



Study Visa Guidelines Degree Seekers

Please note that Italian Consulates do not follow identical procedures. It is your responsibility to contact the Italian Consulate in the geographic area of your legal, permanent address and review the specific study visa requirements listed on the web site of that Consulate. Each Consulate also has specific forms noted on their website which they require you to download and complete.

Find out what your local Italian Consulate requires at: http://www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp

Please prepare to attend your appointment at the appropriate Italian Consulate Visa Office with the original copy of each of the documents listed below, as well as one photocopy. Immigration authorities may ask you to show the documents that were submitted to obtain the visa, so you should also have copies of the documents for your own records to bring on your flight to Italy.

1) **Visa application form**

- a. Each Consulate Visa Office has its own form—you must go to the respective web site, download the study visa application, complete and sign it.
 - i. On the Consulate's web site the visa application can be found under the title "Long term Visa Application Form" or "Application for National Study Visa".
 - ii. The visa application is for a stay of longer than 90 days
- b. Fees: Please consult the website of your Italian Consulate of Jurisdiction for more information on the fee charged for the study visa

2) **2 Recent standard, passport-style photos**

- 3) **Passport or travel document valid for at least three months after the visa's projected date of expiration.** Please make sure your passport has at least one blank page to affix the visa. If you do not currently have a valid passport, you will need to apply for one. Please note that this process may take up to two months.

4) **Proof of means of financial support in Italy \$1,000 per each month of stay.**

This means that a full academic year degree-seeking student must evidence financial support of at least **\$12,000**. You must demonstrate having an adequate level of support by providing all of these items:

- a. A notarized "**Affidavit of Support**" (proof of personal or family resources)
- b. A letter from your bank, written on the bank's letterhead, signed by a bank official, indicating your name and account balance (or that of your parents, if you are a dependent) for at least the amounts noted above.

The Consulate office may require you to download its own Bank Statement form; you must determine this by reviewing a list of the visa forms on that Consulate's web site.

- c. JCU Official deposit receipts for tuition and housing (if housing is applicable) for the first semester at JCU—you may obtain this receipt from the JCU Finance Office by sending an email to: accountsreceivable@johncabot.edu
- d. Official letter(s) from John Cabot University stating the amount of financial aid you have received (scholarship, grant, student loans where applicable)

- 5) **Evidence that you have the funds necessary to return to your home country.** The Consulate will require you to show a round trip airline ticket for this purpose. E-tickets are acceptable.
- 6) **Health insurance valid in Italy:** You must demonstrate having adequate health insurance coverage by providing:
- A notarized “**Affidavit of Insurance**”
 - A written statement/letter from your insurance company, written on the insurance company’s letterhead, and signed by the insurance company official indicating:
 - name, full policy number, effective dates of the policy
 - proof of unlimited coverage or a minimum of € **30,000** for hospitalization and emergencies
 - valid coverage in Italy and other Schengen countries during the specific dates overseas
 - the policy coverage page and health insurance card

If your current health insurance states that you will be covered in Italy, please note that it still may not be accepted by the Italian health authorities. Therefore we strongly suggest the purchase of an Italian health insurance policy to avoid possible complications. You may do so online through a third party organization called Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI). The link at which you can purchase Italian health insurance through Cultural Insurance Services International is <http://www.culturalinsurance.com/johncabot/>.

7) **Letter of Acceptance to John Cabot University**

8) **Official JCU Visa Request letter** beginning with “**AL CONSOLATO DI COMPETENZA GENERALE...**” or “**ALL’AMBASCIATA D’ITALIA...**”

- The Official JCU Visa Request letter is a legal document. Once your visa is granted, the Italian Consulate typically returns this official letter to you (it will be attached either to your passport or to the other documentation you filed with your visa application).
- You will need the original Official JCU Visa Request Letter to apply for the Permit to Stay in Rome upon arrival. Be sure you remember to bring it with you to Italy and to the Mandatory Permit to Stay session during Orientation.

9) **Proof of Adequate Lodgings in Italy**

Students choosing JCU Housing: letter provided by JCU beginning with “**Dichiarazione disponibilità in Italia...**”

For students not choosing JCU Housing: Please consult the Consulate for more details. Typically this is what is required:

Staying with friends/family: a letter of invitation is required along with a copy of the host's I.D. ("Permit of stay" for non-European Union citizens). The letter of “Invito” may be downloaded from the Consulate website.

Renting an apartment: obtain a letter from the landlord with the following information:

- The rent contract including the full name of the landlord, the address of the apartment, the apartment/house description.

10) **Documentation of your educational history**

Obtain an official copy of your college transcript; for incoming freshmen, your official high school transcript must show your date of graduation.

Please note that an acceptance to John Cabot University is not a guarantee that you will obtain the required study visa to attend JCU. The Italian Embassy and its Consulate Offices set their own requirements and it is imperative that you read these requirements on the appropriate web site at: http://www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp

For questions or assistance with this process, contact admissions@johncabot.edu or call us toll-free at **1-855-JCU-ROMA**.