

## **COMPETITION FOR TWENTY-FIVE GRANTS STUDY-ABROAD EXCHANGE PROGRAMME**

5<sup>th</sup> Edition – year 2015

### **1. General Rules**

To pursue the long-standing tradition of UniCredit and reflect its European dimension, UniCredit & Universities Foscolo Foundation announces **25 (twenty-five) grants** aimed at all University students of UniCredit geography for **study exchange programs abroad in any University within the UniCredit perimeter**.<sup>1</sup>

### **2. Details concerning the grants**

Each grant awards € 700 gross per month for the scholarship plus a fixed amount of € 1,000 for any travel, visa or other expenses for a **3 to 6-month period** of exchange starting from 2016.

### **3. Eligibility requirements**

To be eligible for the competition, an applicant must:

- 1) be a **university student<sup>2</sup> of any nationality** in the fields of economics, finance, banking, management engineering or law **at least in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study** (if undergraduates)
- 2) be **enrolled at any University** of UniCredit perimeter and be wishing to spend a **minimum 3 month to maximum 6 month period abroad at any University within the UniCredit perimeter**.
- 3) indicate in the application form as **host Universities** only those universities, within the UniCredit perimeter, **with an exchange agreement** with their home university (maximum 3 universities can be indicated)
- 4) have a **good knowledge of English**

The grants are aimed to exchange periods abroad for a minimum 3 month to maximum 6 month period, **starting from January 2016 and closing by March 2017**.

### **4. How to apply**

Candidates may only apply online using the application available on the Foundation's website at [www.unicreditanduniversities.eu](http://www.unicreditanduniversities.eu). All the documentation accompanying the application must be submitted exclusively online in PDF format and must be written in English.

In the application **each candidate must indicate**:

- her/his first name, surname, nationality, taxpayer/insurance code, date and place of birth;
- her/his mailing address, including post code, as well as telephone number and e-mail address;
- the host University(-ies) where she/he intends to spend the exchange period (a list of maximum 3 universities);
- the course she/he intends to attend as well as her/his plan of study abroad for the selected period;
- that she/he has never been convicted of a crime and that she/he has never been held in preventive detention or under house arrest;
- that there are no criminal proceedings pending against her/him;
- that she/he authorizes the Foundation to process her/his personal details, pursuant to Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003.

Applications **must be accompanied by the following documents** (in PDF format and in English). Failure to do so may result in exclusion from the competition:

- one certified copy of grades and exams taken with clear indication of maximum and minimum pass grade at her/his home university;
- one copy of a currently valid identification document;
- a detailed curriculum vitae, which provides a comprehensive picture of the applicant's education;
- one motivational letter
- one letter of reference written by a home-university teacher and directly sent via e-mail by the teacher to the Foundation addresses (see contacts below);
- an English certification and any other language certification as required by the Host University.

### **5. Closing date for presentation of the application**

Candidates' applications, complete with the accompanying documentation, must be delivered **by Internet** no later than **November 15, 2015**, following the procedure indicated in the aforementioned internet site. When this time limit is reached, the online application procedure will be disabled.

As soon as the procedure will be considered completed, **the candidate will receive a confirmation message to her/his e-mail address confirming the full acceptance of her/his application**.

### **6. Scientific Committee**

The Scientific Committee, appointed by the Foundation's Board of Directors, is composed of members among academics experts from the main European countries in economics and finance. The Foundation's Scientific Committee will be responsible for the selection procedure and will identify the winners of the grants.

### **7. Date of award of the grants**

The grants will be **awarded by December 15, 2015** by the Chairman of the Foundation on the basis of the final decision expressed by the Scientific Committee as provided for under art. 6.

### **8. Documentation to be presented after awarding of the grants**

The recipients of the grants must send via e-mail the following documents (failure to do so may result in forfeiture of the grant), no later than 30 days of their being informed of being awarded the grants:

- a) a certificate of citizenship;
- b) a **declaration of the host University** stating its willingness to host the candidate
- c) a declaration indicating the starting and ending date of the study-exchange program and the plan of study abroad for the selected period/university.

### **9. Requirements for receipt of the grants**

The recipients must **notify the Foundation of the country and university chosen for the exchange** program, and are obliged to follow the chosen **plan of study** in the country and university specified. Any departure from this must be authorized in advance by the Foundation based on valid and documented reasons.

The grant holder is obliged to report to the Foundation on the progress of her/his studies by the end of the first half of the exchange period and to send a final report at the end of the exchange program to illustrate comprehensively the studies performed.

### **10. Method of payment**

The grant is paid in **two installments**: the first installment in advance, at the beginning of the exchange period; the second installment at the beginning of the second period of study abroad subject to Scientific Committee approval. In addition to the grant the Foundation will pay in advance the winner a fixed amount of € 1,000 for any travel, visa or other expenses.

The Foundation reserves right not to pay installments not yet accrued in the event of interruption, even temporary, of attendance of the exchange program. In this event, the Foundation may also request the return of any installments paid in advance.

### **11. Possible cooperation with UniCredit Companies**

UniCredit reserves the right to offer to those awarded the grants employment or any form of cooperation with the Group companies.

### **12. Acceptance of all the conditions of the regulations**

**Participation in the competition implies unconditional acceptance of the entire contents of these regulations.**

Milan, June 30<sup>th</sup> 2015

<sup>1</sup> The 17 countries of UniCredit EU perimeter include: Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine

<sup>2</sup> - The competition is open to both undergraduates and Master's students