

COVID- 19 INFOSHEET - Emilia-Romagna REGION

1 INTRODUCTION



from **ABROAD:**
+39 0232008345
+39 0283905385

The following document does not intend to interpret information provided by the Italian authorities, nor does it seek to advise readers. It only serves to gather relevant information in a concise manner useful to the AACUPI members. The working group seeks to provide a summary, in English, of information that is publicly accessible from the Emilia Romagna Region and from the Italian governmental websites such as:

- The Italian government and the ensemble of its Ministries
- Italian Consular offices
- Local government resources & announcements
- Protocols established by Italian Regions



EMILIA ROMAGNA 800 033 033

The Italian government has put in place a 24/7 hotline (English speaking operators are available) # 1500, from abroad the numbers to call are: +39 0232008345 or +39 0283905385. Emilia Romagna toll free number: 800 033 033.

Italian Government contact tracing APP, called *Immuni*, can be downloaded [here](#).



General recommendations for containing the spread of the virus are:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and clean surfaces with chlorine or alcohol-based disinfectants
- Avoid crowded places and keep a distance of at least one meter from others
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Stay at home if you are elderly or have a weakened immune system
- Avoid handshakes, hugs and sharing bottles and glasses with others
- Cover mouth and nose with a mask
- If you have flu-like symptoms stay at home, do not go to the emergency room or doctor's office, but call your general practitioner, pediatrician, primary care out-of-hours service (*Guardia medica*) or regional information hotline 800 033 033 (MON-FRI 8.30am to 6pm; SAT. 8.30am to 1pm). Bologna: +39 051 2869406 (MON-FRI 8.30am to 1.30pm).



2 INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

2A. ENTERING ITALY & SCHENGEN FROM THE UNITED STATES

Travelling rules vary, depending on the country of origin or destination and the reasons for travelling. Italian laws establish different lists of countries for various scenarios of entry. These lists, from LIST A to E, and other related information can be consulted on the [Ministry of health website](#) on the left.

Travel to/from the U.S. is allowed only for specific reasons, such as work, health or study, or absolute urgency, returning to one's home, domicile, or dwelling. Currently, travel for tourism is allowed through 30 August 2021. More information [here](#).

On entering Italy from any of Countries in List E which includes the US travelers it is required:

- to fill out the [European Digital Passenger Locator Form Online](#)
- hold a white card with CDC logo

Students with programs in Bologna can fly directly into Bologna.

Health screening procedures are in place at airports and other ports of entry.

Bologna G. Marconi airport

All entering passengers must present a negative Covid test taken 48 hours prior to entry in the Italian territory and a self-certification. Check [Bologna G. Marconi airport's website](#) for the latest requirements and documents.

Bologna Airport contact info: +39 051 6479615 (24 hrs) [General airport info](#)



Current entry and exit requirements:

[Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs' website](#)

U.S. [Embassy](#)

European Passenger Locator Form

Online form now mandatory for all travelers to Italy can be completed in English here: <https://app.euplf.eu/#/>

2B. ENTERING ITALY FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:

For entry into Italy, in case of staying in or transiting through countries in *List C* in the 14 days prior to entering, it is *mandatory* to complete the online [European Passenger Locator Form \(dPLF\)](#) and undergo molecular or *antigenic tests* with a negative result in the *48 hours before entering the Italian territory*. Persons failing to present the certificate relating to the prescribed molecular or antigenic test, will be subjected to *fiduciary* isolation and health surveillance.

The Ministry of International Affairs has created a helpful [online tool](#) for ascertaining the entry regulations in place, based on where travel initiated (and/or transit).

2C. STUDENT VISAS & PREDEPARTURE DOCUMENTS

Italy is currently accepting international travelers, also for study purposes.

Anyone coming to Italy for study purposes under a US/Canadian/Australian passport and wishing to stay in the Schengen Area for more than 90 days needs a student visa.

