cittadella.

- The Metro is managed by the company FCE. Tickets can be bought at the entrance of any metro station using the ticket machines.
- Unict students can buy, before 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022, a bus/metro annual pass at a special price. The request should be done through your students' portal. [Here](#) you can find the updated info.

## 2.9 Italian identity card and SPID

As a legal resident of Catania, you can apply for the Italian ID Card (Carta d'identità), as it is needed for certain procedures. For foreign citizens living in Italy, the ID Card will only be an identification document and will not be valid for expatriation or outside the Italian territory, i.e., it cannot be used as a travelling document.

To apply for the Italian ID card, after you obtain a regular residence permit and a personal residence in Italy, you will need to go to the Comune di Catania, the Municipal Registry Office, with:

- a filled form for its request (the form could be obtained online or at the Municipality),
- a valid passport,
- residence permit (or the receipt for its renewal),
- rental contract,
- 3 recent photos of half-bust on a white background clearly showing the face,
- insurance certificate,
- fiscal code.

Once you have the Card, it will be valid for the same time as the residence permit. If the latter is not renewed, the ID Card should be returned to the nearest Registry Office in the city.

Recently, it is also possible to apply for the electronic ID Card (Carta d'identità elettronica CIE). To apply for it, it is also necessary to go to the Registry Office with the same documents explained for the ID card with the difference of cost. The CIE cost € 22.00, hence the receipt for its payment is an additional required documentation. For foreign citizens, as is the ID card, the CIE is also only valid as an identification document and not for expatriation or outside Italy.

At the time of the application for the CIE there will be half of a linked PIN, while the other half will be delivered together with the delivery of the CIE. This code is useful to apply online for the SPID by a smart-card reader.

The SPID (Sistema Pubblico d'Identità Digitale) is the digital identity that allows you to have access to all the public administration online services, by using a username and a password. It is becoming extremely important and useful recently, with the digitalization of bureaucratic procedures. For foreign citizens living in Italy with a residence permit, the SPID application can be done having:

- a valid Italian identification document (Italian ID Card or CIE)
- a health card with fiscal code or the fiscal code card, or their certificates of attribution.
- an Italian telephone (or cell phone) number and email address



## Chapter 3

# 3. ERSU SCHOLARSHIPS AND SERVICE

This chapter explains the procedure to register with ERSU, how to apply for the scholarship, the documents needed, dormitories, canteens and the *Progetto salute* (salute project). It is crucial to adhere to the dates and deadlines of specific requirements that ERSU publishes each year.

After successful completion of the application, one is usually put in a list, or ranking, constituting students depending on the year of your application.

- For first-year students, you will be put into a general ranking of all first-year students of UNICT in descending order of the ISEE value, i.e., the one with the lowest value is placed on top.
- In subsequent years, you will be ranked according to your course of study in descending order of the number of credits, i.e., students with the highest credits within your course of study will be placed on top.

Then you will be assigned benefits based on your position in the ranking. So, you will be in one of the following categories:

- **ASSIGNEE:** You will get both money and a bed.
- **ELIGIBLE:** You have to wait, and probably, due to scrolling down the list, you will receive money and a bed.
- **NOT ELIGIBLE:**
- **SUSPENDED:** For some reason (incomplete documentation or missing documents for instance). Hence, you are required to provide other documents to complete the procedure, and some of them could be provided once in Catania, as depicted in sections of this document.

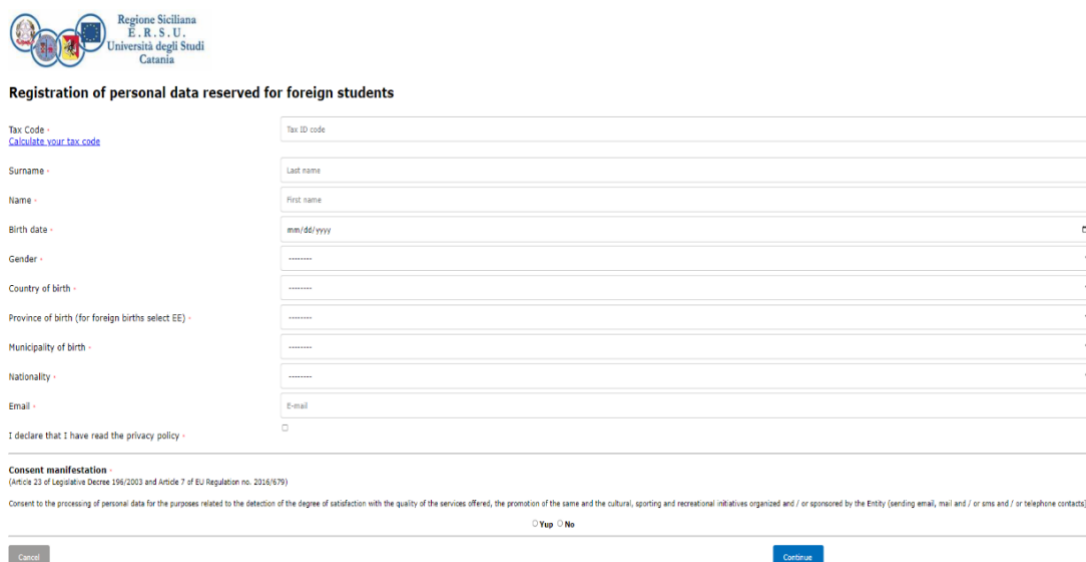
### 3.1 What is ERSU

ERSU is the acronym of *Ente Regionale di Diritto allo Studio Universitario*, “Regional Right to University Studies Agency”, a regional institution that guarantees the right to education for Sicilian students, in particular, the University of Catania. It aims to assist students with their university studies through benefits and services. The benefits are directed to students with economic difficulties and a proven track record in their studies. The benefits offered to students are inclusively, but are not limited to:

- Scholarship;
- Residence in ERSU dormitories;
- Meals in ERSU canteens.

