2021-2022 Sapienza Foundation Year Programme

Notice: Here follows a list of FAQ concerning the 2021-2022 Sapienza Foundation Year Programme. Applicants and perspective students are advised to read them carefully along with the Call for Applications containing the Programme's official regulation before emailing our Admission staff at foundation.year@uniroma1.it. For a list of useful contacts, please refer to the Call for Applications, Art. 9.

Q: Does my High School Diploma / Leaving Qualification allow me to enrol at Sapienza University of Rome / on the Sapienza Foundation Year Programme?

A: For such questions, please refer to our University’s Foreign Students Affairs Office—Hello Service at hello@uniroma1.it.

Q: Given my personal circumstances, do I need to register on Universitaly in order to get a Visa? / I have a problem registering on Universitaly, what can I do?

A: The Universitaly portal is not under the administration of Sapienza University of Rome. For questions concerning requirements for registration on the portal, please refer to the competent office at accesso.sapienza@uniroma1.it. For technical issues, please contact Universitaly’s technical assistance.

Q: I am legally underage; may I apply for the Sapienza Foundation Year Programme?

A: Underage people are not precluded from applying for the Programme. However, current visa policies require foreign nationals to be under a qualified legal guardian during their stay in Italy as underage people. Since the University cannot act in such role, you will need to turn to one of the agencies providing such service. You are invited to contact our staff at foundation.year@uniroma1.it for more information.

In any case, you are advised to contact in advance the Embassy / Consulate of Italy in your Country for detailed information on visa requirement and procedures.

Q: How does the selection procedure work?

A: Applicants submit their applications following instruction given in the Call for Applications published on the website, which they are advised to read carefully as
it contains all applicable regulations for the Sapienza Foundation Year Programme. Applicants will be assigned a score based on their average mark, based on their leaving transcript of records, and their English language proficiency. Both values are equalised on a 0.00 (lowest) to 1.00 (highest) scale; their ratio gives out each applicant’s final score.

Applicants are thus ranked accordingly; the top 50 (fifty) candidates are admitted. Should some of them drop off or fail to secure their place by paying the first instalment within prescribed deadlines, eligible applicants will be called back according to their order, until all available places are assigned and secured (Call, Art. 6).

No interview is required in this process, unless prescribed for students who do not submit a valid English language certificate (Call, Art. 3, § 3).

Q: How much is the tuition fee? What is included in that sum?

The tuition fee is € 5000.00 and is due in two instalments: the first of € 1500.00 by August 2021, the second of € 3500.00 by 15 November 2021 (Call, Art. 7).

The tuition fee covers for the Programme’s educational and organisational costs. It is not refundable.

The tuition fee is only due upon getting notice of admission. Please be careful to pay it only after ascertaining that you have been admitted, as you would not be refunded in any case.

Q: Is there any scholarship or exemption/reduction available?

The 2021-2022 Call for Applications provides for two scholarships (tuition fees exemptions) of € 5000.00 each to be awarded to the first two of the youngest female students from African countries, according to the list of successful candidates (Call, Art. 7).

Unfortunately, no other exemption or reduction is available for Foundation Year students, as this Programme is completely funded with students’ paid tuition fees.

Q: Does the University offer accommodation/canteen service for Foundation Year students?

A: No. Italian universities do not usually offer either accommodation or canteen services. Students will have to arrange for them independently when coming to Italy.
The University offers orientation service for finding a place to live in Rome. More information at [https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/student-housing](https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/student-housing)

**Q:** I have already studied one of the subjects taught in the Foundation Year, may I be excused from taking it again?

**A:** No. Regardless of previous studies, all students shall attend the Programme in its entirety, and may be denied the leaving qualification thereof if they do not attend at least 75% of classes (Call, Art. 2).

**Q:** I have not yet got my diploma; may I apply for the Sapienza Foundation Year?

**A:** Yes. The Call for Applications clearly states that it can be done by submitting along with other required documents a declaration from your school attesting that you are enrolled on the last year and what time are you expected to graduate (Call, Art. 5). Likewise, applicants who have not yet got their leaving transcript of records may in its stead submit their most recent one (ibidem).

**Q:** I still have to get a CIMEA comparability certificate / Declaration of Equal Value (DoV) from the Consulate on my diploma and transcript of records / Visa or Residency Permit, how can I do to submit my application on time?

**A:** The Call for Applications clearly states that such documents as a CIMEA comparability certificate / Declaration of Equal Value (DoV) from the Consulate on my diploma and transcript of records / Visa or Residency Permit are not required for submitting your application and may be submitted later upon formal enrolment past the selection (Call, Art. 8).

Documents required with the application file are listed in the Call for Applications (Call, Art. 5).

**Q:** I have not got an English language certificate yet / I will get one in the following months; what can I do? I am a native speaker / second language speaker of English, should I have my proficiency assessed, too?

**A:** According to the Call for Applications, students who do not submit an English language certificate will have their proficiency assessed through an interview with a qualified person of Sapienza University of Rome (Call, Art. 3, § 3).

Applicants who are planning to get a certificate within the deadline for applications, may submit their application declaring such intention and integrate the relative...
certificate at a later time. Should they not succeed to do so before the interview is called, they will have to go on with it.

Native speakers / second language speakers of English may get excused from such requirement by providing adequate proof of their status (Call, Art. 3, § 3).

**Q: Do I need to have my diploma / transcript of records translated?**

A: Although our staff is able to work with multiple languages, legalised translation is a legal requirement for documents issued outside Italy in a language different from Italian or English (Call, Art. 5).

Accordingly, if your Diploma / Transcript of Records is originally issued in English, you DO NOT need to have it translated into Italian.
If your Diploma / Transcript of Records is originally issued in any other language, you DO need to have it translated into Italian or English.

**Q: Are Courses taught in English or Italian?**

A: Courses are primarily taught in Italian; teachers can use English in case that classroom circumstances should so require. Exam questionnaires will be available in both languages.

Besides contents, all courses are aimed at providing students with the specialised Italian lexicon of each subject; students are encouraged to practice their Italian whenever possible.

**Q: Are Courses taught online or offline?**

A: Apart from the Preparatory Italian Language Course that must be attended online by all students before the start of classroom activities (see Call, Art. 2 and attach. Programme contents), the Programme’s activities are primarily held offline.

For the duration of the Covid-19 pandemic, should the competent public authority so decide in order to meet the contingency, offline activities would be halted and resume online, using such platforms as Google Meet or Zoom.

Students who are unable to travel to Italy because of the local epidemiological situation may contact our staff at foundation.year@uniroma1.it and explain their contingency. In this case, online attendance would be made available to them for the duration of such contingency.

Such cases aside, online or offline attendance is not optional.
Q: After completing the Sapienza Foundation Year, what certificate would I get?

A: Students having successfully completed the Sapienza Foundation Year and proven to have met all educational and administrative requirements of the Programme are issued a Foundation Year Diploma that can be used for enrolment at any Italian university (Call, Art. 9).

Q: After completing the Sapienza Foundation Year, will I be excused from taking entrance exams for my degree course of choice?

A: No. Having completed the Sapienza Foundation Year will not excuse you from the mandatory entrance exams for degree courses that have got them.

Sapienza Foundation Year graduates may, however, be excused from the otherwise mandatory Italian language test, that is required of foreign students upon enrolment at Italian universities.