All persons traveling to Italy from any foreign location are required to complete the [European Passenger Locator Form \(EUdPLF\)](#) prior entering the country.

Students traveling to Italy for programs of study should be provided with the following documentation in Italian and English attesting to their student status to

Welcome to EU PLF!

Important information

At the moment only passengers entering Italy are currently needed to complete a Passenger Locator Form (PLF) (<https://www.dplf.eu/>).
Travelers to other destinations should follow national entry requirements.

Information for travelers with Italy as destination country:
All passengers wishing to enter Italy, via all means of transportation, will be required to complete the dPLF.

Start Here >

SELF-DECLARATION FORM JUSTIFYING TRAVEL IN ITALY FROM ABROAD

(to be delivered to the public transport carrier)

The undersigned declarant (full name) _____, born on (date of birth) ____/____/____ in (place of birth) _____ (Province _____), nationality _____, resident in _____ (Province _____), address _____, being aware of the criminal and administrative penalties incurred in the case of misrepresentation, hereby

DECLARES, UNDER HIS/HER RESPONSIBILITY, THAT

- he/she is aware of the measures and containing the spread of COVID-19 in force in Italy (and, in particular, of the requirements laid down in the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 7 August 2020, 7 September 2020 and 13 October 2020), announced in the official journal, which shall be signed in token of acceptance;

- he/she has not tested positive to COVID-19 or, if he/she tested positive to any PCR test carried out abroad, that he/she has rigorously followed the health protocols laid down by the authorities of the Country where the test was carried out and has observed 14 days of isolation since the date in the symptoms were detected, and he/she is hence subject to quarantine measures imposed by the local authorities;

- he/she has entered Italy from the following foreign location _____, by the following means of transport (if a private vehicle indicate the type and registration plate; if a public means of transport specify flight number/train or bus service number/train or ferry route): _____;

over the last 14-day period, he/she has traveled/stayed in the following Countries and territories: _____;

- he/she is entering Italy for the following reason: _____

- where, for safety, in light of the applicable regulations and of his/her personal circumstances, he/she shall take a Covid-19 test at the Local Health Authority of _____ a result shall be available under the supervision of the competent health authorities at the following address: Square (piazza)/Street (via) _____ no. _____ (city) _____ Municipality _____ (Prov. _____) post code _____ Care of _____

- he/she may be contacted at the following telephone numbers during the whole period of self-isolation under the supervision of the competent health authorities:

Mobile: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____
DPLF carrier's signature _____ Carrier's signature _____

be presented both when boarding transportation in the US and upon arrival in Italy:

- a letter of confirmation or enrollment issued by the home institution, attesting that the student has been officially admitted and will be attending the study abroad program in Italy, giving some basic details, such as period of study, location, courses to be attended, housing arrangements in Italy;
- A letter of confirmation issued by the Italian branch program with the same details of the letter described above.
- a program-issued self-certification document stating recognition from the Italian Ministry of the University, including a copy of such authorization, if available
- a letter from the program to the student giving clear detailed information regarding transportation to their final destination
- a student visa, if determined advisable by your program

2D. MOBILITY IN ITALY

Nationwide, there are regulations to follow. These include wearing masks in indoor places, access of restaurants, coffee bars, clubs including facilities such as gyms, museums, swimming pools, cinemas, and theaters with EU Green Pass or a US white card with CDC logo.

Green Pass

On August 6th, 2021, the Italian Government has issued a new Law Decree that makes **Covid-19 vaccination mandatory** for all University students. The new Decree mandates that, from September 1, 2021, students must **show their Green Pass** (which translates into **White Card with the CDC Logo** for American students), or a negative test taken in the preceding 48 hours, to access their classes. Moreover, from August 6th, the **Green Pass is mandatory** to visit restaurants, museums, theatres, exhibitions, sport events, festivals, swimming pools and gyms. Traveling by plane or train may be added to the list of activities requiring the Green Pass in September.