### 3.2 Register on ERSU portal and apply for ERSU scholarship

International students in possession exclusively of an identity document issued by the authorities of their country and not resident in Italy can access [here](#) for first-time registration and access (see Fig. 3.1).



The screenshot shows the registration form for foreign students on the ERSU portal. At the top left, there is a logo for the Regione Siciliana E. R. S. U. Università degli Studi Catania. The form title is "Registration of personal data reserved for foreign students".

The form fields are as follows:

- Tax Code: [Calculate your tax code](#) (link) and a text input field for "Tax ID code".
- Surname: Text input field for "Last name".
- Name: Text input field for "First name".
- Birth date: Text input field for "mm/dd/yyyy".
- Gender: Dropdown menu.
- Country of birth: Dropdown menu.
- Province of birth (for foreign births select EE): Dropdown menu.
- Municipality of birth: Dropdown menu.
- Nationality: Dropdown menu.
- Email: Text input field for "E-mail".

Below the form, there is a checkbox for "I declare that I have read the privacy policy".

At the bottom, there is a "Consent manifestation" section with the following text:
   
 (Article 23 of Legislative Decree 196/2003 and Article 7 of EU Regulation no. 2016/679)
   
 Consent to the processing of personal data for the purposes related to the detection of the degree of satisfaction with the quality of the services offered, the promotion of the same and the cultural, sporting and recreational initiatives organized and / or sponsored by the Entity (sending email, mail and / or sms and / or telephone contacts).
   
 Below this text are radio buttons for "Yes" and "No".

At the very bottom, there are "Cancel" and "Continue" buttons.

Fig. 3.1. Registration for international students not resident in Italy.

International students who declare their residence in Italy can access [here](#) for first-time registration and access with SPID or CIE (Electronic Identity Card).

Fill in all the requested fields and confirm the given data. Then use the button to generate an OTP code and wait for a phone message or email with the code for the validation of the data.

The deadline for the online request for Scholarships validated with the OTP code is fixed in the call, be sure to check it.

### 3.2.1 Step-by-step guide to filling in the request

Once registered, to apply for the ERSU scholarship and services, one can simply login on to the [ERSU website](#), access their page then enter the page "*Procedura e concorsi attivi*" and follow these steps:

NB! When you use a tool to translate the page, the “proceed” and “back” (*procedi* and *indietro*) buttons will not respond. When that happens, you will need to refresh the page in Italian to proceed.

- A. Once on the call page, click on *Procedi* (see Fig. 3.2) and *Continua* on the page that follows (Fig. 3.3). Of course, you’re advised to read both pages carefully, especially the second page.



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# Portale Studenti ERSU CATANIA

Utente: SALLAH ANTOUMAN

Pratica N. 2022002541

## "CONCORSO PER L'ATTRIBUZIONE DI BORSE DI STUDIO, ALTRI CONTRIBUTI ECONOMICI E SERVIZI PER IL DIRITTO ALLO STUDIO UNIVERSITARIO A.A. 2022/2023"

Per richiedere la borsa di studio e/o il servizio abitativo è necessario:

- leggere attentamente il [Bando di Concorso](#);
- essere in possesso dei requisiti economico-patrimoniali previsti dal bando
- solamente per gli studenti iscritti o che intendono iscriversi ad anni successivi al primo, essere in possesso dei requisiti di merito previsti dal bando
- completare le voci richieste durante la compilazione on-line dei moduli entro i termini previsti;
- confermare i dati inseriti;
- solo per coloro che non sono autenticati con SPID o Carta di identità elettronica, premere sul pulsante per generare OTP e attendere SMS con codice per la validazione dei dati inseriti. ATTENZIONE: il codice OTP sarà inviato al numero di cellulare indicato in fase di registrazione al portale; validare i dati della richiesta benefici, inserendo nell'apposito campo (entro 60 minuti dalla ricezione) il codice OTP ricevuto via SMS e caricare una scansione del documento di identità in corso di validità;

RICORDA CHE
La procedura per la compilazione on-line della richiesta di benefici sarà disponibile fino alle ore 14:00 (ora italiana) del <b>28 AGOSTO 2022</b>
La procedura per la validazione dei dati tramite OTP sarà disponibile fino alle ore 14:00 (ora italiana) del <b>28 AGOSTO 2022</b>

Indietro

Procedi

Figure 3.2: First page of the call.

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### AVVERTENZE

La compilazione della presente richiesta avviene secondo le disposizioni previste dal D.P.R. 445/2000 "Testo unico delle disposizioni legislative e regolamentari in materia di documentazione amministrativa".

In particolare:

- i dati e le informazioni rese nella richiesta benefici assumono il valore di dichiarazioni sostitutive di certificazione rese ai sensi dell'art. 46 (vigono, al riguardo, le disposizioni di cui all'art. 76 che prevedono conseguenze di carattere amministrativo e penale per coloro i quali rilascino dichiarazioni non corrispondenti a verità);
- i dati e le informazioni suddette, strettamente funzionali all'espletamento della procedura concorsuale, verranno trattati ai sensi e con le garanzie di cui agli artt. 6 e 13 del Regolamento UE 2016/679 (GDPR) e del D.Lgs. 196/2003 e ss.mm.ii.

