



Fondazione **Zegna**

FONDAZIONE ZEGNA AWARDS 85 NEW SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE 13TH EDITION OF THE FOUNDER'S SCHOLARSHIP

Since 2014, the program has supported the education of 646 young talents at leading international universities and research centers.

Milan, 27 July 2026 – With 85 new scholarships awarded for the 2026-2027 academic year, the Ermenegildo Zegna Founder's Scholarship renews its commitment to supporting young talent, accompanying them on their academic journeys at some of the world's most prestigious universities and centers of excellence.

Promoted by Fondazione Zegna and backed by an annual contribution of up to €1 million, the Ermenegildo Zegna Founder's Scholarship selects candidates nominated by Italy's leading universities and schools of excellence. Applications are assessed by a selection committee comprising distinguished members of the academic world and representatives of the Zegna family.

The 2026-2027 edition confirms the program's strong focus on STEM and biomedical disciplines, with more than 50% of scholarship recipients pursuing studies, specialization programs, and research in these fields. The program's international dimension is also further strengthened: 72% of beneficiaries have been admitted to universities ranked among the top 60 in the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings across the Americas, the UK, and Europe. The number of academic destinations in Asia is also growing, with five scholars continuing their studies at Tsinghua University (Beijing), the National University of Singapore, and Nanyang Technological University (Singapore).

Now in its 13th edition, the program has awarded a total of 646 scholarships over 13 years and consolidated a community of researchers, professionals, and leaders united by academic excellence and by the desire to place the skills acquired abroad at the service of Italy.

The program was celebrated on July 24 during the annual gathering of new scholars and members of the Ermenegildo Zegna Founder's Scholarship alumni community. Attended by Group Executive Chairman Gildo Zegna, the event encouraged dialogue between generations, the sharing of experiences, and a stronger sense of belonging. It also reaffirmed the importance of giving back to society as a founding principle of the initiative and a living part of our Founder's legacy.

Gildo Zegna commented: "Talent and merit have always been two core values for our family, dating back to the Founder himself. This is why, every year, we support outstanding, determined and ambitious young people, giving them the opportunity to engage with the world's finest academic institutions.

Our goal is to help them develop their skills, broaden their international outlook, and cultivate leadership approach grounded in ethics and a sense of responsibility, so that, upon returning to Italy, they can place their knowledge and experience at the service of the country. The greatest value of the Founder's Scholarship lies precisely in creating a bridge between young people and the future of our country, transforming an individual opportunity into a collective asset."

ABOUT FONDAZIONE ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA | FOSTERING A BETTER FUTURE

Fondazione Ermenegildo Zegna is committed to fostering a better future for the next generations. Inspired by the spirit of giving back to the community that guided our founder from 1910 on, the Foundation was set up by the third generation of the family in 2000 to further their philanthropic legacy. Following his vision and the progressive road he travelled, quality and dedication to work may live in harmony with protection of the natural environment, social wellbeing and cultural development.

FONDAZIONE ZEGNA CONTACTS:

T: +39 0157591463

E: info@fondazionezegna.org

W: www.fondazionezegna.org

Fondazione Ermenegildo Zegna ETS
Via Marconi 23 – Loc. Trivero
13835 Valdilana (BI – Italy)
www.fondazionezegna.org