2E. MOBILITY IN EUROPE

We strongly suggest that student set realistic expectations, knowing that it is still too soon to know how open Italy (and its individual regions) or Europe will be to travelers in the coming months.

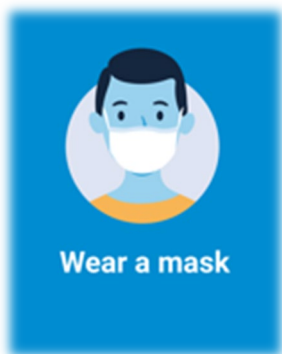
3 HEALTHCARE, SUPPORT & SERVICES

3A. SELF-PROTECTION RULES:

1. Wear a face mask

Wearing your face mask is mandatory in all indoor spaces except at home. If you are exercising or eating at a restaurant or café you may remove the mask while seated. Single-use or washable facemasks are allowed. If you are experiencing symptoms, you should wear a certified surgical mask. Surgical mask standards are established by legislation UNI EN ISO 14683-2019 (www.salute.gov.it) and can be purchased at Italian pharmacies, personal hygiene/household supplies stores and most grocery chains (approx. 20-50 cents/each)

Students are required to wear face masks at all times in the classroom and university facilities.





local healthcare authorities
EMILIA-ROMAGNA region
800 033 033

BOLOGNA
051 286 9406
infocovid19@ausl.bologna.it

- 1. ANTIGEN (RAPID) TEST**
nasopharyngeal swab
FIRST SCREENING
Prescribed or private laboratories
Cost: free or from €15 to € 50
- 2. PCR MOLECULAR TEST**
nasopharyngeal swab
DEFINITE TEST

2. Wash your hands:

Washing your hands frequently helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. You should wash your hands with soap and water for 60 seconds. Use a hand sanitizer (with +70% of alcohol) if you cannot wash your hands with soap and water.

In particular, wash your hands:

- If you touched items or surfaces that may be frequently touched by other people, such as door handles, tables, shopping carts, electronic cashier registers/PIN pads, touch screens, or other.
- Before you touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Before eating

Hand-sanitizing stations must be provided to customers in every shop and in all public buildings throughout Italy.

3. Keep social distance:

Keep a physical distance of at least 1 meter (3 ft) from others in outdoor and indoor public spaces and keep a distance of 2 meters (6 ft) from other people while practicing sports or exercising.

4. Monitor your health:

Monitor your temperature daily and do not leave your home if your temperature is higher than 37.5°C (99.5°F).

The Emilia-Romagna health department can be contacted for information.

AUSL Emilia-Romagna toll-free number: 800 033 033

AUSL Bologna: (Mon-Fri, 8.30-13.30): 051 286 9406 or

infocovid19@ausl.bologna.it

For other city-specific AUSL offices in Emilia-Romagna, see:

<https://salute.regione.emilia-romagna.it/tutto-sul-coronavirus/numeri-utili>

For other regions see:

<http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/dettaglioContenutiNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=english&id=5371&area=nuovoCoronavirus&menu=aChiRivolgersi>

3C. TESTING:

The FDA (<https://www.fda.gov/media/138094/download>) lists the following types of COVID-19 testing available in Italy:

- **Antigen testing**

It is a rapid nasopharyngeal swab that can be done anywhere in a short time. This test is often used in the Emilia Romagna health system as a first immediate and widespread test that allows a rapid screening of suspects cases. The test can be prescribed by your doctor and it can be done independently at private laboratories or pharmacies at a variable cost (from € 15 if you are enrolled into the Regional Health System (SSR), to €50). Results are available within 5 minutes to a few hours.

- **PCR molecular testing (molecolare):**

Prescribed

Cost: free or approx. € 100

3. ANTIBODY TEST

Blood test

Search ONLY antibodies

Prescribed or private laboratories/pharmacies

Cost: free or from €30 to € 60

This nasopharyngeal swab is available in Italy through the public health system and requires a prescription by a local doctor or an AUSL medical provider. In the Emilia Romagna region, this is used often to confirm a positive case spotted by an antigen testing or to certify the positivity of a suspect case. It is a free test for residents or Regional Health System (SSR) card holders (which you can voluntarily enroll into). Otherwise, a fee (approx. € 90-120) is applied. Time for results: 48 hours.