[Indietro](#) [Home](#) [Continua](#)

[Chiarimenti e informazioni](#)  
[Segnala un problema tecnico](#)

Figure 3.3: Avvertenze (Warnings)

## B. Step 1: Preliminary Information on Framework A

Use the following guide and select the appropriate:

- Cittadinanza: Your nationality
- Nucleo familiare residente in Italia (redditi/patrimonio in Italia): No
- Tipologia nucleo familiar: Genitori coniugati (Married parents). For any other option, you will need proof
- Tipologia Attestazione ISEE: Calcolo ISEEU/ISPEU parificato. Or 'non disponibile' if you have not yet made the ISEE parificato at the CAF office
- Status occupazionale: Select one
- Eventuale possesso requisiti benefici riservati: Select the appropriate or *Nessuna* (None). If you come from a particularly poor country according to the ERSU list (see below) select the fourth option, '*stranieri extracomunitari parti...*'

Then click *Continua*

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**1° STEP: INFORMAZIONI PRELIMINARI AL QUADRO A**

Completa i seguenti campi obbligatori

Cittadinanza

Nucleo familiare residente in Italia  
(redditi/patrimonio in Italia)

Tipologia nucleo familiare

Tipologia Attestazione ISEE

Status occupazionale

Eventuale possesso requisiti benefici riservati

- Cliccare sul pulsante "**Continua**" per passare allo step successivo;
- Cliccare sul pulsante "**Indietro**" per ritornare allo step precedente.

[Chiarimenti e informazioni](#)  
[Segnala un problema tecnico](#)

Fig. 3.4. Step 1.

### List of particularly poor countries:

Afganistan, Djibouti, Madagascar, Solomon Islands, Angola, Eritrea, Malawi, Somalia, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Mali, South Sudan, Benin, Gambia, Mauritania, Sudan, Bhutan, Guinea, Mozambico, Tanzania, Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Myanmar, Timor-Leste, Burundi, Haiti, Nepal, Togo, Cambogia, Kiribati, Niger, Tuvalu, Central African Rep., Korea Dem. Rep., Rwanda, Uganda, Chad, Lao People's, DemocraticRepubblic, Sao Tome & Principe, Yemen, Comoros, Lesotho, Senegal, Zambia, Congo Dem. Rep., Liberia, Sierra leone, Syrian Arab Republic

### C. Step 2: Framework A - Economic-Financial Requirement

Enter your fiscal code then click *Continua*.

NB! The documents regarding the family economic situation should refer to two years before the current one, i.e., for enrolment and scholarship for a.y. 2022/23 you should attach the documents related to the year 2020. Consequently, the ISEEU should be for that same year 2020.


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**2° STEP: QUADRO A – REQUISITO ECONOMICO-PATRIMONIALE**

Indicare il codice fiscale del dichiarante

Codice Fiscale Dichiarante\*

**Ricorda**, che è necessario dichiarare i redditi e il patrimonio eventualmente posseduti in Italia dal proprio nucleo familiare.

**Ricorda**, comunque, che dovrai comunicare, entro e non oltre il termine previsto dal bando (durante il periodo di presentazione del modulo online di rettifica/integrazione dati dichiarati nella domanda di borsa di studio), il calcolo dell'ISEEU/ISPEU Parificato. Coloro i quali avranno compilato la domanda online indicando solo il codice fiscale del dichiarante e non avranno provveduto ad integrare le informazioni durante il periodo di presentazione delle richieste di rettifica/integrazione, **saranno esclusi dal concorso per la impossibilità di valutare il possesso delle condizioni economiche previste dal bando.**

- Cliccare sul pulsante "**Continua**" per passare allo step successivo;
- Cliccare sul pulsante "**Indietro**" per ritornare allo step precedente.

[Chiarimenti e informazioni](#)

Fig. 3.5. Step 2.

D. Step 3: Preliminary Information on Frame B

- Anno di corso: *Primo anno* (first year) or the appropriate
  - Anno conseguimento diploma scuola superior: For your high school
- Istituzione universitaria: Università degli Studi di Catania
- Sede del corso di laurea: Select the place where you are attending lessons of your study course
- Eventuale condizione particolare carriera universitaria: Nessuna or the appropriate
- Contemporanea iscrizione a più corsi di laurea: No
- Eventuale passaggio corso di laurea: No
- Eventuale rinuncia agli studi: No
- Eventuale precedente immatricolazione: No
- Titolo universitario livello inferiore già conseguito : Si, if you have already completed a bachelor's degree course
  - Tipologia titolo conseguito: For your bachelor's degree
  - Anno Accademico conseguimento titolo: Your graduation date
  - Istituzione conseguimento titolo: The name of the institution

Then click *Continua*



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### 3° STEP: INFORMAZIONI PRELIMINARI AL QUADRO B

Completa i seguenti campi obbligatori:

<b>Anno di corso</b>	<input type="text" value="Primo anno"/>
<b>Anno conseguimento diploma scuola superiore</b>	<input type="text" value="2012"/>
<b>Istituzione universitaria</b>	<input type="text" value="Universita degli studi di Catania"/>
<b>Sede del corso di laurea</b>	<input type="text" value="Catania"/>
<b>Eventuale condizione particolare carriera universitaria</b>	<input type="text" value="Nessuna"/>
<b>Contemporanea iscrizione a più corsi di laurea</b>	<input type="text" value="No"/>
<b>Eventuale passaggio corso di laurea</b>	<input type="text" value="No"/>
<b>Eventuale rinuncia agli studi</b>	<input type="text" value="No"/>
<b>Eventuale precedente immatricolazione</b>	<input type="text" value="No"/>
<b>Titolo universitario livello inferiore già conseguito</b>	<input type="text" value="Si"/>
<b>Tipologia titolo conseguito</b>	<input type="text" value="Triennale"/>
<b>Anno Accademico conseguimento titolo</b>	<input type="text" value="2018"/> (per laurea nell'anno solare 2022 scrivere 2021 o 2020)
<b>Istituzione conseguimento titolo</b>	<input type="text" value="University of The Gambia"/>

- Cliccare sul pulsante "Continua" per passare allo step successivo;
- Cliccare sul pulsante "Indietro" per ritornare allo step precedente.

