



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



**Northern Illinois
University**

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT
MASTER'S DEGREE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR GLOBAL MBA PROGRAM
BETWEEN
SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
AND
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY (NIU) – USA
A.A. 2025/2026**

Call for applications and selection results available on: [Double degree | Dipartimento di Management \(uniroma1.it\)](https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/double-multiple-and-joint-degrees)

Applications deadline 18th March 2026

ART. 1 - Preamble

Global MBA Program allows students to spend a study period at Sapienza University and a study period in a top-partner university in order to achieve two full Master's Degrees recognized in both countries: one issued by Sapienza University and another one released by the partner university.

For more info visit: <https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/double-multiple-and-joint-degrees>

Sapienza University and Northern Illinois University have signed a Global MBA Program aiming to award the Master's Degree in "Management delle Imprese" (Business Management) issued by Sapienza University and the Master in "Business Administration" issued by Northern Illinois University.

Selected students will have the possibility to attend courses at the partner university during the mobility and have the credits recognized on their Sapienza career.

If compliant with both universities' rules and conditions, as for credits envisaged, attendance, deadlines, academic integrity, etc., participating students will receive two degrees, which will be issued according to each university's procedures.

During the mobility, students will be subject to the rules of the partner university. They will not be required to pay additional tuition fees at the partner university, but they will continue paying fees to Sapienza University.

ART. 2 - Double Degree Program Features

Type of mobility programme:	Global MBA Program
Mobility structure:	I year, I semester at Sapienza
	I year, II semester at NIU (Online lessons)
	II year, I semester at NIU II year, II semester at Sapienza
Mobility academic year:	2025 - 2026
Available Slots:	2
Available Scholarships:	2
Total months scholarships:	6 (to be benefit on a continuous basis)



ART. 3 - Requirements

This call is open to students enrolled in the I year of the Master's Degree in Business Management - curriculum Management and Business Strategy (LM-77).

All expenses related to the participation in the program, notably transport, accommodation and food, administrative expenses, costs associated with securing a visa, medical/health/accident insurance, books and personal expenses, will be borne by students.

Students must comply with all the regulations of both universities in order to obtain the two Degrees. They will not be required to pay additional tuition fees at the partner university, but they will continue paying fees to Sapienza University.

Every effort will be made to provide students with complete, accurate and timely information. However, Sapienza University reserves the right to change, amend, modify or revoke the aforementioned program. Sapienza is not responsible for any cancellation or modification due to events beyond its control. If the program is cancelled or modified for these reasons, Sapienza University will inform all interested students in a timely manner.

Eligible students can apply if they are in regular time frame and have no pending administrative issues with Sapienza University. Moreover, students will be able to participate if they comply with the following requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration or Economics studies;
- to be enrolled in the I year of the Master's Degree in Business management - curriculum Management and Business strategy (LM-77);
- to have an adequate level of English language (level C1 or equivalent) in accordance with the requirements set out by the partner University. The following certificates are required:
TOEFL (Test score of 80 or more) or IELTS – Academic (minimum score of 6.5).
The mentioned certificates should not be older than two years from the application deadline and should respect the validity indicated in the certificate itself.
- to maintain the student status until the end of the mobility and to do not graduate in Sapienza University before the recognition of the credits earned at the partner University;
- not to receive other Sapienza scholarships.

ART. 4 - Specific Program Rules

Selected students are required to read and understand the study plan (Annex A) and its rules.

These are to be considered binding to the successful completion of the Program.

Exams passed at the partner university during the mobility period will be transferred to the Sapienza University career according to the Global MBA study plan as soon as the official transcript of records will be received.

4.1 - Study Plan

For further information on the double degree study plan, candidates may refer to Prof. Salvatore Esposito De Falco salvatore.espositodefalco@uniroma1.it, to elena.romeo@uniroma1.it and to manimp.lm77@uniroma1.it

4.2 - Thesis

Students will submit and defend their theses in Sapienza.

On the basis of the dossier provided by Northern Illinois University, Sapienza University will record the entire career of the students and will issue and proclaim the Italian title. It is possible to sit the Sapienza July / October 2027 defense session.

- Students must respect the thesis procedures and deadlines from both institutions.
- Students are reminded that they are required to comply with the Sapienza regular procedure regarding the thesis assignment, registration for the degree exam and upload of the thesis.
- Each institution will grade the final thesis according to the vote correspondence table.

