

## University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 4.0 (Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria 2022-24)

Call for applications for n. 2 scholarships for refugee students admitted to second-level degree courses in English at the University of Milano-Bicocca  
2022-2023 academic year

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## **University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 4.0 (Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon 2022-24)**

Call for applications for n. 2 scholarships for refugee students admitted to second-level degree courses in English at the University of Milano-Bicocca  
2022-2023 academic year

### **ART.1 - Objectives, partners and benefits**

The overall objective of the **University Corridors for Refugees - UNICORE 4.0 (Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria 2022-24)** project is to promote refugees' right to higher education through the creation of educational corridors from Cameroon, Niger or Nigeria to Italy.

The project is sponsored by a consortium of partners:

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Caritas Italiana

CSD Diaconia Valdese

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI)

Other Italian universities involved in UNICORE 4.0 as specified in the National Memorandum of Understanding.

The University's commitment was formally enshrined with the establishment of the scholarships by Resolution of the Board of Directors No. 231/2022 of 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.

Beneficiaries of the Project are recipients of international protection residing in Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria and admitted to one of the second-level courses listed in Article 9.

#### **Art. 1.1 - Local partners**

The University of Milano-Bicocca is supported in the project by two local partners: Caritas Ambrosiana and CSD Diaconia Valdese.

#### **Art. 1.2 - Benefits**

Winners will receive the following benefits:

### ***University of Milano-Bicocca***

- Scholarship worth € 3,000 per year. Payment instalments are planned every two months;
- Free accommodation in one of the University Residences from the arrival day;
- A free meal a day for 6 days (lunch) at the university canteens. Evening and Sunday meals are available at a discounted rate corresponding to the first band for DSU student;
- Exemption from academic fees with the exception of regional tax and stamp duty;
- Personal Computer on free loan for the duration of the scholarship;
- Free Italian language course;
- Assistance and support from dedicated tutors and from WELCOME DESK and International Promotion and Language Training Office staff members.

### ***CSD Diaconia Valdese***

- Monthly provision of pocket money (€ 100,00) for student for 24 months, which can be extended up to 30 months if the need arises;
- Payment of the regional tax and stamp duty;
- Coverage of administrative costs for the submission of an application for a residence permit for study purposes (equal to € 117,96);
- Coverage of administrative costs for the renewal of the residence permit for study purposes (equal to € 117,96);
- Purchase of a telephone SIM card and payment of the first month's subscription;
- Purchase of season tickets for local public transport;
- Implementation of an arrangement with a dedicated partner for possible psychological support;
- Support with administrative procedures for access to local services;
- Guiding support to extra-academic and social inclusion activities.

### ***Caritas Ambrosiana***

- Full coverage of all expenses incurred prior to arrival in Italy: airline tickets and visa and school documentation costs;
- Registration in the national health service;
- Finding a supportive family for meeting and socialising opportunities;
- Support for daily management and socio-educational issues;
- Tutoring from “Farsi Prossimo” Social Cooperative to support refugees student by providing practical indications for daily management and taking care of the socio-educational aspects of the integration path.

Benefits will be awarded for the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 academic years. Merit requirements for retaining and renewing the scholarship are specified in Article 6.

### **ART.2 - Incompatibility**

The UNICORE 4.0 scholarship cannot be awarded in conjunction with:

- Any type of scholarship or study award based on merit or income supported by the University of Milano-Bicocca to assist international students;
- Scholarships offered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI);
- CRUI scholarships for recipients of international protection;
- Scholarships aimed at international students and promoted by foreign governments or institutions on the basis of agreements with the University of Milano-Bicocca;
- Lombardy region right to study grant (DSU).

### **ART.3 - Admission requirements**

The call for applications is only open to candidates who meet the following requirements:

1. They must be resident in Cameroon, Niger or Nigeria and have been granted refugee status through UNHCR intervention.

2. They must have obtained a valid qualification for admission to the chosen degree course in a higher education institution accredited by the Ministry of Education of Cameroon, Niger or Nigeria. The qualification must allow access to a second-level degree course in Italy.
3. The qualification must not have been obtained before 2017.
4. Grade point average of at least **24/30** (for the conversion of the grade point average from the foreign system to the Italian system, the ministerial formula set out in Annex 2 to this call for applications will be used).
5. They must meet the specific requirements of the chosen second-level degree course.
6. They must not have previously been enrolled in a degree course at the University of Milano-Bicocca or at any other partner of the initiative.
7. Candidates must hold a certificate of English proficiency at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The English language competence of candidates who do not hold the above mentioned certificate will be assessed during the interview.

