

AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA OTTAWA

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE 2011/2012 ACADEMIC YEAR FOR CANADIAN CITIZENS AND FOR ITALIAN CITIZENS RESIDING IN CANADA

The Government of Italy offers scholarships to Canadian citizens and Italian citizens residing in Canada (IRE) who wish to pursue studies in Italy.

They are intended for students, professionals, scientists, researchers, teachers, and artists who meet the necessary requirements. Candidates must be between 18 and 35 years of age (see exception at "Language and Culture Courses for Teachers of Italian")

The following types of scholarships are available:

Short-term scholarships for language study

Scholarships of 1, 2, or 3 months are available for the <u>summer of 2012</u> for the study of the Italian language. The scholarships are awarded for specific programs at the Universities for Foreigners of Perugia, Siena, and Roma Tre or at other recognised Italian institutions (authorised to issue certification of Italian as a second language).

Candidates must possess a secondary school diploma.

Long-term scholarships

Offered for periods of 3, 6, or 9 months (subject to length of course), for the 2012 academic year. Scholarship funding will not be available until January 1st 2012.

Candidates for long-term scholarships must be proficient in Italian.

Long-term scholarships are available for

Individual university courses

In all subject areas. Scholarship recipients must take the relative final examination. Candidates must present a registration certificate from the university they are currently attending.

Degree programmes

Candidates are advised to apply to several universities, since failure to be admitted will void the scholarship. Candidates must possess a secondary school diploma valid for university enrolment.

Advanced training in music and arts studies

At recognized music academies and conservatories, art restoration institutes, and the National Film School. Candidates must be in possession of a junior high school diploma or equivalent document valid *in loco* for enrolment in legally recognized academies and conservatories.

Language and Culture courses for Teachers of Italian

Reserved for foreign teachers of Italian and 3rd year (minimum) university students who have passed at least one university-level Italian course. The scholarships are awarded for specific programs at the Universities for Foreigners of Perugia, Siena, and Roma Tre or at other recognised Italian institutions authorised to issue certification of Italian as a second language. The age limit of 35 does not apply to this category.

<u>Post-graduate courses</u> For those wishing to study or conduct research at the post-graduate level, the minimum degree requirement is a Master's degree.

- a.) Research doctorates: admission is regulated by individual universities, and is subject to selection; it is advisable therefore for candidates to apply to more than one university, since the scholarship is contingent upon admission. Candidates should contact universities directly for information, through their websites.
- b.) Master's degrees: Candidates should be advised of the possibly high cost of registration in Master's Programmes (not covered by the scholarship) and the possibility of students being required to spend lengthy periods at institutions outside Italy. Since admission is subject to selection and the courses dependent upon a minimum number of participants, candidates are advised to check directly with the institution.
- c.) Specialization (medical disciplines excluded)

Advanced Research

In all disciplines, with the obligation to register for and attend a university or post-graduate course. A letter of acceptance from a professor or the academic institution is an absolute requirement. At the end of the course the scholarship recipient must take the final examination. This does not apply to recipients carrying out research at the *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche*, the *Istituto Superiore di Sanità* or similar institutions.

Application submission deadline:

To be considered, candidates <u>must</u> submit an online application.

Please register an account according to the instructions at: http://borseonline.esteri.it/borseonline/it/index.asp

IMPORTANT: Candidates must upload a valid photo identification document with their online applications.

The application deadline for both long-term and short-term scholarships is <u>May 2nd, 2011</u>. <u>Online applications will be accepted beginning March</u> 25, 2011.

In addition, candidates must send hard copies by post of the following forms and documents, postmarked by **May** 6^{th} , 2011 or they will not be eligible: (please note that the documentation requested will not be returned and any incomplete applications will not be accepted.)

- original hard copy of the application form, *signed and dated* and accompanied by a signed passport-size photograph
- two letters of reference from academic authorities
- copies of transcripts and diplomas and/or degrees
- additional *three* extra photocopies of all documentation

Candidates who are selected to receive scholarships will be required to send additional documentation:

- Proof of Canadian citizenship: copies of passport, citizenship certificate or birth certificate;
- Medical certificate: attesting to the applicant's good health, written in Italian or accompanied by an Italian translation from the appropriate Consulate;
- Certified copies of transcripts and diplomas and/or degrees;
- A signed and authenticated copy of the "Lettera d'Impegno";
- a letter of acceptance from the host institution.

Candidates applying as Italian citizens resident abroad for IRE scholarships will also be required to send the following documents if selected:

- Certificate of Italian Citizenship
- Certificate of Permanent Residency

Recipients of the scholarship who wish to apply for *renewal* for a second year must have passed at least two courses of the 1st year. Subsequent renewals are subject to passing all courses in the previous academic years and two in the present academic year. Applicants for renewal must therefore provide certification of the courses (*esami*) passed.

General information

Elements taken into consideration by the Selection Committee are

- the applicant's curriculum studiorum and vitae
- the applicant's proposed program of study
- the letters of reference from Canadian or Italian academics
- the existence of direct contacts between the candidate and Italian academics and/or institutes of higher learning in the candidate's field of study (applies particularly to applicants for long-term scholarships)
- applicants for independent study must have a letter from a professor declaring his/her willingness to supervise the student in another language; candidate must provide the name, telephone number, and email address of the "*Tutore del Borsista*" who will be supervising the candidate's work.

Scholarships offered by the Italian Government do not include air fare or room and board. Please note that scholarship recipients must make their own travel and lodging arrangements.

Scholarship recipients will receive a monthly stipend of $620 \notin (700 \notin \text{ for IRE})$. Recipients must be aware that this amount is unlikely to be sufficient to cover all the costs of the stay, and that the initial payment may be delayed. Recipients should read the "Promemoria del Borsista" carefully (the "Promemoria" is forwarded to the Recipient once the scholarship has been awarded). Scholarships offered by the Italian Government cannot be combined with other Italian Government grants.

Any partial or total exemption from university fees for scholarship recipients is the decision of the individual university institution; no exemptions are granted by private institutions. Insurance will be provided to cover accident and illness while the scholarship recipient is in Italy for the duration of the scholarship.

The decision of the Selection Committee is final.

PLEASE NOTE: Changes in the academic institution or the starting date will not be permitted once the scholarship has been awarded. Applicants must therefore indicate the name of their chosen institution and the dates of the chosen existing course/s clearly and precisely on their application forms.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE OFFICE NEAREST YOU: **Embassy of Italy**:

Cultural Office: (613) 232-2401 culturale.ottawa@esteri.it Consulate General of Italy:

- Montreal (514) 849-8351 consolato.montreal@esteri.it
- Toronto (416) 977-1566 <u>archivio.toronto@esteri.it</u>
- Vancouver (604) 684-7288 <u>consolato.vancouver@esteri.it</u>

Sportello Consolare:

- Edmonton (780) 423-5176 <u>edmonton.vancouver@esteri.it</u>

Italian Cultural Institute:

- Montreal	(514) 849-3473 iicmontreal@esteri.it
- Toronto	(416) 921-3802 iictoronto@esteri.it
- Vancouver	(604) 688-0809 <u>iicvancouver@esteri.it</u>

MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS TO:

Embassy of Italy Cultural Office 275 Slater Street, suite 2100 Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5H9 Canada