If compliant with both universities' rules and conditions, as for credits envisaged, attendance, deadlines, academic integrity, etc., participating students will receive two degrees, which will be issued according to each university's



procedures: Master's Degree in Management delle Imprese (Business management) issued by Sapienza University and the Master in Business Administration issued by Northern Illinois University.

ART. 5 - Application procedure

Applications are submitted from the date of publication of this call until 18th March 2026.

In order to apply, Sapienza students must complete the application form (annex B) and upload the required attachments.

Only applications accompanied by all documentation and received within the application deadline will be considered. In case of doubts about the documents to upload or to get further information about the requested documents, students are invited to contact the responsible person of this call before the application deadline.

The application (annex B) and the requested attachments must be signed and sent by email (PDF/A) to the following address: manimp.lm77@uniroma1.it, indicating in the subject line of the e-mail "Application for double degree NIU 2026".

ART. 6 - Attachments requested in the Application

IMPORTANT: all documents must be in English and duly signed

- Application form;
- Latest transcript of records including:
 - o weighted average grade
 - o credits and grades obtained;
- Transcript of records of Bachelor's degree including final degree grade;
International students:
 - Bachelor's degree diploma with certified translation in English (at least 15 years of Schooling, of which at least 3 at University level) and Bachelor Transcript of records.
 - Statement of Comparability and Statement of Verification of the Diploma issued by CIMEA.Alternatively to CIMEA statements, you can submit:
 - Declaration of equal value (DoV) issued by the Italian Diplomatic mission (Embassy or Consulate) in the Country in charge of the education system where the diploma has been achieved, with legalization/apostille on both original and translated versions of the diploma.
 - Residence permit valid for the entire period of mobility abroad.
- Curriculum Vitae (Europass) (template can be downloaded from the following webpage: <https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/it/documents/curriculum-vitae>);
- ID Card or Passport. ID Card or Passport valid for the selected destination and for all the duration of the studies in the host Institution will be required and borne by selected students;
- Motivational letter;
- English Language Certificate.

The Commission reserves the right to request further details or documents to applicants.

Submitted documents must be renamed as follows: "Number - Document type - Last name - First Name - ApplicationDoubleDegree_NIU_2026".

ART. 7 - Checks

Sapienza University, according to art. 71 of DPR 445 of 28/12/2000, reserves the right to control the truthfulness of the self-certifications according to the current regulations and the incompatibility of the mobility grant in question with contributions paid for other reasons, for exchanges or international stays abroad on Sapienza funds.

If the checks carried out on the individual information reveal a false declaration for the purposes of allocating mobility grants abroad, the grant itself will be revoked and any sums already paid will be recovered, without prejudice to any criminal liability for any false declarations made.



ART. 8 – Selection

An Academic Commission will select students on the basis of a non-disputable evaluation. The eligible candidates will be ranked after their academic performance, which is calculated as follows. The final ranking will be determined:

- up to 40 points for the score of the three-year degree curriculum (bachelor's degree);
- up to 10 points for the knowledge of the English language;
- up to 40 points for the average mark of the exams scheduled in the first year, first semester of the master's degree course;
- up to 10 points for the Further experiences (eg. professional experiences, previous international university mobility or other skills inferred from CV). The students may be requested to send the relative documentation of experiences declared in the CV.

The weighted average grade considered for this selection procedure will be the one registered by the application deadline. Candidates are responsible to check its accuracy in due time.

The list of candidates selected by Sapienza University of Rome will be shared with the Northern Illinois University (NIU). The latter has the right to request additional certifications to access the double degree program.

ART. 9 - Publication of results

Students will be informed of the result by e-mail. Results will be published within 6 days after the end of the procedure and will be available on the following website: <https://management.web.uniroma1.it/it/double-degree-0>. Students are strongly invited to check their email account every day while selections are ongoing.

ART. 10 - Acceptance

Selected students will be required to confirm their acceptance through email within 2 working days from the notification of results.

The email must be addressed to manimp.lm77@uniroma1.it (Subject "Double Degree NIU 2026 - Acceptance/Refusal").

In case of refusal or missing notification by the deadline, the following candidate in the waiting list will be recalled. Recalled students will be required to confirm their participation by written notice within 2 working days.

