Italy’s Expo 2020 Volunteers Programme

CALL INVITATION

The way forward for Italian University Students

THE PROGRAMME

The General Commissioner’s Office for EXPO 2020 Dubai (hereinafter, “Commissioner’s Office”), established by decree of the Prime Minister of 29 March 2018, registered with the Court of Auditors as No. 878 on 2 May 2018, having seen the institutional duties attributed thereto for the realisation of the Italy Pavilion, intends to offer university students enrolled in the Universities that are members of the CRUI – the Conference of Italian University Rectors – the opportunity to participate in the selection for Italy’s Expo 2020 Volunteers Programme (hereinafter, “Programme”).

The Commissioner’s Office therefore deems it necessary to recruit for the initiative the best possible human resources: qualified students wishing to dedicate their time and part of their university training to organizing and managing Italy’s contribution to the largest global event ever set up between the Middle East, Africa and South Asia: Expo 2020 Dubai, which is scheduled to run from 1st October 2021 to 31 March 2022.

As members of the Italy Pavilion’s team of student-volunteers, all participants will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and experience by working in an international, multicultural and multilingual setting: an educational and growth process capable of creating a network of relations based on shared values and of developing new areas of interest while living a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

OBJECTIVES AND AREAS OF INTERVENTION

The Programme’s principal aim is to create a community of student-volunteers of reference to welcome and provide guidance to the visitors to the Italy Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, which is becoming the international “image” of Italy’s participation.

More specifically, the objective of the Programme consists in performing the following activities:

- Reception, information and support activities addressed to different classes of national and international visitors to the Italy Pavilion;
- Reception, information and support activities at cultural and educational events organized inside the Italy Pavilion;
• Public speaking activities, possibly also in the capacity of speaker, at cultural or educational events held inside the Italy Pavilion requiring the active and direct involvement of national and international visitors;

• Networking activities with the other functions of the Commissioner’s Office in developing and producing the contents of storytelling material on Italy’s participation in Expo 2020 Dubai, capable of highlighting the value created by the visitor-engaging model, of emphasising the underlying values, of reconstructing the processes, stories, communities, the most innovative experiences, and of illustrating their advantages, effects and spin-offs;

• Internal networking activities among Programme participants and moderating internal debates, also in view of a more effective community building;

• Favour networking with other communities of youths operating at national or international level in the area of community, social and cultural interest as well as in education and training, whose objectives are similar or connected to the theme and subthemes of EXPO 2020 Dubai and to Italy’s participation therein;

• Participate in internal training initiatives useful to perform the above-listed activities, including the necessary preparatory team-building activities.

The experience offered by the Italian Commissioner’s Office under the Programme includes a (maximum) 4-month stay in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates. The exact duration of the stay shall nonetheless be discussed and agreed between the Commissioner’s Office and the candidate in specific ad hoc in-person or remote information and/or training meetings.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

The Programme’s selection process envisages 4 phases:

**PHASE I:** All the students interested in the Programme are invited to submit a preliminary expression of interest by and no later than 12:00 PM on Monday, 1 March 2021 by using the following form available online at: [https://forms.gle/p7tQ3NeGYixAq4h79](https://forms.gle/p7tQ3NeGYixAq4h79)

**PHASE II:** All the students who have expressed their interest in the Programme by submitting the form online shall be invited to participate in a digital meeting scheduled for 3:00 PM on Monday, 15 March 2021, aimed at providing all the operational details and more specifically:

- The presentation of the selection process and the ways of participating in the Programme;
- The timeline of Programme activities;
- The expected duration of stay in Dubai;
• The types of Programme activities;
• Covering costs;
• The skills required (especially language skills);
• General information on Italy’s participation in Expo 2020 Dubai and on the Italy Pavilion;
• General information on the recognition of the training project as part of the students’ university curricula.

**PHASE III:** Having seen and acquired all the information shared by the Commissioner’s Office, all the students shall be invited to officially submit their candidacy to the Programme – **by 12:00 PM on Monday, 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2021** – on the following platform: tirocinicrui.it.

**PHASE IV:** The expressions of interest submitted shall be examined by the Commissioner’s Office and by the Fondazione CRUI to verify the completeness of information and the existence of the prerequisites of individual candidates. The final selection process may also be enriched through interviews and two-way calls for the purpose of acquiring better knowledge of the candidates’ profiles.

All the profiles selected shall be included in an **Availability List** that the Commissioner’s Office may refer to in developing the Programme’s activities. The aforesaid List shall be published on the Commissioner’s Office’s official website **by Friday, 30 April 2021**, and shall serve to all effects as notification of students’ inclusion therein.

Inclusion in the List represents the necessary prerequisite to carry out the activities envisaged in the Programme inside the Italy Pavilion during EXPO 2020 Dubai, but does not entail any obligation whatsoever for the Commissioner’s Office to confer an assignment of any sort.

The Commissioner’s Office and the Fondazione CRUI reserve the right to extend the deadlines indicated herein at their sole discretion.

**PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Programme is open to the candidature of university students who, at the closing deadline of the Call (1\textsuperscript{st} April 2021):

• result enrolled in a University that by the 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2021 will have joined the Apprenticeship Training Programme promoted by the Commissioner’s Office in partnership with the Fondazione CRUI;
• are over 21 and under 28 years of age (28 years and 364 days);
• are in possession of the following legal requirements:
  o have never been convicted for non-culpable offences, including with a sentence imposing the requested penalty, with a conditionally suspended sentence or criminal conviction, or being currently indicted for non-culpable offences in a criminal proceeding;
have never been issued provisions concerning the enforcement of security or preventive measures.

Losing one of the above prerequisites during the unfolding of the Programme shall entail putting an immediate end to the candidate’s experience.

In connection with the content of the Programme and its relative need of particular proven competences, the Programme also establishes the following **participation requirements** which the candidate must possess at the deadline established for the submission of the participation request:

- excellent knowledge of the English language, both spoken and written;
- excellent competence in the use of the most widely used hardware and software and of the most popular social networks;
- capacity for teamwork and for working by objectives;
- excellent communication and *public speaking* skills, proven experience in the public presentation, sharing and rendering of projects at national and international cultural and educational events (documenting at least two events).

In the final selection, preference shall be awarded to:

- the knowledge of other languages (including Arabic);
- proven experience in activities similar to the ones envisaged in the Programme, performed for Public Administrations or local, national and international organizations at other cultural events and initiatives.

**ACTIVITY RECOGNITION**

The call of an individual candidate requires sharing an educational project that establishes the unfolding of the entire experience, especially in terms of contents, aims, location and duration thereof, as well as of organizational and logistic details. The educational project includes the activities described in general terms that the candidate shall be called on to perform at the Italy Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, as well as the commitment to accomplish them. At the end of the educational experience, the Commissioner’s Office shall issue the candidate a certificate of the results achieved, specifying the skills eventually acquired in the conduct of the Programme’s activities.