#### **ART.4 - Selection criteria and documents required for application**

##### **Art.4.1 - Selection criteria**

Students are selected on the basis of merit requirements.

Assessment will be carried out by a panel of experts consisting of Professor Silvia Mugnano (Coordinating Lecturer for the Project), a member of the International Promotion and Language Training Office, a member of the Foreign Office for the evaluation of admission qualifications, the Lecturer in charge of the degree course chosen by the candidate - or his/her delegate - and any other member of staff or third party designated by the University of Milano-Bicocca or by the relevant faculty. If a designated member is unable to attend, he/she will identify a substitute.

The interview will focus on verifying the basic skills necessary to access the chosen degree course.

#### **Art.4.2 - Application documents**

Students must submit the following documentation:

##### MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:

1. Application form (Annex 1) duly completed and including information on academic and working career;
2. A valid copy of the Refugee Identity card issued in agreement with UNHCR or the PoR Card;
3. Certificate proving that the qualification required for admission to the degree course has been obtained;
4. Certification of the list of examinations passed, including marks;
5. Any other document required for admission to the chosen degree course.

##### NON-MANDATORY DOCUMENTS:

6. Motivational Letter (Maximum two A4 pages)
7. References from a supervisor or advisor;
8. GPA certification, either per semester or cumulative.

At this stage, translations of documents in a language other than English, French, Spanish, German and Italian may be directly carried out by the applicant.

#### **Art.4.3 - Deadlines and submission methods**

Applications may be sent from **April 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:00** (midday - UTC+1) to **April 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:00** (midday, UTC+1).

Students should send their applications and upload the documents listed above via the link in the online form which will be made available on:

<https://forms.gle/gtKX8Rts5GjQDLhb7>

**ATTENTION:** Please note that after the deadline for submitting applications the link to the form will not be active and it will no longer be possible to send application requests.

Incomplete or incorrectly completed applications will not be considered.

Students are only allowed to apply for **one degree course** from each of the **two universities** to which they are allowed to apply.

### **ART.5 - Selection process**

The selection process is divided into two stages:

- Stage 1: Assessment of documentation
- Stage 2: online interview

#### **Art.5.1 - Stage 1: Assessment of documentation**

The Committee will assess the received documentation using the following criteria:

- Academic background and GPA (*score: 0-15*);
- Curriculum Vitae (*score: 0-15*);
- Correspondence between the course of study and the degree course chosen for admission (*score: 0-10*).

At the end of the first assessment session, a merit list will be drawn up and only the first 10 candidates will be eligible for the interview stage. In the event of a tie, the youngest candidate takes precedence.

In order to be admitted to Stage 2, it is necessary to obtain a minimum score of 26/40.

The ranking list of the candidates admitted to the second stage will be published on the website <https://en.unimib.it/international/inclusiveuniversity/unicore>.

Candidates admitted to the second stage will be notified by-mail by **10<sup>th</sup> May 2022**.

#### **Art.5.2 - Stage 2: Online interview**

All candidates admitted to stage two will have to attend an interview in English with the selection board. Technical and educational skills and English language proficiency will be assessed during the interview.

Interviews will be scheduled from **May 16<sup>th</sup> 2022** and will take place online.

The day and time of the interview will be communicated directly to candidates by email and will also be published on the University website <https://en.unimib.it/international/inclusiveuniversity/unicore>.

During the interview, applicants will be asked to show the Refugee Identity Card or PoR Card specified during admission.

The maximum score awarded for the interview is 40.

### **Art.5.3 - Formulation and approval of the final ranking list**

Candidates who score less than 50/80 at the end of the two stages will not be considered eligible.

The merit ranking list will be drawn up by the Committee by adding up the results obtained in the two selection stages.

Candidates will be listed in descending order of points. In the event of a tie, the youngest candidate takes precedence.

The ranking list will then be approved by Rectoral Decree.

If at the end of the procedure no suitable candidate is identified, the University reserves the right not to award the scholarship.

The final ranking list will be published on the University website <https://en.unimib.it/international/inclusiveuniversity/unicore>.

Winners will be notified by e-mail by **20<sup>th</sup> June 2022**.

### **Art.5.4 - Acceptance of the scholarship**

Applicants must accept the scholarship by responding to the University's communication by **1<sup>st</sup> July 2022**. Failure to reply will constitute automatic forfeiture of the grant.

By accepting the scholarship, the candidate unreservedly approves the benefits offered by the UNICORE 4.0 Project under the conditions set out. The candidate also declares under his/her own responsibility that he/she does not fall under any of the incompatibility conditions listed in Article 2 of this call for applications.



