

After completing your Master's program in Italy, non-EU students can apply to convert their student residence permit into a "Job Search" permit (Permesso di Soggiorno per Attesa Occupazione), which allows you to legally stay in Italy for up to 12 months to seek employment. This conversion is possible for those who have obtained a Bachelor's, Master's, or PhD degree in Italy and are registered as unemployed with the local Centro per l'Impiego (Job Centre).

#### Steps to stay in Italy after your MSc:

- 1. Register as Unemployed:

You must register as unemployed with the Centro per l'Impiego (Job Centre) in your city of residence.

- 2. Apply for the Job Search Permit:

Once registered as unemployed, you can apply to convert your student residence permit into the "Permesso di soggiorno per attesa occupazione". You will typically use the "yellow" residence permit application kit available at post offices.

- 3. Meet Eligibility Requirements:

You need to have completed your degree in Italy and demonstrate a certain level of income (around €6,000 per year) and have health insurance.

- 4. Job Search and Conversion:

During this 12-month period, you can legally live in Italy and search for a job. If you secure a job offer, you can then apply for a residence permit with a right to work. Note that the "job search" permit cannot be extended or converted back into a student permit.

#### Important Considerations:

- Permanent Residence: While the "job search" permit offers a temporary stay, permanent residence (Long Term Residence Permit) in Italy generally requires five years of continuous legal residence, along with proof of financial stability and Italian language proficiency.
- Limitations: The "job search" permit is for a maximum of 12 months and cannot be extended if you don't find employment within that timeframe.
- Documentation: Ensure you have all necessary documents, including your passport and the required forms for the residence permit application.

#### Working with a residence permit:

- FAQ1: I have a student residence permit and I would like to work? *If you have a student residence permit you can work (as an employee) up to a maximum of 20 hours per week, and no more than 1040 hours a year.*
- FAQ2: After my degree I would like to stay in Italy and look for a job?
- After my degree I would like to stay in Italy and look for a job? If once you have obtained your first or second cycle degree, professional master's degree or PhD you wish to stay in Italy and

look for a job, you can apply to convert your 'student' residence permit into a 'job search' permit for a period of 12 months (Art. 39-bis.1, Italian Leg. Decree 286/1998). Please note: the 'job search' permit cannot be re-converted into a 'Student' residence permit. If you decide to enrol in a new degree programme you will have to re-enter the country with a new 'student' residence permit. Among the documents required to apply for a Ricerca Lavoro permit is the [Dichiarazione di immediata disponibilità al lavoro \(DID\)](#) (Declaration of immediate availability for work), validated by the local [Centro per l'impiego](#) (employment center). In order to register with the Centro per l'impiego and obtain the DID you must: Other necessary documents are: graduation certificate, health coverage valid for 12 months, a copy of the documents proving you have the funds needed to cover your living expenses in Italy and documents detailing your accommodation in Italy. For more information on the 'job search' permit, contact the [International Desk](#). Apply for residency ("Residenza") in the Municipality where you live, Open an [SPID](#) account or obtain an Electronic Identity Card ([CIE](#)), Register on the "[Lavoro x te](#)" website and request the "[Dichiarazione di immediata disponibilità al lavoro \(DID\)](#)"

For more information on the 'job search' permit:

- contact the [UNIPA INTERNATIONAL DESK](#)
- and/or look the update page on the national website [UNIVERSITALY](#)