

## Applying for your National Italian Study Visa (D) independently

### What does it mean to apply for my visa independently?

If you are unable to participate in the BU Study Abroad Batch Visa Process, this means you will need to apply for your visa independently. Each consulate operates differently, and depending on the consulate, you might need schedule your own appointment and go in person to the Italian consulate that has jurisdiction over your home address or university's address to submit your visa application. Application materials vary depending on the consulate as well, so it is important to read the specific consulate's website VERY closely.

### When do I need to submit my application by?

The processing time varies per Consulate. Generally, the Italian visa process can take 3-4 weeks for the visas to be issued, and most consulates require students to submit their visa application materials at least three weeks before their departure day. In order to ensure you obtain your visa in time for your program start date, it would be best to have your visa appointment at least 6 weeks before your scheduled departure date.

### Does this mean I will not have my passport until my application has been processed?

Yes, you are required to submit your passport to the Consulate and you will be without your passport for the duration of the processing period, so plan accordingly! We cannot guarantee an exact date that you will have your passport back. Make sure to keep a copy of your passport while you are without it.

### Where can I apply for my Study visa?

You can apply for your student visa at the Consulate under whose jurisdiction you live or study. For example, if you are a student at Boston University and you live in Colorado, you can apply for your student visa either at the Boston Consulate or the Chicago Consulate. The Consulates and their jurisdictions are listed on the following page.

### How can I apply for my Study visa?

Most Italian Consulates require you to apply in-person at a pre-scheduled appointment. Make sure to schedule your appointment well in advance to the date you would like to submit your materials, as appointments tend to book quickly. To make an appointment most consulates require you register and book your appointment via an online portal called [prenot@mi](mailto:prenot@mi), which you will find on the Consulate's website.

### What do I need to submit for my Italian visa application?

The instructions vary per Consulate, so you should refer to the Italian Consulate's website under whose jurisdiction you belong for exact details. However, you can find general tips for some of the items below. Again, refer to the Consulate's website for specific instructions.

**Consulate General of Italy in the U.S. and their jurisdictions:**

<p><b>BOSTON</b></p> <p>600 Atlantic Ave Boston, MA 02210 <a href="mailto:visti.boston@esteri.it">visti.boston@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - Boston (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> ME, MA, NH, RI, VT</p>	<p><b>CHICAGO</b></p> <p>500, North Michigan Avenue - Suite 1850 - Chicago, IL 60611 <a href="mailto:visti.chicago@esteri.it">visti.chicago@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - Chicago (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> CO, IL, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI, WY</p>	<p><b>DETROIT</b></p> <p>400 Renaissance Center - Suite 950 Detroit, MI 48243 <a href="mailto:visa.detroit@esteri.it">visa.detroit@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Di Prima Classe - Detroit (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> IN, KY, MI, OH, TN</p>	<p><b>HOUSTON</b></p> <p>1330 Post Oak Boulevard, suite 1950 Houston, TX 77056 <a href="mailto:visas.houston@esteri.it">visas.houston@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - Houston (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> AR, LA, OK, TX</p>
<p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p>Suite 1026 Public Ledger Building, 150 South Independence Mall West Philadelphia, PA 19106-3470 <a href="mailto:visti.filadelfia@esteri.it">visti.filadelfia@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - Filadelfia (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> PA, DE, NC, WV, NJ (counties: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean and Salem), MD (except for the counties of Montgomery and Prince George), VA (except for the counties of Arlington and Fairfax)</p>	<p><b>NEW YORK</b></p> <p>690 Park Avenue New York, NY 10065 <a href="mailto:visas.newyork@esteri.it">visas.newyork@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - New York (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> NY, NJ (counties: Bergen, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union, Warren, Essex, Middlesex, Monmouth, Hunterdon, Mercer, Somerset), CT, Bermuda</p>	<p><b>SAN FRANCISCO</b></p> <p>2590 Webster Street San Francisco, CA 94115 <a href="mailto:visti.sanfrancisco@esteri.it">visti.sanfrancisco@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - San Francisco (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> AK, CA (except for the counties belonging to LA), HI, ID, MT, OR, UT, WA, American Territories of Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Johnston Atoll, Wake Island, Midway Islands.</p>	<p><b>LOS ANGELES</b></p> <p>1900 Avenue of the Stars, #1250 Los Angeles, CA 90067 <a href="mailto:visti.losangeles@esteri.it">visti.losangeles@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Italian National Visa for Study (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> AZ, NM, NV, California (Counties: Imperial Valley, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Ventura)</p>
<p><b>WASHINGTON, D.C.</b></p> <p>3000 Whitehaven Street, NW Washington, DC 20008 <a href="mailto:visti.washington@esteri.it">visti.washington@esteri.it</a> <a href="http://www.ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/ambasciata_washington/en/informazio...">http://www.ambwashingtondc.esteri.it/ambasciata_washington/en/informazio...</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> District of Columbia, Maryland: Montgomery and Prince George's counties only, Virginia: Arlington and Fairfax counties only and the city of Alexandria</p>	<p><b>MIAMI</b></p> <p>4000 Ponce de Leon Blvd, Suite 590 Coral Gables FL 33146 <a href="mailto:visa.miami@esteri.it">visa.miami@esteri.it</a> <a href="#">Consolato Generale - Miami (esteri.it)</a></p> <p><b>Jurisdiction:</b> AL, FL, GA, MS, SC, Puerto Rico, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Island of Saba, St. Maarten, St. Eustatius, Turks and Caicos, U.S. Virgin Islands.</p>		