- **Antibody testing**

The serological (sierologico) blood test is an alternative screening test, but varies widely in accuracy. The test can be prescribed by the general practitioner of the Regional Health System (SSR) at no cost, or it can be done independently at private laboratories or pharmacies at a variable cost (from € 30 to €60).

Who can be tested?

- anyone with symptoms or who has come into contact with someone positive to COVID-19 when health authorities deem it necessary to be tested immediately.
- anyone who has the need to know his/her negativity/positivity to the test, is willing to pay for a private lab test, or has a doctor's prescription.

3D. TRACKING:

The Ministerial Decree (*Annex 18 - DPCM 07_09_2020*) refers to institutes of higher education and states that universities will appoint a "COVID Manager." It is the duty of the *COVID Manager* to report to the public health authorities if COVID-19 cases occur among students, faculty and staff.

The Italian authorities highly recommend the use of the [immuni app](#) to facilitate the tracking of COVID-19 infections.

NOTE: Students, staff or faculty who test positive for COVID-19 must immediately inform their Program Director, their COVID Manager, and the local doctor (*medico di base*). They must also provide a list of all people they have had contact with in the 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms. The COVID-19 infected person must self-isolate until they are cleared by Regional Public Health authorities (AUSL) to return to work or school.

Contact tracing is an essential public health action to fight the ongoing epidemic.

3E. QUARANTINE OR ISOLATION PERIOD GUIDELINES

if a person tests positive for COVID-19 he/she needs to follow these rules:

- **For asymptomatic positive cases:**

A person without any symptoms who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 14 days, monitor body temperature twice a day and pay attention to any symptoms. If symptoms arise, the doctor must be contacted. After the isolation period of 14 days, the doctor of the Regional Health Service (AUSL) will prescribe a second molecular test. If the test is negative, the isolation period is over. If still positive, the person will have to keep his/her isolation for a maximum of 21 days.

- **For symptomatic positive cases:**



TOLL FREE NUMBER 800 91 24 91
<https://www.immuni.italia.it>

A person with symptoms who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate for at least 14 days after the onset of symptoms and follow the doctor's instructions. After the isolation period of 14 days, including at least 3 days without any symptoms, the doctor of the Public Health Service will prescribe a second molecular test. If the test is negative, the isolation period is over. If the test is positive, the isolation continues up to the 21st day counting from the first positive test.

- **For long term positive cases:**

If a person has no symptoms, but continues to test positive for COVID-19, the isolation period ends anyway at the 21st day, counting from the first positive test.

If a person has been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 he/she needs to:

- Follow a 14 days quarantine period with active surveillance* or
- Follow a 10 days quarantine period with active surveillance, if there is a negative test result on the tenth day, the isolation time may end.

* **Active surveillance** consists in being contacted by a public health employee on a daily basis for information on health conditions.

3F. ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE & HOSPITALIZATION

Public healthcare services continue to function fully throughout Italy.



Access to all Italian public health services and hospitals is possible for all Italian citizens and all foreign visitors. Services are free for Italian/Regional public health insurance holders or through private insurance providers. Private, paid services are also available. Students usually have an International Healthcare plan provided by their institutions' study abroad offices, but are advised to buy Regional Public Healthcare Insurance.

U.S. Study Abroad students enrolled in a program can purchase a SSR policy (a Regional Healthcare Policy - Servizio Sanità Regionale). It is possible to register for the SSR through the local Health authority.

