Call for applications for the award of the study prize "Geosciences for Sustainable Development" 2nd Edition 2026

Background

The Department of Geosciences announces a competition for the assignment of **two study prizes, worth € 2,500.00 each**. The awards are announced as part of the Project of Excellence "Geosciences for Sustainable Development", funded by the Ministry of Education and Merit. The awards are intended to encourage the continuation of the master's studies of international students enrolled in the master's degree courses in "Environmental Geology and Earth Dynamics" and "Geophysics for Natural Risk and Resources". Specifically, the call for applications intends to address Sustainable Development Goal 4, with particular reference to Target 4.9 "Globally expand the number of scholarships available to developing countries for access to higher education".

Art. 1 Requirements for participation in the competition announcement

The awards are reserved for students enrolled for the academic year 2025/2026 in the first year of the master's degree courses in "Environmental Geology and Earth Dynamics" and "Geophysics for Natural Risk and Resources", with citizenship in the countries classified by the UN as (see attached table): a) "economies in transition"; (b) "developing economies"; (c) "least developed economies".

It is also required that the candidates:
- have no criminal convictions or ongoing criminal proceedings.
- have not previously received sanctions following the submission of false declarations aimed at obtaining benefits for the right to study.

The awards are not aimed at maintaining studies and are therefore compatible with eligibility for any regional scholarship awarded for the academic year 2025/26.

Art. 2 Methods and deadlines for submitting the application for participation

The application for participation in the competition must be submitted by the peremptory deadline of **25 September 2026**, online in Moodle platform at this link: https://stem.elearning.unipd.it/course/view.php?id=12624
The platform is accessed with SSO (Single Sign On) credentials issued by the University of Padua.

When filling out the application form for the competition, candidates must proceed strictly respecting the order of the following steps:
- read the call for applications;
- fill in the application form;
- attach the required documents;
- confirm the application, by placing the final checkmark.

The documentation to be attached to the application, under penalty of exclusion from the call, is as follows:
- Curriculum vitae et studiorum;
- Copy of a valid personal identity document;
- Letter of motivation for enrolment in the course of study (maximum 500 words);

Applications that do not fully meet the required conditions will not be taken into consideration, in particular applications that have not been completed in full and do not include the required attachments. Participation in the call for applications implies full acceptance of these regulations. The false production of documents and/or false certification will result in exclusion from the competition or the right of recourse in the case of a prize already awarded.
Applications for participation received after the deadline will not be accepted.

Art. 3 Procedure for awarding the prize
The prizes will be awarded on the basis of the unquestionable judgment expressed by a Commission appointed by the Director of the Department of Geosciences, made up of 3 professors.

For the purposes of evaluating the candidates and drawing up the final ranking, the Commission will take into account the following criteria:
- merit coefficient calculated on the deadline of the call for applications, taking into account the percentage change in the weighted averages of the grades and credits taken by the individual student compared to the reference averages calculated for the course and the cohort to which they belong
- additional elements that can be deduced from the CV and the letter of motivation;
- origin of the candidate: those who come from "least developed countries" will be favored, in order, over "developing economies" and, finally, "economies in transition", according to the UN classification (Table attached).

Once the final ranking has been drawn up, the Commission will then proceed with the awarding of prizes to the candidates ranked in the first two positions.
The Commission reserves the right not to award the prizes, if at its sole discretion no nomination submitted is deemed deserving.
The outcome of the selection will also be published on the website of the University of Padua, on page www.unipd.it/archivio-borse-premi-studio-studenti and on the website of the Department of Geosciences, on page https://www.geoscienze.unipd.it/news/termine/83
The curriculum vitae of the winners will be published in the "Transparent Administration" section of the University of Padua website, pursuant to art. 27, paragraph 1, letter F), Legislative Decree no. 33/2013 Reorganization of the discipline concerning the right of civic access and the obligations of publicity, transparency and dissemination of information by public administrations.

Art. 4 Amount of the prize and method of payment

The gross amount of each prize is **2,500.00 Euros** (all-inclusive of the charges borne by the I.R.A.P.) and will be paid in a single payment by the Department of Geosciences.

The award is subject to completion of enrolment in the second year of one of the master's degree courses referred to in Art.1 of this call.

Art. 5 Head of the Administrative Procedure

Pursuant to Article 4 of Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990 (New provisions on administrative procedure and the right of access to administrative documents), the Head of the administrative procedure is appointed as the Department Secretary, Dr Katia Milan.

Candidates are entitled to exercise their right of access to the documents relating to the selection procedure in accordance with the procedures laid down in Presidential Decree No. 184 of 12 April 2006 (Regulations governing access to administrative documents in accordance with Chapter V of Law 241/90).

Art. 6 Processing of personal data

The processing of personal data collected for the purposes identified in this announcement takes place in compliance with the provisions of EU Regulation no. 679 of 27 April 2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR).

The "Data Controller" is the University of Padua with registered office in Via 8 Febbraio, 2 - 35122 Padua. The complete information is available from the Data Controller or on page www.unipd.it/privacy.

Art. 7 General information

This call for applications is available at: https://www.geoscienze.unipd.it/news/termine/83

This announcement is also translated into English for information purposes only. For the application and resolution of any dispute and for all legal purposes, only the Italian version is valid.

Further information and detailed rules can be requested directly from the Department of Geosciences, via Gradenigo, n. 6, e-mail: didattica.geoscienze@unipd.it