### **Art.5.5 - Ranking and allocation of available places**

In the event that one or both of the winners decline the benefit by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022, the University will proceed to move down the list and award the scholarship to the next eligible candidate. If there are vacancies at the end of the ranking process, the University of Milano-Bicocca reserves the right to search for a suitable candidate from the lists of the project partner universities by 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The identified candidates will undergo a mandatory interview to ascertain their skills, upon communication with at least 3 days' notice. To be considered eligible, they must meet the specific requirements of the degree courses at the University of Milano-Bicocca.

### **ART.6 - Renewal**

#### **Art.6.1 - Renewal requirements**

In order to renew the scholarship, students must complete at least 30 university credits (CFU) by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023. If the study plan for the first year of the degree course in which the student is enrolled entails fewer than 60 credits, the renewal requirement will be calculated on the basis of half the credits required for the first year.

In order to continue receiving benefits, students must complete at least **60 university credits (CFU) by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024.**

Students must graduate by the last available session for their cohort, i.e. March/April 2025.

#### **Art.6.2 - Further renewals**

Students who do not expect to graduate by March/April 2025 may apply for an additional 6-month renewal. The renewal may be granted on condition that at least 80 university credits (CFU) have been obtained by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025. The renewal request must be submitted to the relevant office by email to [refugees@unimib.it](mailto:refugees@unimib.it).

### **ART.7 - Italian Courses**

The student will be required to attend the Italian courses offered by the University in addition to the degree course for which the scholarship was obtained.

Failure to attend the Italian courses provided by the university will result in the non-renewal of the scholarship or the refusal of the 6-month extension.

### **ART.8 - Withdrawal and revocation of the scholarship**

Students who withdraw from their studies will automatically lose all benefits.

The University reserves the right to revoke the scholarship with immediate suspension of all benefits, including economic ones, to students abandoning the residence and or the study for more than 15 days and failing to communicate so (with the sole exception of unforeseeable or force majeure circumstances), after that any attempt to recompose the problematic situation and to re-establish the relationship of trust between the university and the beneficiary has not been successful.

The revocation provision may be contested in the ways and terms provided for by current legislation.

### **Art.9 - List of available study courses**

The second-level study courses offered in English at the University of Milano-Bicocca participating in the call for application are:

[APPLIED EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES](#)

[ASTROPHYSICS AND SPACE PHYSICS](#)

[INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS](#)

[MARINE SCIENCES](#)

[MARKETING AND GLOBAL MARKETS](#)

[MATERIALS SCIENCE](#)

Selecting the specific course from the above list, you will be redirected to program page, where you can view the full course information including study plans and specific entry requirements.

## ART. 10 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003 and EU Regulation 679/2016, the processing of personal data provided or otherwise acquired by the University is aimed solely at carrying out this selection and it will be carried out by authorised personnel, using procedures, including IT procedures, in the manner and within the limits necessary to pursue the aforementioned purposes. The data will be stored in accordance with the rules on the conservation of administrative documentation. The data controller is University of Milano-Bicocca in the person of the Rector, Legal Representative, with registered office in Piazza dell'Ateneo Nuovo, 1 - Milan.

The Information on Personal Data Processing is available at:

<https://en.unimib.it/international/inclusiveuniversity/unicore>

Personal data will also be processed in accordance with UNHCR's data protection regulations, available at <https://www.refworld.org/docid/55643c1d4.html> and its regulations: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5b360f4d4.html>

Applicants also agree to have their Refugee Identity Card or PoR card number published on the ranking list, both on <https://universitycorridors.unhcr.it/> and <https://en.unimib.it/international/inclusiveuniversity/unicore>.

The administration reserves the right to check the accuracy of the declared data as set out in Article 76 of DPR 445/2000. In the event of false declarations, the applicant will lose the right to participate in the call for applications and/or any benefits awarded.

## ART. 11 Person in charge of the procedure

The person in charge of the procedure is Dr. Elena La Torre - Head of Training and Student Services Area - Agorà building (formerly U6) P.zza Ateneo Nuovo 1, 20126 Milan.

For information, interested parties may contact the International Promotion and Language Training Office - e-mail: [refugees@unimib.it](mailto:refugees@unimib.it)).

**ART.12 - Publication**

This provision is published in the Official Register and on the University website.