Fig. 3.6. Step 3.

#### E. Step 4: Additional Information Preliminary to Framework B

- Tipologia di corso: Select *laurea magistrale* if you are attending master's degree courses otherwise *laurea triennale* for bachelor's degree courses
- Scuola/Dipartimento: The department of your course
- Corso: Your course of study

Then click *Continua*

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**4° STEP: ULTERIORI INFORMAZIONI PRELIMINARI AL QUADRO B**

Completa i seguenti campi obbligatori

Tipologia di corso

Scuola/Dipartimento

Corso

- Cliccare sul pulsante "Continua" per passare allo step successivo;
- Cliccare sul pulsante "Indietro" per ritornare allo step precedente.

[Chiarimenti e informazioni](#)

[Segnala un problema tecnico](#)

Fig. 3.7. Step 4.

#### F. Step 6: Framework C - Choice of Benefits

- Benefici richiesti: Select the appropriate. Warning! If you select *Servizio abitativo (posto letto)* for example, you will not be considered for the scholarship money (*Borsa di studio*) or the Canteen meals (*ristorativo*).

Then click *Continua*

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**6° STEP: QUADRO C – SCELTA DEI BENEFICI**

Selezionare la voce interessata

**Benefici richiesti**

- Per **confermare la scelta**, cliccare sul pulsante "**Continua**" e passare allo step successivo;
- Cliccare "**Indietro**" per ritornare allo step precedente.

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Fig. 3.8. Step 6.

#### G. Step 7: Framework D - Payment Methods

Register your European IBAN code or continue and register it in a special section of the *Procedure e concorsi attivi* called **Comunicazione codice IBAN** (Communicate IBAN code) later when you will make one.

Then click *Continua*

#### H. Step 8: Frame E - Declarations

Tick all of the mandatory sections. I assume you agree to all.

Then click *Continua*

## 8° STEP: QUADRO E – DICHIARAZIONI

### Dichiarazioni obbligatorie

- di essere consapevole di rilasciare le dichiarazioni presenti nella richiesta benefici ai sensi degli artt. 46 e 47 del D.P.R. 445/2000, di essere consapevole delle conseguenze derivanti da dichiarazioni mendaci e che formare atti falsi, farne uso nei casi previsti dal richiamato D.P.R. o esibire un atto contenente dati non rispondenti a verità sono puniti ai sensi del codice penale
- di avere preso visione del bando di concorso in ogni sua parte e di accettarne tutte le condizioni;
- di avere letto l'informativa sulla privacy resa disponibile nella pagina personale dei servizi "ersuonline" del portale studenti;
- di autorizzare l'ERSU a trattare i propri dati personali per le finalità connesse alla rilevazione del grado di soddisfazione sulla qualità dei servizi offerti, alla promozione degli stessi e delle iniziative culturali, sportive, e ricreative organizzate e/o patrocinate dall'Ente (invio email, posta e/o sms e/o contatti telefonici).

### Dichiarazioni facoltative

Per quanto non previsto nei precedenti step, riportare nel seguente campo facoltativo eventuali "altre dichiarazioni":

Altre dichiarazioni

- Clicca sul pulsante "**Continua**" per passare allo step successivo;
- Clicca sul pulsante "**Indietro**" per ritornare allo step precedente.

Fig. 3.9. Step 8.

## I. Step 9: Entering Identity Document Details

- Tipo di document: Select the appropriate
- Numero document:      Passport number - if you select *Passaporto* (Passport)
- Rilasciato da: Put the appropriate
- Data rilascio: DD/MM/YYYY
- Data scadenza: DD/MM/YYYY

Then click *Continua*

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**9° STEP: INSERIMENTO ESTREMI DOCUMENTO DI IDENTITÀ**

Inserisci i dati relativi al tuo documento

**Tipo di documento** Passaporto

**Numero documento** PC\*\*\*\*\*

**Rilasciato da** The Government of The Gar

**Data rilascio** 05/03/2021

**Data scadenza** 05/03/2025

- Per **confermare la scelta**, cliccare sul pulsante **"Continua"** e passare allo step successivo;
- Cliccare **"Indietro"** per ritornare allo step precedente.

[Indietro](#)
[Home](#)
[Continua](#)

[Chiarimenti e informazioni](#)  
[Segnala un problema tecnico](#)

Fig. 3.10. Step 9.

## J. Step 9: Confirmation of Data

Go through everything and confirm. If you have made any errors, jump to that specific section and adjust it appropriately.

Finally, click on *Conferma dati* (confirm the data) and then *Valida richiesta* (Validate request) to validate the request with OTP via SMS.

If you have not received the SMS, follow the path *Profilo > Dati personali*, and make sure that an Italian phone number with the correct prefix is registered.

### 3.2.2 Documents needed

In the Student Portal of ERSU, within the Additional documentation section (*Fascicolo*), you will need to upload the following documents (in pdf maximum 2 MB) to regularise the request for benefits:

- Copy of front and back of an ID document, such as a passport;
- Copy of the residence permit, or the application receipt. If you attached the receipt, remember to upload the permit once it is received;
- Copy of ISEE (explained in the next subsection).

### 3.2.3 ISEE-parificato (Equalized ISEE)

ISEE is a fiscal document in which your economic situation (in connection to your family) is declared. This document is usually made in Italy. As a foreign student, with a family resident abroad, you will need to make ISEE-parificato or the Equalized ISEE - an ISEE documentation equivalent.

