Which kind of Visa do I have to request?

Depending on your citizenship, your country of residence, length and purposes (study, work, tourism, etc.) of your stay, you may need to obtain a visa before coming to Italy. Visas can be short-term (less than 90 days - Type C) or long-term (for more than 90 days - Type D).

In order to help you find out whether you need an entry visa or not and which documents are required in order to apply, you can simply query the database of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. By selecting your nationality, your residence, the length of your stay in Italy and the purpose of your visit, the database provides the right information about the documents that have to be enclosed with the application.

Short term Visa – C- (less than 90 days)

For study, work, business, mission, sport competitions and tourism purposes, citizens of Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei, Canada, Chile, South Korea, Costa Rica, Croatia, El Salvador, Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Japan, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Israel, Latin America, Macao, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, United Kingdom, USA, Taiwan, Uruguay, Venezuela can freely travel to Italy for less than 90 days without a short-term visa. Once in Italy they must report their presence at the local police headquarters (“Questura”) if they entered Italy as a second Schengen country.

Long term Visa – D – (longer than 90 days)

The national visa of “D” category is granted to the certain individuals who are to be studying, working or permanently residing in one of the Schengen countries. The national visa can be of a single entry, granted for the people who are in need of residing in the Schengen country for a certain period of time and for a sole purpose after which they shall return to their country.

Documents needed:
- The visa application form duly filled in
- Passport-size photo
- Valid passport
- Proof of availability of sufficient means of subsistence (e.g. study grant, bank or insurance warranty or equivalent credit document, etc.)
- Declaration of availability of suitable accommodation/appropriate lodging in Italy
- Travel ticket

IF YOU ARE ASKING A STUDY VISA YOU ARE REQUESTED TO ENROLL IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION’S ONLINE PLATFORM UNIVERSITALY TO BE ADMITTED

If you are have been admitted in a Master Course/ PhD program

As soon as you receive the official invitation letter from the School, the same letter will be sent to the Italian Diplomatic Authorities (Embassy or Consulate) in your home country, or in the country of your permanent residence. At that point, you can apply for a study visa type D (= 'long-term', i.e. valid for more than 90 days).
You have also to provide the Italian Diplomatic Authorities with the enrolment letter of the School in your Course or PhD Program.

**If you are interested in a Master of Science (MSC)**

Before enrolling in an Italian University, you need to download the [Pre-enrollment forms](http://www.universitaly.it) from the Ministry of Education’s website.

After filling the forms out, you must take them to the Italian Embassy or Consulate in your country which you may find at the following website by typing your country name: [Ministero degli Affari Esteri - Ambasciate](http://www.universitaly.it).

You may apply to only one Italian university and for only one course of studies. The competent Italian embassy/consulate is the authority responsible for accepting your pre-application request and making sure it meets the necessary requirements to obtain a "Study Visa".

They will then transmit the list of accepted applicants to the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies by e-mail, return all required documentation to each applicant, and provide information about the admission exam.

The number of places available is established every academic year by the Italian universities and published on the [Ministry of Education's website](http://www.universitaly.it). There you will also find any details concerning the validity of qualifications obtained abroad and the procedures for the pre-application.

**If you have been admitted as a researcher**

Following the Italian immigration rules, if you are a researcher admitted at the School, you will have to ask for a 'Research Visa' in the nearest Italian Embassy or Consulate in your country of residence.

According to the European law, ‘researcher’ means a third-country national holding an appropriate higher education qualification, which gives access to doctoral programmes, who is selected by a research organisation for carrying out a research project for which the above qualification is normally required.

In order to apply for your Visa, the Immigration Office (Sportello Unico per l’Immigrazione) of the Italian Government in Pisa will electronically transmit a document called 'Nulla Osta' (entry clearance) - which represents the relevant document which is going to support your Visa application - to the Italian Embassy in your country of residence. The Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies takes care of the internal procedure to provide to the’ Sportello Unico per l’Immigrazione ‘ all the necessary documents for your application.

**If you have a work contract with the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies**

According to Italian Law, in order to come to Italy with a work contract an extra EU citizen has to request a WORK Visa. To obtain this kind of Visa you should apply for it to the nearest Italian Embassy or Consulate in your country of residence with the legal certifications which will be provided by the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies. In order to prepare them you will be requested in advance to send to the School some documents which will be relevant for the procedure.

**I am married: can I also get a Visa for my family?**

In order to foster family cohesion if you hold an entry visa for study or research you can apply for visa for your family (spouse, dependent children) at the Italian Embassy or Consulate in your home country. Application for entry clearance for a family member can be submitted by proxy.
If you are already in Italy, you can apply for a “family reunion” (ricongiungimento familiare).

If all requirements are satisfied, the Immigration Office (Sportello Unico per l’Immigrazione) of the Italian Government in Pisa will issue an entry clearance (‘Nulla Osta’) within 90 days of application.

A stay permit for family reasons entitles the holder to take on subordinate work or self-employment, to be granted access to education and to health care provided by the National Health Service.

PLEASE NOTE: A foreign family member of an Italian or EU national is not required to apply for entry clearance at the Sportello Unico, but can apply for an entry visa directly at the Italian Embassy.