Milan,

THE RECTOR  
Giovanna IANNANTUONI

*DISCLAIMER: The English version is a translation of the original in Italian and is intended for information purposes only. In case of discrepancies, the Italian version prevails.*

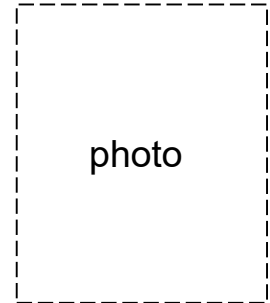
UOR (Responsible Organisational Unit) Training and Student Services Area – Executive: Elena La Torre

Person in Charge of the procedure: Elena La Torre

Document processed by: International Promotion and Language Training Office - e-mail: [refugees@unimib.it](mailto:refugees@unimib.it)

University of Milano-Bicocca

**UNICORE 4.0 APPLICATION FORM**



**PERSONAL DETAILS**

Name and Surname: .....

Date and place of birth: .....

Address: .....

Mobile phone: .....

E-mail: .....

Refugee ID card number: .....

OR ration number card of *PoR*: .....

**PROGRAMME OF INTEREST**

.....

**HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR OTHER UNIVERSITIES?**

.....

**PERSONAL STATEMENT**

*Summarize in about 5 lines a presentation of professional profile, future professional goals and your motivation:*

.....

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

From.... To....  
Job role  
Company name

*Describe responsibility and what do you do in this role*

From.... To....

Job role

Company name

*Describe responsibility and what do you do in this role*

## EDUCATION

### Degree

*Date - University, Country, Faculty/Department, Degree course: thesis title and score*

*Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) should be stated in the CV, and GPA documentation should be included in the application (including each semester GPA and cumulative GPA) as well as the complete list of exams and their grades.*

*Grades*

Minimum score to pass exams \_\_\_\_\_

Maximum score \_\_\_\_\_

### High school

*Date - name of high school and type of diploma - score*

### Other formative experiences

From.... To....: *School name, town, course title*

## LANGUAGES

*Levels of knowledge: M: mother tongue, A: elementary, B: intermediate, C: advanced*

LANGUAGE	WRITTEN LEVEL	SPOKEN LEVEL

### Language certifications:

*Please, list here any language certification you have gained. Scanned copy of the certification must be attached to the application*

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

.....

**PERSONAL SKILLS**

.....

**HOBBIES**

.....

*I authorize the processing of personal data contained in my curriculum vitae according to art. 13 of Legislative Decree 196/2003 and art. 13 GDPR (EU Regulation 2016/679) for the sole purpose of personnel research and selection.*

*I hereby declare to accept without reserve all the terms and condition specify in the UNICORE 4.0 Call for applications for 2 study grants and welcome services for refugee students registering for Second cycle degree programmes taught in English at the University of Milano-Bicocca, for the Academic Years 2022-2024.*

*I also declare to promptly inform the University about any change in the provided data.*

**Place, Date** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/ 2022

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_



*Al Ministro dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca*

**Allegato 5 – Tabella di conversione dei Titoli stranieri**

**Valutazione esami**

I candidati che hanno conseguito esami di laurea in una Università straniera hanno a disposizione sul sito <http://www.universitaly.it/> un sistema di conversione dei voti ottenuti sulla base della seguente formula:

$$\text{Voto} = \frac{V - V_{\min}}{V_{\max} - V_{\min}} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$$

V= Voto da convertire

Vmin=Voto minimo per la sufficienza nell'Università di provenienza

Vmax= Voto massimo nell'Università di provenienza

Imin= Voto minimo per la sufficienza nelle Università Italiane (= 18/30)

Imax= Voto massimo nelle Università Italiane (=30/30)

Per le valutazioni su scala qualitativa si fa riferimento alla seguente scala di conversione:

Valutazione da convertire	Voto
A	30
B	28
C	26
D	23
E	18

**Courtesy translation**

**Annex 5 - Conversion table for foreign academic degrees**

**Examination grades**

Candidates who have completed exams in a foreign university have at their disposal on <http://www.universitaly.it/> a system of conversion of the grades obtained on the basis of the following formula:

$$\text{Voto} = \frac{V - V_{\min}}{V_{\max} - V_{\min}} * (I_{\max} - I_{\min}) + I_{\min}$$

Voto = Grade

V = Grade to be converted

Vmin = Minimum grade of the scale to pass exams at the foreign University

Vmax = Maximum grade of the scale to pass exams at the foreign University

Imin = Minimum grade of the Italian scale to pass exams (=18/30)

Imax = Maximum grade of the Italian scale to pass exams (=30/30)



For qualitative scale assessments, the following conversion scale shall be used:

Foreign Grade	Italian Grade
A	30
B	28
C	26
D	23
E	18