For the issue of ISEE, each applicant must go to the C.A.F. (Tax assistance centre) with special documentation, certifying the household composition, income and movable assets owned abroad by each member of the household. This documentation should be issued by the competent authorities of your country where the income was produced, translated into Italian and validated by the competent Italian Diplomatic authorities.

For countries where there are difficulties to grant this certification attested by the local Italian Embassy, the documentation is made by the competent diplomatic or consular representations abroad in Italy and legalized by prefectures.

Documentation needed for the issue of ISEE at the CAF:

- Family statement
- Family income
- Financial assets, including real estate properties
- Copy of fiscal code
- Copy of the residence permit (or the receipt for its application)

### 3.2.4 Scholarships assignment criteria

The assignment criteria of benefits are highlighted at the beginning of this chapter. However, it's worth mentioning that as a first-year ERSU scholarship recipient (or ASSIGNEE) you are only provided with the first instalment of the scholarship, the remaining amount is given under the following conditions of merits:

- You have acquired 15 CFU before 10/08 and 20 (15+5) CFU before 10/11/20XX: you will receive the second part of the scholarship + the reimbursement of € 140.00 fees paid for enrolment + exemption of university fees + international mobility if required.
- You reach just 20 CFU before 10/11/20XX: you will maintain the benefits of the scholarship (first half of the amount) + food you have consumed in ERSU canteens, but you will lose the second half of the scholarship and you should pay half of the price for the bed in the ERSU residences;
- Neither the first, nor the second option: you will have to give back the scholarship and also the money corresponding to the food you have consumed in canteens and pay the bed.

If you are ELIGIBLE, but not ASSIGNEE to the scholarship, you have the following options:

- You have acquired 15 CFU before 10/08 and 20 (15+5) CFU before 10/11/20XX: you will maintain the eligibility to the scholarship, + the reimbursement of € 140.00 fees paid + exemption of university fees;
- You reach just 20 CFU before 10/11/20XX: you will maintain the eligibility to the benefits (foods), + the reimbursement of € 140.00 fees paid + exemption of university fees but you have to pay the bed assigned;
- Neither the first, nor the second option: you will have to give back the money corresponding to the food you have consumed in canteens.

### 3.2.5 IBAN code

To receive the scholarship from ERSU, a bank account with an IBAN code should be declared in the Student Portal of ERSU. For the request of the bank account, see Chapter 2, section 5. But in the start due to documentation, it is difficult to open an Italian IBAN, so better to open a European IBAN for the scholarship.

In case of particular difficulties in opening a bank account, it is suggested to open a European Bank account (for example N26, Wise) online and upload the euro-IBAN. This allows you to receive the money, or just to complete the documentation using the section for uploading IBAN on the Student Portal page on the ERSU website.



### 3.3 Dormitories

During the application for the ERSU benefits, to get the bed, you will have to declare your interest in the appropriate section. Later, if you are an ASSIGNEE to the bed, Posto Letto (PL) - as it is described in the ERSU student portal – you can accept the place in the residences by the following:

- Confirm before the 10th day after the publication of the list of the assigned students;
- Access the personal page of your ERSU student portal with your credentials;
- Access the application to accept the bed in the residence;
- Fill out the form;
- Confirm the data by using OTP code;
- Insert the OTP received on your mobile phone to complete the request.

NB! Check in the call the deadlines to fill in the online form to access the benefits by auto-declaration and using OTP code.

Then you will have to upload these documents in the subsection of the student portal page of ERSU, Additional documentation, a single pdf file maximum 2 MB:

1. Acceptance of the rules of the residences of ERSU; Medical certificate provided by a certificated (Italian) doctor. Ask your tutor or residence office to make an appointment for you;
2. Payment receipt of 150 euro (refundable) security fee deposited in the ERSU Catania Bank account, the detail of IBAN for the deposit can be found on the official website of ERSU Catania;
3. Recent passport size photo;
4. Copy of an ID document;

5. Original and copy of the permit (if not arrived yet it could be sufficient for the receipt only; Later you will have to upload the original residence permit in the online student portal of ERSU Catania).

### 3.4 Foresteria service (Guest House)

ERSU offers to students for a maximum of 90 days the possibility to stay in their dormitories by paying a relatively small amount, between € 90 - € 130 per month. To ask ERSU for this service, you should:

- Fill in the form you find [here](#)
- Send the application and documents required (ID, Enrolment certificate and fee, ISEE-parificato, Medical certificate) to the email: [foresteria@ersucatania.it](mailto:foresteria@ersucatania.it) and ask about the availability of the bed.
- The manager responsible for rents will check the application, documents and availability, and will notify you about further steps, usually deposit payment and submission in presence.

Be aware that this solution is not often available since it depends on the number of the room not occupied at the moment of the request.

### 3.5 University Canteens

You can access the ERSU canteens, in "Cittadella", "Oberdan" and "Vittorio Emanuele" by:

- Downloading the mobile app, EASY CAMPUS;
- Access the ERSU student portal web page and go to the MENSA App section, EASY CAMPUS;
- Fill out the request and the given form;

- Upload in a single pdf file the auto-declaration signed and filled with a copy of the ID document, tuition fee copy for the academic year and ISEE documentation.
- Call (095 7517917) or go to the ERSU branch at 570 Via Etnea for activation.

If you are an ASSIGNEE, you will have free meals (lunch and dinner) for each day until a maximum of 360 meals. If you are ELIGIBLE, you will have meals at 1.60 € until a maximum of 360. Passed this limit you will pay for meals depending on ISEE, by charging money on the mobile app.

### 3.6 Salute Project

ERSU offers students of the University of Catania the access to examinations and specialist visits at the Polyclinic just paying the contribution rate fixed by the National Health Service.

