Call for applications
Academic Year 2025/26

The University of Pisa announces for the Academic Year 2025/26 a public competition, open to non-EU citizens not resident in Italy, for admission to the Master's Degree in Cybersecurity (Laurea Magistrale, class LM-66).

The competition aims at admitting non-EU applicants, who must apply and undergo an evaluation procedure. The submitted documentation will be assessed by the Master's Degree Evaluation Committee (EC). Shortlisted applicants will be eligible for admission and ranked.

The outcome of the evaluation will be made available to applicants in the site for application only at the very end of the evaluation procedure.

Admission requirements

Applicants must either hold:

- a Bachelor of Science, or equivalent first-cycle degree, obtained abroad after the completion of a three-year (minimum) course of study, in Computer Science or in Computer Engineering or any other degree providing a suitable background in both mathematics and computer science or computer engineering. The admission of candidates holding a qualification issued in a non-EU country will be subject to verification and recognition of legitimacy by the Italian deputy diplomatic authorities.

- It is strictly required for applicants to hold a CGPA (Cumulative Grade Point Average) **equal to or above 75% of the maximum grades** (e.g., 3 in a scale of 4, or 15 in a scale of 20; please note that no institution-specific grade-to-percentage conversion rule is considered for this purpose. The CGPA must be computed on all the exams (including elective ones) over all the years of the first-cycle degree and must be substantiated by the submitted official documentation. **Any application with a CGPA below the 75% threshold will be automatically excluded from the competition.**

- any Italian Laurea degree of classes L-8 or L- 31, or with:
  - **at least 18 CFUs** taken from learning activities in the SSD sectors: **MAT/*, FIS/***
  - **at least 36 CFUs** taken from learning activities in the SSD sectors: **ING-INF/01, ING-INF/03, ING-INF/05, INF/01**.

Knowledge of the English language, comparable to the **level B2** of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, is also required.

Application procedure and due documentation

Before applying please note that the result of the selection of the candidates will be available only at the very end of the procedure, as indicated below.
Applicants shall apply online at https://applymscenglish.unipi.it.
In the application form, applicants must include:
• a declaration of knowledge of the English language, specifying the duration of studies and the type of certification held;
• certification of the academic degree they possess, with an indication of the legal duration of the course (at least three years), together with a copy of the degree certificate and transcripts (translated to English or Italian);
• a copy of a valid passport;
• a copy of their complete Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum covering their education program, as well as any other relevant cultural and professional experience that might help the EC to evaluate the applicant.

Applicants may also include other documents (e.g., letters of reference, other certificates). All documents must be in Adobe pdf format.
Applications missing any of the required documents are not considered valid and will not be processed further. Applications cannot be integrated after the call deadline.

Application fees

Applicants intending to submit their admission application for the Master's degree program in Cybersecurity at the University of Pisa, available through the application portal at the link https://applymscenglish.unipi.it, are informed that starting from the 2025/2026 academic year, payment of an application fee will be required.
Details about the Application Fee
1. Application Requirement: The application fee is mandatory for submitting an admission application for the 2025/2026 academic year. Each applicant may submit up to two applications for programs available on the application portal. Please note that the application fee must be paid for each application submitted; therefore, in the case of two applications, two separate fees will be required.
2. Application Fee Amount: The amount of the fee will depend on the applicant's country of origin, as classified by the World Bank's income levels (Annex 2 of the Student Contribution Regulations for the 2024/2025 academic year): Table of annual country of origin lump contribution - https://www.unipi.it/index.php/tuition-fees-and-financial-support/item/download/30230_23c6bfdb6c8514c94c84024ed7ab5cee A.Y. 2024/2025, which can also be found in this site: https://www.unipi.it/index.php/tuition-fees-and-financial-support/item/13589-tuition-fees-reduction.
   Specifically:
   • Applicants from Low income and Lower middle income countries: €10.00
   • Applicants from Upper middle income countries: €20.00
   • Applicants from High income countries: €30.00

Eligible Applicants: The application fee applies exclusively to applicants holding a foreign qualification.
Payment Method: Payment must be made directly on the application portal https://applymscenglish.unipi.it . The payment will be requested immediately after completing the application, prior to its submission to the evaluation committee.
Important Note: Submission of the admission application for the 2025/2026 academic year will only be possible upon payment of the required application fee. Candidates who do not complete the payment will not be able to submit their application.

Application deadlines and selection schedule

Applications are evaluated in two rounds. Please note that the result of the selection of the candidates will be available only at the very end of the procedure, namely after February 7th for the first round and after April 7th for the second round. The results will be available directly on the portal for applications; note that "not admitted" or "non ammesso" here means that the application of the candidate did not pass the evaluation and then the candidate is not admitted to the M.Sc. In Cybersecurity. Candidates are invited to read the Frequently Asked Questions of the M.Sc. here: https://cysec.unipi.it/?page_id=140.

