

About the Visa

A visa is added to a passport by a foreign government and is issued to students who study abroad at an educational institution. Students studying abroad in Italy for more than 90 days are required to obtain a National Study Visa (Type D).

Students must apply for the visa at an Italian Consulate or Honorary Consulate in the jurisdiction of their residence or studies. For Iowa, the Consulate is located in Chicago. There are various Honorary Consulates in the mid-west.

This document contains the instructions and tips for applying for the visa. This serves as a guide to help with the process. Students are responsible for reviewing the live material on the Consulate's website as things may change.

Steps

- Apply for your passport or make sure yours is valid for at least 6 months after your study abroad experience.
- Think about how you want to apply for the visa. You can go to the Consulate in Chicago or to an Honorary Consulate. If you go to Chicago, you submit your visa application in person and they mail you back your passport with visa.
 Processing is usually four weeks, but plan ahead. Alternatively, you can go to an Honorary Consulate and have a Consular Official review your documents. They sign them and then you mail them to Chicago for the usual processing.
- Note: Students cannot apply for the visa until 90 days prior to departure.
- If you decide to go to Chicago, book your appointment ASAP as they fill up quickly! Book here:
 conschicago.esteri.it/consolato_chicago/en/i_servizi/per_chi_si_reca_in_italia/appointment.html
- If you go to an Honorary Consulate, be sure to call or email to find a time to go.
- Work on compiling the checklist of items on the checklist in this document. Meet with your study abroad advisor prior to your appointment to ensure you have all the materials.
- Reminder, processing time is 4 weeks not including mailing or holidays so apply early!









Documents Checklist

Students should start to compile the items on this checklist. All of these items **must** be provided to the Consulate in order to receive the student visa. If any are missing, the visa could be denied. It is recommended that students keep a folder with this information safe and in one place. While it is not required, it is best to meet with your study abroad advisor prior to the appointment to make sure you have everything you need. As always, consult with the official list online to ensure things have not changed.

- Completed Visa Application Form: conschicago.esteri.it/resource/2011/01/4407_f_cons97NuovoFormularioNazionaleChicago07012012.pdf
- Recent Passport-Sized Photograph (can take this in the Study Abroad Center for FREE)
- Official Passport + 1 copy
- Official Driver's License or Student ID + 1 copy
- Official Acceptance Letter + 1 copy
- A letter of enrollment from UNI with expected graduation date (WILL COME FROM THE STUDY ABROAD CENTER)
- **Proof of Financial Means:** A bank statement or a letter from a US banking institution, on the bank's letterhead, signed by a bank official and with a recent date, indicating account balance (a minimum of \$ 1000.00 per each month of stay in Italy is required). Students who receive financial aid must present an official letter from their University stating amount of aid and time of disbursement
- Affidavit of Support: If the applicant doesn't have own funds because supported by the parents, one or both parents must submit an affidavit of support with the bank statement (see Proof of financial means). The Affidavit must be signed in front of the Visa Officer if the parents come with the applicant to the interview, or notarized by a Notary Public;
- Proof of Health Insurance Coverage (WILL COME FROM THE STUDY ABROAD CENTER)
- Proof of Lodging (THIS IS IN YOUR ACCEPTANCE LETTER)
- Confirmed Flight Reservation (Ideally roundtrip. If you book a one way, show finances to support return ticket)
- Return Envelope: A pre-paid and self-addressed UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICES EXPRESS MAIL or PRIORITY MAIL with a tracking number
- Consular Fee of 50 Euros in Money Order Format (see USD equivalent posted monthly on their website)

Please Reference the Italian Consulate in Chicago's Website: conschicago.esteri.it/consolato_chicago/en Updated 15 May 2018