Register to the National Healthcare Policy:

Info at 800 033 033

Bologna:

https://www.ausl.bologna.it/iap_dati/view_prest?b_start:int=0&id=52672

Parma:

https://www.ausl.pr.it/come_fare/iscrizione/iscrizione_servizio_sanitario_nazionale.aspx

AUSL Bologna:

https://www.ausl.bologna.it/iap_dati/view_prest?b_start:int=0&id=52672; AUSL

AUSL Parma:

https://www.ausl.pr.it/come_fare/iscrizione/iscrizione_servizio_sanitario_nazionale.aspx

Students who must apply for a Permit of Stay (enrolled in a program with a duration of more than 150 days) can decide to purchase a SSR coverage. This coverage gives access to a local general practitioner (medico di base), to receive free basic health services and to obtain prescriptions for medications. The general practitioner guides patients through the COVID testing process (totally free).

COVID-19 HOSPITALS

The regional health system is organized to host COVID patients as well as maintaining routine operations. The number of patients occupying Intensive care

beds dictates the numbers of designated COVID-19 only hospital. The HUB hospitals are intended to manage the critical COVID-19 cases while the SPOKE hospitals are managing less critical cases.

COVID-19 HOTELS

The Emilia Romagna Region created a network of hotels that can accommodate residents affected with light symptoms who, for specific reasons, cannot quarantine or isolate at home. These hotels operate in conjunction with the local Healthcare network (AUSL).

BOLOGNA COVID HOTEL LIST:

https://www.ausl.bologna.it/per-i-cittadini/coronavirus/informazioni-utili/elenco%20alberghi.pdf/attachment_download/file

Covid-19 psychological support
Toll-free number 800.833.833

from abroad
+39 02.20228733

3G. STUDENT SUPPORT

Students and staff are encouraged to adopt practices that support their mental health, and reach out for additional support if they are struggling.

Covid-19 Toll-free number for psychological support available to the general population: 800.833.833. This is the number to contact from abroad: + 39 02.20228733.

Emergency Psychological Support Teams in Emilia-Romagna: Italian-speaking psychological support is available to the general population in various cities in the region. More information at: <https://salute.regione.emilia-romagna.it/tutto-sul-coronavirus/equipe-psicologiche-per-lemergenza>

For English-speaking mental health services in the Emilia-Romagna region, please contact your SA program director. Suggested resources from Student Health and Wellness Services through any home campus are available.

Suggested apps for self-care & prevention are:

[Headspace](#) - [MoodMission](#) – or [COVID Coach](#) or [Moodfit](#) or [Take a Break! - Meditations for Stress Relief](#)



4. GOVERNMENTAL GUIDELINES

4A. PROTOCOLS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Generally, as long as the COVID-19 emergency persists, the Italian government suggests working and teaching remotely whenever possible.

A COVID Manager will be appointed who coordinates and implements protocols and safety measurements and will be in contact with the local health authorities (AUSL).

PERSONNEL

General protocols require workers, i.e. students/faculty/staff to:

- maintain physical distance of at least 1 meter (3ft) to other people
- wash hands frequently and follow general rules of hygiene
- inform the COVID Manager if individuals show any flu-like symptoms while at work

- wear a face mask at all times; when not possible, keep min. 2 meter (6ft) distance.

➤ **37,5 C = 99,5 F**
NO ACCESS

Workers (students/faculty/staff) are asked to stay home if:

- their temperature is above 37.5°C (99,5° F) or show other flu-like symptoms.
- they are coming from areas of high risk (red zones).
- they have been in contact in the past 14 days with people who tested positive for COVID-19

NOTE: Workers (students/faculty/staff) must declare their compliance with the above-mentioned guidelines on day one of the start of the program activities. Individuals who enter the workplace/facility may be subjected to body temperature checks. If their temperature is higher than 37.5°C (99,5° F), access will be denied.

TEACHING AND CLASSROOMS

Whenever teaching in person is not possible, classes should be taught remotely, i.e. online. The hybrid teaching model (face-to-face and remotely) can be used, but if COVID-19 cases rise exponentially, classes must be taught 100% remotely.