FIRST ROUND
- applications are open from **December 6th, 2024** to **January 11th, 2025, 12:00 pm (GMT) [strict]**
- interviews of selected candidates are scheduled from January 15th, 2025 to January 31st, 2025 [tentative]
- notifications of admission are delivered by February 7th, 2025
- notifications of rejection **will not be sent by e-mail**, but they will be published in the portal **by February 7th, 2025**.
- Note that the results of the selection will not be available before February 7th, 2025 and, in general, no communication will be sent before the end of the selection process.

SECOND ROUND
- applications are open from **February 8th, 2025** to **February 28th, 2025, 12:00pm (GMT) [strict]**
- interviews are scheduled from March 10th, 2025 to March 31st, 2025 [tentative]
- notifications of admission are delivered by April 7th, 2025
- notifications of rejection **will not be sent by e-mail**, but they will be published in the portal **by April 7th, 2025.**
- Note that the results of the selection will not be available before April 7th, 2025 and, in general, no communication will be sent before the end of the selection process.

Prospective applicants are therefore encouraged to apply at their earliest convenience. In case of problems with the online application, please get in touch with our international office (https://www.ing.unipi.it/it/internazionale, international@ing.unipi.it).

Evaluation procedure

The documentation submitted by applicants will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee (EC), consisting of information Engineering and Computer Science professors. The committee will assess the applicants' background and education, their potential skills and attitude to attend an interdisciplinary and innovative educational programme, and grade them on a scale of 60 points. Applicants scoring less than 42 points will be rejected. Applicants scoring 42 or more will be shortlisted for an interview.
Applicants shortlisted for the interview will be informed via e-mail (sent to the account indicated in the application form) about the time and date of the interview. Interviews will be held through videoconference. The applicant shall provide the proper settings to carry out the video interview and exhibit the ID submitted in the online application. Applicants not attending the interview in their scheduled slot will be excluded.
Applicants will be interviewed by the EC, who will evaluate their motivation, expectations, and technical skills, as well as their mastering of the English language. Interviews will be graded on a scale of 40 points. Shortlisted applicants scoring less than 28 points will be rejected. Those scoring 28 points or more will be eligible for admission.

What to do upon admission

Admitted applicants will first need to confirm by email their intent to pre-enrol, by replying to the email notifying their admission. Upon confirmation of their intent to pre-enrol, the admitted applicants will receive a formal admission letter by email. The letter must be included in the pre-enrolment documentation to be unloaded on the UNIVERSITALY website so as to be submitted to the Italian Embassy/Consulate - by a deadline which is to be verified by the students - and to apply for a Student Visa. Information on pre-enrolment is available at https://www.unipi.it/index.php/enrolment/itemlist/category/555-pre-enrollment-at-the- italian-embassy.

Please note that completing the pre-enrolment and Student Visa procedures might take several weeks, depending on the Italian Embassy/Consulates, and that the University of Pisa cannot liaise with the Embassy/Consulate on your behalf under any circumstance. Students that have successfully pre-enrolled on Universitaly and have obtained their Student Visa will be able to come to Italy, where they will follow the procedure to enroll at the University of Pisa. Enrolment instructions are available at:
https://www.unipi.it/index.php/enrolment/item/18770-second-cycle-degree-programmes.
Admitted students must also inform the EC of their final Student Visa status by sending an email to our international office (international@ing.unipi.it).

Fees and Financial Support

University fees are to be paid each academic year and are determined annually by the Board of Directors. These fees are usually announced in June for the following academic year. For the 2024/25 academic year, fees ranged from €356 to €2,530 per year, depending on the student's country of origin.

DSU scholarship: Financial support is available for students, including the DSU scholarship, offered by the Agenzia Regionale Diritto allo Studio Universitario (DSU) of the Tuscany Regional Council. This grant provides benefits such as free accommodation, meals at the University dining halls, and exemption from university tuition fees.

For more details on the DSU scholarship, please visit https://www.unipi.it/index.php/tuition-fees-and-financial-support/item/2275-dsu-scholarship

MAECI scholarship: In addition, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) offers scholarships each year to international students and Italian students residing abroad. For more information, please visit https://www.esteri.it/en/opportunita/borse-di-studio/

Invest your Talent scholarship: This Master's Degree programme also participates in the "Invest Your Talent in Italy" scholarship programme, which aims to support students from selected countries and is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI). Scholarships will be awarded to selected students admitted to the Master's programme. Additional information will be published as it becomes available at https://www.unipi.it/index.php/tuition-fees-and-financial-support/item/11601-iyt-in-italy-scholarship

For further financial support opportunities for the 2025-2026 academic year, please refer to updates on www.unipi.it/tuition-fees.

General information about the University of Pisa

Founded in 1343, the University of Pisa is a renowned public institution, with twenty departments and cutting-edge research centers across various disciplines. It consistently ranks among the top 200 universities worldwide according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) and is one of the top three institutions nationally. Globally, it holds a position between 151st and 200th place in the most prestigious rankings, securing its place within the top 1-2% of universities worldwide