ERSU provides students, enrolled at the University of Catania, the possibility of booking specialist visits to the outpatient clinics of the Polyclinic at the cost of the ticket only if you do not have the relevant exemption. To be able to use the service, you must first ask your doctor for the appropriate prescription, then connect to the [Ersu website](#) where you can fill in the online form in which you need to enter your credentials (name, surname, address, telephone number, and email address), the type of visit requested and attach the doctor's prescription.

ERSU will register and communicate by email the booking with the date and time of the visit, which will in any case take place at the Policlinico via Santa Sofia. On the indicated day, after paying the ticket, the visit will be carried out, without further additional costs. To request more information, you can send an email to: [clara.lomonaco@ersucatania.gov.it](mailto:clara.lomonaco@ersucatania.gov.it) and by phone at: 0957517929.

## Chapter 4

# 4. UNIVERSITY LIFE

### 4.1.1 UNICT online

The UNICT student portal, Smart\_Edu, is used by all students of the University of Catania for numerous services, particularly for enrolments to subsequent academic years, booking of exams and graduation, paying taxes and all other essential aspects of being a student in UNICT. To access this portal, you need your fiscal code and a password that will be provided when registering, make sure these credentials are safely kept. The students' portal address is: [studenti.smartedu.unict.it](https://studenti.smartedu.unict.it)

The website is available both in English and Italian. You can change the language by clicking on the language logo on the upper-left part of the login page. Sometimes it is more helpful to navigate the page in Italian as certain information is lost in the translation of the page from Italian to English.

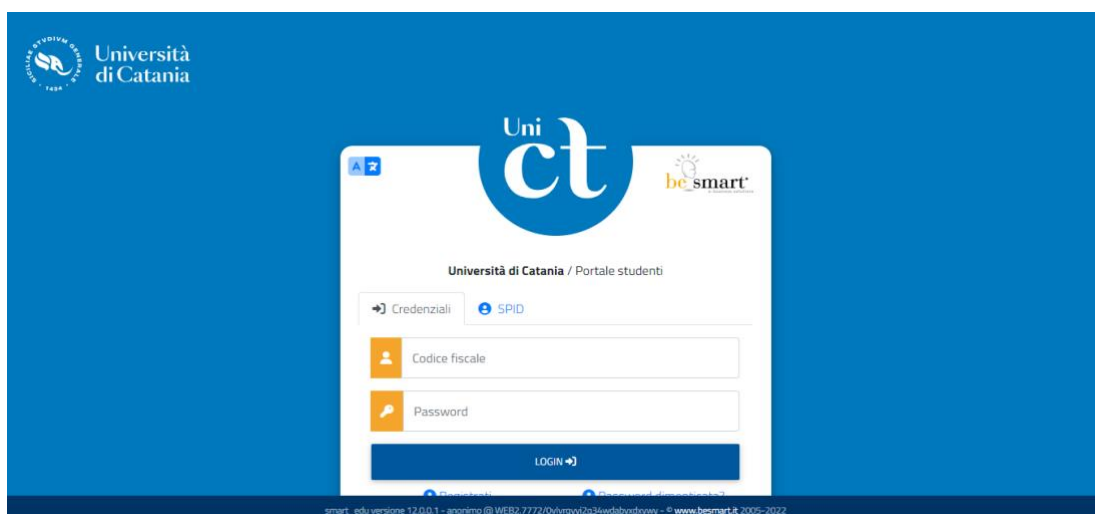


Figure 4.1: Welcome page on Smart\_Edu

The portal consists of nine sections visible in several icons right after you are logged in.

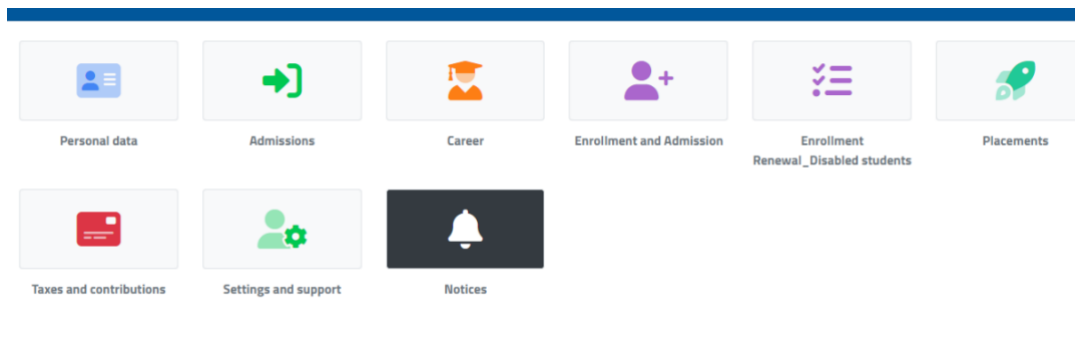


Figure 4.2: The Sections in the Smart\_Edu student portal (English version)

The most important sections of the portal are:

***Procedura di ammissione (Admission Procedures) with Immatricolazioni e Test d'ingresso (Enrolment and Admission Test):*** These two sections allow one to apply for admissions. It can also be used to apply for enrolments (or registrations) in subsequent years because you will be required to enrol twice if your program has a legal duration of 2-years. Of course, if you did not complete your degree program in 2-years you can enrol in the third year (*primo anno fuori corso*) to continue your studies

- ***Carriera, Piano di Studi, Esami (Career):*** In this section, you can build your study plan, review the exams that you have taken, book or reserve an examination and most importantly apply for graduation when the time comes.
- ***Tasse e contribute (Taxes and Contributions):*** In this section, you can make payments for selected services, for example, the *Contributo Diritto Allo Studio* and the *Marca da Bollo virtuale* need for enrolment in any particular academic year. You will always be allowed to see the payments you have made and how to download the receipt.