Acceptance of the scholarship is a serious commitment. A renounce is accepted only for extremely serious reasons and must be communicated by e-mail as soon as possible so as to recall the following candidates. If the renounce occurs after the assignment of the 1st tranche of the scholarship, it must be given back immediately.

ART. 11 - Logistical and Organizational Procedures for the Mobility Period

The assignees will have to fill in the application form of international exchange student following the instructions of the host University, only after having been appointed to the host University and contacted by the latter.

Besides, all selected students must also provide the necessary documentation and permits required by the host country (passport, visa, invitation letter or declaration of the host University, accommodation, etc.).

11.1 Insurance

The University insures each selected student for civil liability, and injuries only during academic activities also for the period of mobility abroad (<https://www.uniroma1.it/it/pagina/polizze-assicurative-studenti>)

Mobility students are independently required to ensure adequate health coverage during their stay abroad, according to the modalities provided by the University and the host country.

ART. 12 - Scholarship

12.1 - Preamble

The grant is provided by the International Office - Non-EU Mobility and International educational Agreements Unit (ARI)



and is equal to 700€ net per month for the first five months of mobility. Starting from the 6th month of mobility, the amount is set at €500 net per month, for a minimum period abroad of 90 days (3 months) as per BoD resolution no. 426/19 issued on 17.12.2019.

The scholarship will correspond to the effective and continuing duration of the mobility, proved by the acceptance letter, the arrival certificate, the departure certificate and the transcript of records issued by host University and according to the academic calendar and the maximum amount assigned.

The duration of the mobility cannot be less than three months (90 days) and not more than 12 months (2 consecutive semesters).

For durations longer than three months, the entire monthly contribution will be recognized starting from the 16th day of stay at the host University. The counting of the days spent at the host University will be made automatically by the mobility management application, which will take into account each month as having 30 days and not the solar one.

Students who remain abroad for two consecutive semesters must exceed a period of 9 months and 16 days.

No contributions will be paid for mobilities of 7, 8 and 9 months.

Assigned Months	Minimum duration abroad	Total amount
3 months	90 days	2100€
4 months	3 months and 16 days	2800€
5 months	4 months and 16 days	3500€
6 months	5 months and 16 days	4000€
10 months	9 months and 16 days	6000€
11 months	10 months and 16 days	6500€
12 months	11 months and 16 days	7000€

Students can be granted a scholarship only **once** for each cycle of studies. The scholarship is not combinable with other grants.

12.2 - Modalities of Grant Disbursement

The grant is paid according to the terms and conditions contained in the mobility contract that will be signed by the student and ARI - Non-EU Mobility and International educational Agreements Unit and also listed below:

ONE SEMESTER MOBILITY

The minimum period abroad must be equal to 90 days (3 months).

The scholarship will be accredited in two installments:

The first instalment, which amounts to 70% of the scholarship will be accredited to your bank account within 60 days of the signature of the contract.

The remaining 30% will be accredited upon return.

The actual final balance will only be accredited when all necessary documentation, as described in the contract, has been submitted.

Students should contact agreement coordinators for all other doubts on academic aspects of their mobility period or the International Office (ARI) for information on scholarships and any other administrative issues.

For one semester mobilities (3, 4, 5 or 6 months), extensions may be granted without scholarship.

TWO SEMESTERS MOBILITY

The minimum period abroad must be equal to 10 months (9 months and 16 days).

The scholarship will be accredited in 3 installments:



- 70% (of the first 6 months scholarship) within 60 days of the signature of the contract;
- 70% (of the remaining given scholarship) upon completion of the first semester abroad;
- balance upon return.

The actual final balance will only be accredited when all necessary documentation, as described in the contract, has been submitted.

Selected students will receive the scholarship on condition that:

- they receive the acceptance letter issued by the host university stating a minimum period of stay equal to 90 days (3 months)
- they fill in the online Learning agreement approved by the Academic Coordinators for International Mobility (RAMs)
- they have signed the contract.

All the procedures required by the International Office (ARI) are due to be concluded by 10 days before starting of the mobility.

12.3 - Learning Agreement

The learning agreement shall contain the Global MBA study plan (Annex A).

