Call for Applications

Scholarships to study at the University of Messina (Italy) in the framework of the European Programme ERASMUS+ KA107 (Project nº 2015-1-IT02-KA107-014704)

Objective

The Erasmus+ Programme – mobility for study offers the possibility to spend a period of studies at the University of Messina for Master and PhD students from the University of Sfax.

Mobility students will be awarded a scholarship, will attend courses and will use all the facilities of the University of Messina on an equal basis as the enrolled students. A tax waiver policy will be adopted (except the fees due by all enrolled students – urban mobility, labs etc).

All passed exams previously approved in the Learning Agreement, will be recognised by the home institution (University of Sfax).

Financing

The Erasmus+ for study scholarships are contributions to support living costs in the hosting country. Scholarships awarded will cover following costs:

• A fixed contribution by the European Union. It varies according to the European Country of destination and the number of days spent at the hosting institution. The scholarship for Italy (Group 1 Country) is of **850 € per month**.

• A supplementary sum will cover the travel costs on the basis of the distance between Sfax and Messina. It will be reimbursed up to a maximum of _________ according to the European distance calculator [http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/tools/distance_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/tools/distance_en.htm)

Conditions and procedures

**General conditions for admittance**

The candidate student must be enrolled at the University of Sfax that signed the Inter Institutional Agreement within the framework of Erasmus + Programme, with the University of Messina. Please find the relevant dates for this second semester awarding period (**spring term 2015/16**):

**Enrolment**: 15 January – 15 February 2016  
**Starting of the second semester**: 15 February 2016  
**End of semester**: up to July 2016

The student must be **preselected** and **nominated** by the University of Sfax

Application Procedures
Before Arrival:

- Application Form
- Learning Agreement
- Copy of the Passport
- Knowledge of Italian (B1- Certificate if available)
- Transcript of Records
- Short CV
- Motivation letter (Master Students) or short version of the research proposal in case of doctorate students (signed by the PhD student and the academic tutor)

Application Form and Learning Agreement must be filled in and signed, and submitted along with other requested documents on a single PDF file

The documents must be sent to the home Institution (International Relations Office) to the following e-mail address fatmaghorbelus@gmail.com. The home Institution will be responsible of selection procedures on the basis transparent and fair criteria.

The deadline for applying for the spring semester 2015/16 at the University of Messina is fixed at 22 January 2016.
For any specific question or information you can contact Ms Fatma GHORBEL, e-mail fatmaghorbelus@gmail.com at your home institution

Selection Procedure

Selection Criteria

The selection process is under the responsibility of the home Institution that will make every reasonable effort to conduct it in a fair, clear, transparent and equal base. No discriminations based on gender, religion, social bias will be made. At equal conditions, priority will be given to disadvantaged students. The home Institution will submit a list of selected candidates to the host institution. Selections will respect the following criteria:

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<tr>
<th>Master Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Average mark.</td>
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<td>- Relevance of proposed activities in the learning Agreement according to the University studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Language skills</td>
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<td>- Other relevant experiences included in the application form.</td>
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<tr>
<th>PhD Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Degree final mark.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Relevance of proposed research activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Language skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Other relevant experiences included in the application form.</td>
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**Duties of the University of Messina:**

After receiving the nominations by the home Institution and relevant dossiers of each student the University of Messina will send a letter of acceptance. For PhD Candidates, a letter of acceptance based on the research proposal will be signed by the coordinator of the PhD course. The International Relations Unit will provide support for visa release and housing facilities. A communication will be sent to all accepted students with all relevant information about University life in Messina and necessary procedures.

After the arrival the International Relations Unit will organize a welcome meeting in order to provide all relevant information to incoming students.

Each student will have an academic tutor at the respective Department who will sign the Learning Agreement.

The University of Messina will pay the **scholarship/travel costs after the arrival of the student and according to following conditions:**

- 70% of the total amount of the scholarship will be paid after the signature of the financial agreement on an Italian bank account.
- Air ticket (up to ___) will be reimbursed against presentation of flight ticket and boarding card
- 30% of the scholarship will be paid at the end of the stay (last month). The International Relations Unit will produce a Transcript of Records/or a letter of work accomplishment (for PhD) students.

**Duties of the Student**

The student must send the application form to his/her International Office within the deadline. If selected the student will receive a communication and will have to return the acceptance letter duly signed.

Before arrival the selected student will have to sign the financial agreement that will be provided by the University of Messina (an email containing instructions to this effect will be sent to students).

The student must apply for the visa at the Italian Embassy in his/her Country of origin; the University of Messina will send the letter of acceptance in due time for this purpose.

The student is responsible to make reservations and pay the travel costs and will have to have **enough funds to cover the costs of the first month of stay in Messina.** The student must have a Health Insurance before leaving his Country. Once in Messina the student must attend classes or carry out his/her research as stated in the Learning Agreement/research plan whether Master or PhD student. The student must inform the home and host Institutions about an eventual anticipated departure. The student will have to submit a narrative report to the International relations Unit two months before the end of the mobility in order to receive the further 30% of the scholarship.