Face masks must be worn at all times in the classroom

In the facility and in the classrooms:

- Daily sanitization and regular cleaning procedures must be implemented
- Hand sanitizer must be available to allow for proper hand hygiene
- Physical distance of minimum 1 meter must be kept
- Windows must be opened frequently and every time before a new class session starts
- Group movements (exit and entrance) must be organized in a way to prevent gatherings
- Adequate communication (signage) must be provided to visualize the safety procedures and protocols.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES (when applicable)

According to **ER.GO** regulations in the Emilia-Romagna region, a student may be admitted upon providing a student declaration stating that they are not under quarantine or in preventive self-isolation, that they do not have symptoms attributable to COVID-19, and that they are not arriving from places where national and regional regulations require an obligatory quarantine or prohibit movement or entry into Italy. Students arriving from places where a mandatory swab test is required will need to present a negative test result before being granted access to the university residence.

For the complete COVID Regulations in University Residences in Emilia-Romagna, visit the following link:

http://www.ergo.it/fileadmin/user_upload/mvm/news/2020/SETTEMBRE/Regolamento_Residenze_covid_INGLESE.pdf

Once admitted to a university residence, some guidelines that students will need to observe are the following (for complete regulations, refer to link above):

Fines for violation of current laws vary from € 400 to € 1.000

- Maintain a physical distance of minimum 1 meter and avoid physical contact
- Clean shared spaces, such as bathrooms and kitchens after every use with chlorine-based (bleach) or alcohol (+70%) based products
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water or, when not available, use hand sanitizer
- Do not share household items, and after using wash them thoroughly with soap and water
- Ventilate rooms on a regular basis and leave windows open as much as possible

During their stay, should a student have symptoms such as fever, fatigue, a cough, or non-allergy cold symptoms, they must isolate in their room, notify the front desk of the residence, notify their general practitioner or, alternatively, the local public health service, and notify their Program COVID manager.

[Updated Information on Italian Regions in English](#)

4B. GENERAL RESTRICTIONS IN EMILIA-ROMAGNA:

The national Covid-19 state of emergency has been extended to December 31, 2021, but all Italian regions are currently classified as “White”, therefore with no restrictions, only masks required indoor.

Transportation

It is necessary to wear a mask covering nose and mouth on any public means of transport. A maximum filling capacity of 50% applies. Extraordinary sanitation efforts are implemented on both local and long-distance public transport. Some limitations to transport services (including international, automotive, railway, air, sea and inland transport) may occur and would be mandated by the Minister of Transport.

Short-term Accommodations

Accommodations in hotel categories are available depending on local governmental protocols. Follow the instructions in Section 2D for information regarding the Emilia-Romagna region’s current color area status and relative protocol.

This site contains country specific guidelines for being hosted in these types of accommodations: <http://www.italia.it/en/useful-info/guidance-standards-for-hospitality-reopening/accommodation-and-short-stays.html>

Associated fines for not adhering to protocols

Fines vary from 400 to 1000 euro for violation of the current Italian Decree from not wearing masks to circulating in public if positive with Covid-19. Refer to Section 3 or 4B for current regional and national restrictions. Moreover, for those persons who are awaiting covid-19 test results or who are positive to the test who do not adhere to protocol can face penal sanctions with arrest.



Italy map (August, 2021)

5. ADDITIONAL LINKS

US Embassy Link for Italy:

- <https://it.usembassy.gov/>
- <https://it.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>

US Consulate General Florence:

<https://it.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/florence/>

Lungarno Vespucci, 38
50123 FIRENZE
Phone: (+39) 055.266.951



US Consulate General Milan:

<https://it.usembassy.gov/embassy-consulates/milan/>

via Principe Amedeo, 2/10,
20121 MILANO
Phone: (+39) 02.290351

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/situation-updates>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation – Crisis Unit Survey for travelers

https://infocovid.viaggiasesicuri.it/index_en.html - (English)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

COVID-19 crisis page on travel.state.gov

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information.html>



Updated August 10, 2021