A list of the Academic Coordinators for International Mobility (RAMs) is available on: <https://www.uniroma1.it/en/pagina/coordinators-and-academics-supervisors-international-mobility>

Learning Agreement shall contain a minimum of 12 CFUs to be recognized upon return. In case of 2 semesters mobility Learning Agreement shall contain a minimum of 12 CFUs to be recognized upon return a minimum of 24 CFUs.

12.4 - Compliance of Documentation and return of the grant

Required Documentation will be subjected to verification by the International Office (ARI).

If such documentation does not comply with the requests students may be requested to return the installment back to Sapienza International Office (ARI).

The student may be requested to refund the grant if:

- has not taken exams or carried out the thesis research agreed for a minimum of 12 CFU and consequently obtained the recognition of credits accrued abroad;
- has completed their mobility before the minimum of 90 days;
- has received as first instalment of the grant an amount higher than the total amount for the entire duration of the mobility. The actual length of the mobility will be attested by the certificate of arrival and departure (form can be found on the personal page of the selected student);
- the period of attendance is not continuous;
- the student has made a false declaration;
- renounced mobility after signing the contract.

The balance of the grant may not be recognized to the student in case:

- They have graduated before the return of the end of mobility documentation from ARI - Non-EU Mobility and International educational Agreements Unit without proceeding to the recognition of the exams or the thesis research planned during the mobility;
- does not provide all the end of mobility documentation required by ARI - Non-EU Mobility and International educational Agreements Unit within the terms established in the mobility contract.

ART. 13 - Compatibility with other International mobility programs

Students who have already benefited from a non-EU mobility grant in the past will not be eligible for a second grant on the same funds unless they are enrolled in subsequent cycles of their academic career. NON-EU scholarship is not combinable with other Sapienza scholarships except for the Laziodisco scholarship.

It is also not permitted to receive grants for international exchanges or stays abroad on Sapienza funds at the same time as the grant in question.



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This grant cannot be cumulated with contributions provided by the "grant for thesis abroad" programme.

However, you may participate in several Calls in the same academic year, including other mobility programmes, but the study period must be different and not exceed the maximum period of mobility abroad defined by the degree course.

Selected students who have sent their application and were selected for the Erasmus+ call (same period) should notify to Sapienza International Office (ARI) and to the Academic Coordinator for International Mobility (RAM) the program they intend to participate in, consequently the scholarship they intend to accept, under penalty of exclusion from both programs.

ART. 14 - Personal Data Processing

The personal data provided by the candidates with the application form will be processed to manage the selections and the subsequent phases of the project within and for the institutional purposes of the Public Administration. The processing of personal data is governed by the European Regulation no. 679 of 27.4.2016 - GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) as well as by the national legislation in force (Legislative Decree 196/2003 - Personal Data Protection Code).

The report, pursuant to Article 13 of EU Regulation no. 679/2016 is available at:
https://web.uniroma1.it/trasparenza/bandi_trasparenza

ART. 15 - Procedure Supervisor

Following Law no. 241, August 7, 1990, the person in charge of the procedure, for information and methods of exclusive competence of the "Sapienza" University of Rome, is Prof. Salvatore Esposito De Falco - email Salvatore.espositodefalco@uniroma1.it

Date

Rome, 3rd March 2026

Signature

The Master's Degree Programme Coordinator
Prof. Salvatore Esposito De Falco



ANNEX A - STUDY PLAN

Table 1 – Structure of the Global MBA

<u>First Year, First Semester at Sapienza</u>		
<u>Courses taken at Sapienza</u>	<u>Courses recognized by NIU</u>	<u>ECTS/ Credits units</u>
Strategic and innovation management	MGMT 672 -- Strategic Management & Policy	9
Environmental Management and Sustainability	UBUS 670 -- Artificial Intelligence for Business Leaders (Elective)	9
<i>One of the following modules chosen by students:</i> Leadership and organizational change Business Policy	OMIS 697 -- Digital Transformation Strategy	9
Corporate performance evaluation	FINA 607 -- Financial Analysis	9
Quantitative portfolio selection for Management	MGMT 615 -- Managerial Leadership (Elective)	9
		45
<u>First Year, Second Semester at NIU</u>		
<u>Courses taken at NIU - online</u>	<u>Courses recognized by Sapienza</u>	<u>ECTS/ Credits units</u>
MGMT 647 -- International Management MKTG 654 -- Marketing Management	International marketing Management (or Total Quality Management)	9
MKTG 675 -- Content Marketing (Elective)	Two of the following modules: Business history Industrial economics and policy Managerial economics	12