### 4.1.2 Departments and study courses pages

- Each degree course has a specific website, where to obtain information about;
- a professors' announcements;
- degree course announcements (e.g., seminars, suspension of lessons, etc);
- the contact details of each professor to whom you can write;
- the contacts of career secretariats and students that solve some of the problems that you may run into.

You can access the page of your department and degree course from the University of Catania's general website, by clicking on 'Department'.

On the specific website of every degree course, you can find the schedule of lectures and exam calendar, amongst other things. You can also find the resource centre, 'Studium', usually at the bottom right of the page.

### 4.1.3 Student email

Each enrolled student of UNICT is automatically associated with an email. This email is invaluable for receiving communications from the University of Catania. The email address is usually linked with the personal email address that the student used during the registration of enrolment. The default alias created for the mailbox corresponds to your matriculation number (e.g. `matriculationnumber@studium.unict`).

The email address can be retrieved from Studium (see the next section). You can customize the email at first access.

If you need help, you can write to [assistenza.posta@studium.unict.it](mailto:assistenza.posta@studium.unict.it)

#### 4.1.4 Studium

*Studium* is a support platform used by the University of Catania to allow professors to share with students materials of interest. *Studium* can be accessed with the same credentials as Smart\_Edu, i.e., your fiscal code and the password of the UNICT student portal.

Within *Studium*, you can navigate to your degree course and subjects of interest with its related materials. One material of importance you can access in *Studium* is the Syllabus for a course usually prepared by the professor in charge of the course. The syllabus contains important information on teaching staff, learning objectives, course structure, detailed course content and textbook information. The syllabus is also accessible on your department's website.

NB! Sometimes you may have to go between *Studium* and your department's website to assess a course syllabus because it might not be in one.

Studium's web address: [studium.unict.it](http://studium.unict.it)



Figure 4.3: A course syllabus on Studium

#### 4.1.5 Exams

The academic year consists of two semesters. Within each semester there are lectures, exercises and laboratory activities. Exam sessions are scheduled at the end of each period in parallel with the suspension of teaching activities. A third exam session is scheduled in the period preceding the start of the new academic year. Thus, you have three exam periods: 1st Session: January/February, 2nd Session: June /July 3rd Session: September.

During each exam session, there are two or at most three sessions for each subject. To take the exams, it is necessary to book the date of your interest in the dedicated area of the Smart\_Edu student portal.

The exams are usually written and/or oral, as reported in the syllabus by each professor.

#### 4.1.6 Additional educational obligations (OFA)

Adequate initial preparation is required to enrol in a degree course or a single-cycle master's degree course. Each study course indicates at the admission stage the knowledge required for access. If the verification of the knowledge reveals gaps in one or more topics, you can still enrol, through the fulfilment of the Additional Educational Obligations (OFA). Passing the OFA is fundamental for the student to be admitted for the related exams.

Each study course annually organizes activities dedicated to the recovery of the OFA which can be consulted on the website of the related study course.

#### 4.1.7 Study plan

The study plan is the list of educational activities that must be achieved in the various years of your studies to be admitted to the final graduation exam. To complete the study plan, students must be regularly enrolled in the new academic year. If you are not in good standing (for example, nonpayment of taxes or other administrative reasons) it is not possible to fill in or modify your choices in the study plan.

Before completing the study plan, it is necessary to be well informed about the formative and any curricula activities envisaged by the relevant degree course. It is advisable to read the didactic regulations of your degree course. Study plans correctly completed and sent within the submission deadlines cannot be



modified during the year, not even to change the subjects included among the credits of your choice.

You can fill out the study plan online through your Smart\_Edu student portal.

## 4.2 Facilities

### 4.2.1 Italian language courses

Every semester the University of Catania organizes an Italian language course in which foreigners who are interested in a certificate and qualified knowledge of the Italian language may take part. The course is free for international students duly enrolled in the University of Catania and consists of 100 hours (80 hours of lectures in Italian + 20 hours of laboratory activities) usually during one whole semester. The course gives you a maximum of 9 CFU.

You can find more information at: [www.italstra.unict.it/en](http://www.italstra.unict.it/en).

### 4.2.2 Library services

The University of Catania is full of libraries. Every student can borrow books for studying and research from one of the libraries. If you want to borrow a book, you must first confirm if that book or publication is available (and not already being lent) through the UNICT's library website: [unict.summon.serialssolutions.com/advanced](http://unict.summon.serialssolutions.com/advanced)

Each department has its library, so it is important to check where the book is physically available.

### 4.2.3 Discount on books

Being enrolled in the University of Catania allows you to receive a discount on university books in affiliated libraries. Just by showing proof of the paid University fees, you will receive 20% off books for your study course.

The full list of affiliated libraries can be found at:

[www.unict.it/servizi/sconti-sui-libri-di-testo](http://www.unict.it/servizi/sconti-sui-libri-di-testo)

### 4.2.4 University sports centre (CUS)

Centro Universitario Sportivo (CUS) is the university sports center. Its main building is in the Cittadella Universitaria, next to the ERSU canteen. Here, you have a running track, soccer and basketball courts, and a gym.

The other building is in Via Santa Sofia 98, Catania, where you can find volleyball, basketball and tennis courts.

If you want to sign up for the gym or one of the different fitness courses, there is a discounted fee for university students.

