

SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must provide a **valid secondary school diploma** suitable for access to Italian universities. **The final diploma must be obtained by the end of July 2023** (August 2023 for United Kingdom qualifications) and **it must be provided in the original language with an official translation (in Italian or English)**. **A minimum final diploma score/grade/GPA is not required.**

The secondary school qualification is valid if

- it is awarded after at least 12 years of schooling overall
- it grants access to Universities in the country which issued the qualification

Qualifications awarded after 10 or 11 years of schooling

In order to compensate for the years of missing education IULM University may alternatively request:

1. the academic transcripts certifying the passing of all the exams foreseen for the first year of university studies equal to 60 ECTS in the case of the 11-year local school system;
2. the academic transcripts certifying the passing of all the exams scheduled for the first two academic years equal to at least 120 ECTS in the case of a 10-year local school system
3. certificate from other Italian universities regarding the completion of a foundation course (at least one year)

The pre-school year may be taken into consideration, where applicable and officially recognised as an integral part of the education path at a national level, if the attendance of this year is compulsory and an integral part of the curriculum and that the programme foresees the teaching of reading and writing of the language of the country, and the initial notions of arithmetic.

National examinations in the country of origin

National examinations which are mandatory or normally required for admission to courses at universities of the respective countries of origin must necessarily be presented. The passing of the national exam is also requested by the Italian Authorities (Embassy/Consulate) in order to issue Declarations of Value or by CIMEA (the Italian NARIC Center) to issue a Statement of Comparability.

Please note: Statement of Comparability issued by CIMEA is considered as a valid alternative to the Declaration of Value. You can request the Statement of Comparability [here](#)

Some examples of national examinations:

- Selectividad in Spain;
- Veveossi Prosvassis in Greece;
- Vestibular or ENEM in Brazil;
- Gao Kao in China;
- YKS (TYT and AYT) in Turkey;
- Mature, Matur, Maturita, Maturität, Maturité, Matura, Érettségi for various European countries
- ENES in Portugal
- ICFES in Colombia
- ATAR in Australia

- Passerella exam in Switzerland for the so called “maturità professionale federale svizzera”

Academic qualifications with special requirements

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB FULL DIPLOMA)

The Diploma of the International Baccalaureate allows access to higher education in Italy as long as the final qualification, issued by an educational institution recognised by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), meets the following general requirements:

- at least 24 points in six subjects of choice, 12 of which must be obtained at “Higher Level”;
- pass awarded in the three principal subjects: Theory of Knowledge (TOK), Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) e Extended Essay (EE).

IB courses alone, held at educational institutions accredited for the award of the Diploma of the International Baccalaureate, before an IB Diploma Programme Course Results certification, a Migration Certificate, or other certification issued independently by the educational institution which does not belong to the national reference system, are not final qualifications and therefore must not be considered suitable for access to higher education.

The International Baccalaureate (IB Diploma) is considered valid for enrollment without any translation and/or legalization.

UNITED STATES QUALIFICATIONS

Students holding an American High School Diploma must have passed **at least 3 Advanced Placements (AP) with a score from 3 to 5** in three different subjects. “AP” in Italian will be a mandatory requirement only for students with foreign citizenship. An “AP” in Italian will not be acceptable in the case of students with Italian citizenship or in the case of enrolment in courses taught entirely in English. These qualifications allow the continuation of studies in Italian higher education institutions if they have been awarded **on the basis of at least the least 2 years of attendance with a positive outcome in the foreign education system.**

If the school does not offer any AP course, self-study candidates are accepted provided that the final AP exams are taken through the College Board. In any case, all the AP final scores must be released by the College Board and passed with a minimum grade of 3 out of 5.

On the other hand, students who already graduated with an American High School Diploma without AP must show proof of having completed at least 1 year of subsequent academic study (60 ECTS credits in a University) to be considered for access to a Bachelor’s degree course.

It is highly recommended that Italian students attend the full last year of secondary school in Italy, without skipping the Italian Maturità. American high school diplomas awarded after just 1 year abroad are not valid for access to Bachelor’s degree courses.

CANADA QUALIFICATIONS

All candidates with a Canadian High School Diploma must have completed **at least 2 full years of attendance with a positive outcome in the foreign education system.**

It is highly recommended that Italian students attend the full last year of secondary school in Italy, without skipping the Italian Maturità. Canadian diplomas awarded after just 1 year abroad are not valid for access to Bachelor's degree courses.

UNITED KINGDOM QUALIFICATIONS

The final qualifications called General Certificate of Education (GCE) and International General Certificate of Education (IGCE), issued by official certification bodies of the United Kingdom, grant access to Italian higher education institutions if they certify that **at least 3 subjects have been passed at an advanced level (A level) with a passing grade**. The presence of an A level in Italian will be required only for students with foreign citizenship, therefore it cannot be counted as part of the 3 A levels required in the case of students with Italian citizenship or in the case of enrolment in courses taught entirely in English.

Alternatively, a combination of 3 different subjects can also be evaluated between A level and Cambridge Pre-U Principal Subjects. The Cambridge Pre-U Diploma, composed of 3 Principal Subjects + Global Perspective and Research, can be evaluated as an alternative to the 3 “A levels” for access to Bachelor's degree courses.

Scottish qualifications can be accepted if they certify the passing of **at least 3 Advanced Highers or 2 Advanced Highers and at least 4 Highers**.

Irish qualifications can be accepted if they certify the passing of **at least 3 subjects at Higher level**.

EUROPEAN SCHOOLS QUALIFICATIONS

The European Baccalaureate qualifications awarded by [accredited European Schools](#) allow access to higher education institutions in Italy.

BRITISH, FRENCH, SPANISH, SWISS AND GERMAN SCHOOLS OPERATING IN ITALY

The final diplomas of [these schools](#) are valid for enrolment in Italian universities pursuant to the agreements concluded by Italy, respectively, with Great Britain, France, Spain, Switzerland and the Federal Republic of Germany.

- British schools (“St. George's British International School”, “The New School” of Rome and “Sir James Henderson School” of Milan)
- French schools (“Chateaubriand” of Rome, “Stendhal” of Milan and “Jean Giono” of Turin)
- Spanish school (“Liceo Cervantes”)
- Swiss schools (“Swiss School” of Rome and “Swiss School” of Milan)
- German schools (“Deutsche Schulen” of Milan, Genoa and Rome)

SAN MARINO QUALIFICATIONS

The final diplomas of secondary education institutions in the Republic of San Marino are equivalent for all legal purposes to the corresponding upper secondary education qualifications of the Italian school system- and allow exemption from the Italian language test.

Reference:

[Procedures for entry, residency and enrolment of international students and the respective recognition of qualifications for higher education courses in Italy](#)

[Attachment 1 of the Procedures](#)

[How to apply for CIMEA Statement of Comparability](#)