		21
<u>Second Year, First Semester at NIU</u>		
<u>Courses taken at NIU</u>	<u>Courses recognized by Sapienza</u>	<u>ECTS/ Credits units</u>
UBUS 650 -- Business Opportunities and Technology Commercialization	Competition Law	9
OMIS 680 -- Global Supply Chain Management	<i>One of the following modules:</i> Business process management Social network and business intelligence Digital Technologies for managerial Decisions	6
ACCY 640 -- Financial Statement Analysis and Cost Management	Corporate governance	9
UBUS 660 – Applied Tools for Business Decision-making	Further Knowledge for placement on the job market	3
		27
<u>Second Year, Second Semester at Sapienza</u>		
<u>Courses taken at Sapienza</u>	<u>Courses recognized by NIU</u>	<u>ECTS/ Credits units</u>
One module chosen by students	One module chosen by students*	9
Dissertation	Final project work	18
		27

Table 2 – Equivalence between the Italian and the US grading systems



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<i>Sapienza, Italy</i>	<i>NIU, USA – Grades System</i>	<i>Grade Points Per Semester Hour</i>
<i>30 cum laude</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>4.00</i>
<i>30</i>	<i>A -</i>	<i>Until 3.67</i>
<i>29 - 27</i>	<i>B +</i>	<i>Until 3.33</i>
<i>26 - 25</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>Until 3.00</i>
<i>24 - 23</i>	<i>B -</i>	<i>Until 2.67</i>
<i>22 - 21</i>	<i>C +</i>	<i>Until 2.33</i>
<i>20 - 19</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>2.00</i>
<i>18</i>	<i>C -</i>	<i>1.67</i>
<i>< 18</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>Fail</i>



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ANNEX B – APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION FORM

DOUBLE DEGREE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT- SAPIENZA

A.Y. 2025/2026

To the kind attention of Prof. Salvatore Esposito De Falco
Master's Degree in Business Management
Faculty of Economics
Department of Management
Sapienza University of Rome
Manimp.lm77@uniroma1.it

Dear Sir/ Madam

I hereby submit my admission application for the Global MBA Program in _____ Sapienza - _____ as
per details given below.

Name of the Applicant: _____

Place and Date of Birth: _____

Full Address: _____

Sapienza Email: _____

Mobile No.: _____

Enrolled in the Master's Degree in _____

Student number (matricola) _____

I hereby declare:

- To be enrolled in the Bachelor's / Master's Degree in _____
Student number (matricola) _____
- Not have been convicted or found guilty of a criminal offence or have any ongoing criminal proceedings
- To be in regular time frame and have no pending administrative issues with Sapienza University
- I am not benefitting from other Sapienza scholarships (except for the Laziodisco scholarship)
- Not to have already benefited from a ARI - Non-EU Mobility and International educational Agreements Unit mobility grant in the past or in the same cycle of study
- to intend to maintain the student status until the end of the mobility (whole academic year ...) and to do not graduate in Sapienza University before the recognition of the credits earned at the partner University;
- To have read and understand the double degree study plan and its rules

I hereby, conscious of the legal responsibility I assume, declare on the basis of the art. 76, D.P.R. 445/2000, that information provided through this application is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.



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I am fully aware that applying for the seats does not offer me any assurance regarding my admission to the double degree programme. I understand that I have to undergo process of admission by submitting required certificates and documents for various purpose as per schedule.

According to the rules on privacy (Legislative Decree 196/2003 - Personal Data Protection Code) I accept my data to be recorded and used for the selection purpose.

ANNEX B.1 – ATTACHMENTS

IMPORTANT: all documents must be in English, in PDF/A format and duly signed

- Application form;
- Latest transcript of records including the weighted average grade, credits and grades obtained;
- Transcript of records of Bachelor's degree including final degree grade;
- Curriculum Vitae (Europass) (template can be downloaded from the following website:
<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/it/documents/curriculum-vitae>);
- Copy of ID Card or Passport. ID Card or Passport valid for the selected destination and for all the duration of the studies in the host Institution will be required and borne by selected students;
- Motivational letter;
- English Language Certificate.

Date

Declarant Signature