You can check out the website for gyms and sports facilities open to all our students: [www.cuscatania.it](http://www.cuscatania.it)

## Chapter 5

# 5. COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

The COVID-19 pandemic, also known as the coronavirus pandemic, is an ongoing global pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The novel virus was first identified from an outbreak in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Attempts to contain it there failed, allowing the virus to spread worldwide. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020 and a pandemic on 11 March 2020. As of 28 March 2022, the pandemic had caused more than 481 million cases and 6.12 million deaths, making it one of the deadliest in history.

According to pandemic situation in Italy, Ministry of health have some rules and regulations for people who are coming from other countries also to the people who are living in Italy must follow the rules set by ministry. For updates, rules and regulations keep visiting the official website of ministry of health Italy. [www.salute.gov.it](http://www.salute.gov.it) and [www.dgc.gov.it](http://www.dgc.gov.it) regarding EU covid certificate

## Chapter 6

# 6. SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

The Scuola Superiore di Catania (SSC) is a higher education Centre of the University of Catania, whose mission is to attract brilliant young talents.

The SSC develops culture, scientific research and innovation by:

- offering highly qualified and innovative educational experiences;
- evaluating and transferring knowledge and technology to the outside world;
- promoting a scientific community, which is open to cultural growth and liberal social exchange; • living in a campus offering facilities, totally free of charge.

The SSC is organized into two Classes:

1. Humanities and Social Sciences students including ordinary undergraduates in law, economics, politics and humanities;
2. Experimental Science students including ordinary undergraduates in science, medicine and engineering.

All SSC Students have to enrol at the University of Catania and pass the Admission Exam. They attend both the University's undergraduate courses and the SSC courses. Furthermore, they take part in seminars and cultural events organized by the SSC and live within its College (Villa San Saverio).

The SSC education program integrates university studies with additional courses, seminars, laboratories, internships at national and international scientific institutions, along with collaborations in research projects.

SSC Students attend a tutor-guided educational course integrated with their degree course at the end of which they'll receive a License Diploma. The SSC courses are updated annually, taking into account the international continual evolution of scientific knowledge and technology, and include:

- Interdisciplinary courses dealing with cross-cultural themes and content;
- Specialist courses: integrating university preparation with in-depth knowledge of specific themes connected to the students' particular discipline with the further objective of encouraging early research:

- Foundation courses: providing basic preparation for all ordinary students;
- Laboratory courses: introducing students to interdisciplinary research within groups;
- Foreign language courses: taking students to Advanced Level (C1 - CEF) in a foreign language (usually English).

To become a student of the Scuola Superiore di Catania, you need to apply to the call of admission (20 places available every year) and pass the exams and place in the merit ranking.

Eligibility consists in having the right qualification to access the University of Catania's undergraduate courses. Exam notification, including exam programs, is also online at: [www.scuolasuperiorecatania.it](http://www.scuolasuperiorecatania.it).

The SSC Admission Exam (in Italian), generally given in September, has two parts: written and oral which vary according to the chosen Class: Humanities and Social Sciences or Experimental Sciences.

Students of the Scuola Superiore di Catania must: • enroll at a University of Catania's undergraduate course:

- pass all their degree modules on time with a minimum average of 27/30;
- attend the SSC internal courses and pass their exams;
- live within the College "Villa San Saverio".

The SSC students benefit from free board and lodging (+ library, journals room, gym, multi-media theatre) at the College "Villa San Saverio" and may ask for contributions towards external study and research.

For further information, write to [prelaurea@ssc.unict.it](mailto:prelaurea@ssc.unict.it)

## Chapter 7

### 7. ANNEX

#### 7.1 Living Cost

Accommodation (Single Room)	200-350 € Approx excluding 25-50 € for Bills (Water, Electricity, Internet) You might be asked to pay 2-3 months' rent in advance.
Residence Permit for Non-EU students	116 € (Including Poste Italiane Fees, Marca da bollo)
Fiscal Code	Free of Charges
Food (University Meal)	0-6 € Depending on your income and availability of scholarship
Food (Outside University)	7 € onwards depending on the type of cuisine; Breakfast = Coffee- 0.70 € onwards (Chiosco), 1 € onwards (Bars); Colazione/ Tavola Calda= 1- 1.50 € onwards
Leisure Activities- Museum	5-10 € onwards, Disco= 5-10 € onwards
Food Items Pricing- Pasta/Rice	2 € onwards, Bread= 1-1.50 € onwards, Fruits 1-2 € onwards, Milk 1.50 € onwards, Biscuits/Cake 1.50 € onwards
Transport	Erasmus students (Bus + Metro) = 15 € (3 months)
Health Insurance for Non-EU students	Around 150 €
University Fees- Yearly fees	306 €, 1st semester = 156 €, 2nd semester = 150 € (First Sem fees paid while applying for the university offer letter)

While departing from your country, it is suggested that you bring at least €1,300.00 - € 1,500.00 for the first few months of expenses.

## 7.2 Useful and emergency contacts

University of Catania official website	<a href="http://www.unict.it">www.unict.it</a>
For Information regarding scholarships on Ersu	<a href="http://www.ersucatania.it">www.ersucatania.it</a>
Your Ersu student portal	<a href="http://www.studenti.ersucatania.it">www.studenti.ersucatania.it</a>
The website link for our university	<a href="http://www.unict.it/en">www.unict.it/en</a> You can find the links related to the student webmail, library services, your departments websites and all the relevant information pertaining to the courses.
The University of Catania, student portal link	<a href="http://www.studenti.smartedu.unict.it">www.studenti.smartedu.unict.it</a>
The link for the University Webmail services is:	Info: <a href="http://www.unict.it/servizi/posta-elettronica-studiumunict">www.unict.it/servizi/posta-elettronica-studiumunict</a> Login: <a href="http://webmail365.unict.it/">webmail365.unict.it/</a>

Emergency	<b>112</b> (European Emergency Number)
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