## What do I need to submit for my Italian visa application?

### 1. Long term visa application form (National D) – accessible [here](#).

- a. Complete the form electronically and print it double-sided
- b. Follow the [Sample Visa Application](#) for detailed step-by-step instructions
- c. Make sure to sign the visa application form in the three designated area, and include the place (city, state where you are signing this form) and the date, as indicated.

### 2. Physical passport and one photocopy of the ID/signature page:

- a. Your passport must be valid for **at least 3-6 months** following the end of the program. Make sure your passport is centered on the page when making the scan. It can be in color or black/white, but it cannot be blurry, and it cannot be a picture taken on your phone with your hands visible.
- b. Be sure that you have signed your passport and that there are two consecutive pages available for the visa.

### 3. One-two *official* passport photos (professionally taken).

- a. The number varies per Consulate. Make sure to confirm the details of your Consulate!
- b. This must be an official passport-style photo that you can get at a CVS, Walgreens, Fedex, or UPS store, that is printed on photo paper, is 2in. x 2in. in size, taken in front of a white background, showing your full face, from the top of your head to the bottom of your chin.
- c. Do not take or print this photo yourself. It must be done professionally.
- d. Each consulate varies in how they would like the passport photo affixed to your application. Make sure to follow your Consulate's instructions as to whether you should paper-clip or glue the photo to your visa application.

### 4. Photocopy of student ID and driver's license (or state ID).

- a. You can have these photocopied on one document, but make sure to submit a copy of both IDs, in color or in black and white. This provides proof to the Consulate that you belong to their jurisdiction and are able to submit your application there.

### 5. Booked, roundtrip flight itinerary/confirmation

- a. Must show the exact dates of entry into and exit from Italy, and from the [Schengen Zone](#) (continental Europe, for the most part).
- b. The itinerary must show that you have purchased a round-trip ticket to and from Italy. One-way tickets will NOT be accepted. Your name must be on this official itinerary, no matter how you purchased the flight.
- c. If entering Italy by other means (train, bus, etc.), you must provide your train/bus reservation, car rental or ferry reservation. The reservation must reflect the name on the passport, and specify the exact border and date of entry into Italy.

