

# Italian Public School Options



## About

There are four levels of education in Italy:

- Scuola dell'infanzia or Scuola maternal or Scuola asilo (3 to 6 years old)
- Scuola primaria or Scuola elementare (6 to 11 years old)
- Scuola secondaria di primo grado or Scuola media (11 to 14 years old)
- Scuola secondaria di secondo grado or Scuola Superior (14 to 19 years old)

## Cost

State schools are free, even for foreigners living in Italy who are not formal permanent residents. Fees may apply for registration. Books are required and may need to be purchased by the family depending on the educational level. Enrollment taxes do become applicable after students reach the age of 16.

## Language

State-sponsored schools teach in Italian. English is usually taught as a second language.

## Lunch

Mensa is school lunch. Families will need to purchase vouchers/tickets in person or on line (depending on the vendor and/or the district). Families may need to purchase plates and utensils. Families may be provided plates and utensils that need to be cleaned and returned each day. Providing a personal morning snack for your student is typically required.

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### NSA Naples School Liaison Contact Info

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[NaplesSLP@us.navy.mil](mailto:NaplesSLP@us.navy.mil)

DSN 629-6549

COMM 081-811-6549

Youth Programs Building (Bldg. 2072), Support Site

[Naples School Liaison webpage](#) (Navy MWR Naples)

[Naples CYP Facebook page](#) (Naples Child and Youth Programs)

### Check out this info

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[Italy Magazine—10 Things You Should Know about the Italian Public School System](#)

[Enrolling in an Italian School](#)

[Italian Government Ministry of Education](#)

[Expatriate Arrivals webpage—Moving to Italy with a Special Needs Child](#)

## Attendance

Check with the local school to find out how long the day is for each grade level. Some younger grades attend/offer 28 hours a week and others offer attend/offer 40 hours a week. Additionally, some schools conduct classes on Saturday, which are mandatory. Scuola dell'infanzia eases children in to the school year by slowly increasing the number of hours they attend each day. The school year often begins in September and ends in June. The actual opening and closing dates may vary from one school to the next. Expect schools to be closed during August. Registration not done prior will need to wait until after.

## Curriculum

Italian state schools operate according to a centralized system, which controls school curricula and final examinations. The academic programs of schooling follow the regulations from the Ministry of Education, University and Research (MUIR). Catholic religion is part of the curriculum. Opting out during registration is an option if desired.

## Special Needs

People with disabilities have the right to receive a full education in Italy. Inclusive education is implemented in Italy to avoid segregating children with special needs. This requires a comprehensive range of interventions to diagnose children's needs and provide support in terms of specialized teachers, transport and adapting learning materials. The laws that protect children with special needs are supplemented by regional and state provisions that regulate the implementation of the relevant services.

## Required Documents

- Birth certificate (Translated into Italian)
- Residence Document (EU citizens) or Residence Document & Permesso di Soggiorno (non-EU citizens) valid for the parent/guardian and child
- Make sure you have a valid Codice Fiscale in the Soggiorno's
- Proof of immunization for polio, diphtheria, tetanus and hepatitis B
- Request translation assistance at the hospital at least one week before needed
- Proof of identity (ID Card or Passport)
- Passport photos
- Stato di Famiglia (Family Status Certificate)
- Stato di Famiglia may or may not be needed
- This can be obtained from the Anagrafe (Local registry office) if the person is a resident or if application has been made for residency
- Translation of the home country's school curriculum to enable the school to properly place the child

\*Registration can be done at the school or at the Anagrafe Scuole Stali (School Registry Office)