### 6. Proof of financial means – please provide one of the following three options. Note: the preferred and simplest option is (a) or (b):

- a. **Proof of personal resources (this applies if the bank account is in your name, and is the simplest option):** Applicant must provide the last month of a US bank statement (not just the balance) OR a letter from a US banking institution (on the bank's letterhead, signed by a bank official with a recent date, indicating account balance). The statement must show availability of funds of at least 1,000\$ per month for the entire duration of the program (~\$4,000 for the semester). Therefore, the bank letter or statement must confirm you have access to a minimum of \$4,000 for the duration of the semester.
  - i. **Some Consulates solely accept an official letter from a US banking institution, so make sure to review your consulate's requirements.**
- b. **Proof of family resources (this applies if you will provide proof of availability of funds by way of a parent's bank account):** in this case, you must submit a notarized affidavit of support and bank statement.
  - i. **The Affidavit can be signed by one parent, even if the bank account is in both parents' name, but it must be signed by a parent or legal guardian (not a grandparent or other member of the family).**
  - ii. **The Affidavit must be notarized by a Notary Public.**
  - iii. **The Affidavit must be accompanied by a letter a US banking institution or one month's bank statement. See point (a) above for details on bank statement requirements, and specific consulate requirements.**
- c. **Proof of Financial Aid:** Students who receive financial aid and are unable to provide proof of the required bank statement amount in option (a) or (b) can present an official letter from their university stating amount of aid and time of disbursement. BU Students can get this from the Office of Financial Assistance.
  - i. In addition to the financial aid letter, students will need to provide proof of a US bank account with a minimum of \$300 balance.

**7. Money order for visa processing fee:** The visa processing fee varies each quarter according to the current conversion rate. The processing fee is typically about €50/\$55 for all study visas. Refer to the Consulate's website at which you are applying for the exact fee (\$54.90 is current). Make sure to refer to the National Study visa fee (not the National Visa fee, which is more expensive). The Italian Consulate only accepts Money Orders (not personal checks or bank checks).

- a. In the section "Purchaser", print your name exactly how it is written in your passport. You are the Purchaser who has purchased the money order.
- b. In the "Pay to" section, address it to the: "Consulate General of Italy"
- c. If there is an "address" line, please put your current address.
- d. If there is a "memo" line, you can write "Student visa"
- e. Do NOT sign the back of the money order. This section is for the Consulate. If signed, the money order will no longer be valid.
- f. You can purchase a money order at any US Postal Service, a bank, credit union, convenience store, grocery store or pharmacy. Note, you can only purchase a money

order with cash, debit card, or traveler's check. You are not able to purchase a money order with a credit card.

- g. Keep the receipt! (This is important in case you accidentally endorse the money order, or improperly address it, as you can only return the money order with a receipt!)

**8. Boston University Study Abroad will email the following three letters to you in late-October, which you should print and include with your visa application materials:**

- a. **Enrollment Letter from the university in Italy and an Enrollment Letter from Boston University** providing program details including proof of enrollment, program dates, duration, weekly hours of attendance, and the address of students' accommodations.
- b. **Proof of international health coverage** for the entire duration of the program (Also including evacuation and repatriation). Letter from BU Study Abroad confirming international health coverage for length of program.

**9. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ONLY: Proof of Residence in the USA (for non-US citizens only):** If you are not a citizen of the United States, you must submit a **photocopy** of:

- a. Your green card (front and back), or
- b. Your student visa and I-20 form, F-1, H-1, etc. If you are an F-1 student, your visa and travel signature on your I-20 must be valid for at least 90 days AFTER the end of your program. If either is going to expire, please contact your International Student Advisor to discuss renewal, and let your Program Manager know.

NOTE: Although BU Study Abroad will act as a liaison during the application process, it is NOT a visa processing agency. It is the student's responsibility to verify the visa process and requirements at the Italian Consulate in their jurisdiction. This information has been prepared by Boston University Study Abroad based on the most recent information provided by the relevant immigration agency (E.G. consulate, embassy, etc.). It is each student's responsibility to compile and apply for their visa based on their specific citizenship. Visas are granted by foreign governments only, Boston University does not play a role in visa issuance, nor can we influence immigration policy. While we do our best to keep instructions as up-to-date as possible, visa requirements are subject to change without our knowledge. Ultimately obtaining a visa in a timely manner, and related costs incurred, are a student's responsibility. Failure to acquire a visa will preclude participation in the program.