Università della Svizzera italiana

Provisions on university fees[1]

of 17.08.2026 (status as of 17.08.2026)

The Rectororate hereby adopts:

Title I – General Provisions

Art. 1
Purpose and principles

1. These Provisions govern:
   a. the amounts and payment deadlines:
   - registration and tuition fees applicable to Bachelor's and Master's students;
   - the tuition fee applicable to PhD students;
   - the course attendance fee for individual courses;
   - additional fees charged by USI.

   b. the circumstances justifying any fee reductions and cases of exemption;
   c. the procedures for refunds, as well as the consequences of late payment of the tuition fee.

2 It is the responsibility of the applicant for admission, or the student, to provide the necessary documentation to ensure that the correct amount of applicable fees is determined.

3 References to persons expressed in the masculine gender in these Provisions shall be understood as applying to persons of any gender.

Art. 2
Definitions

For the purposes of these Provisions, the following definitions apply:

a. "Student Administration": the USI Student Administration;

b. "persons in the field of asylum": persons in the field of asylum who hold a permit issued by the competent Swiss authorities (S protection status, persons admitted provisionally with an F permit, recognised refugees with a B or C permit, asylum seekers with an N permit).

[1] Disclaimer: This is a courtesy translation. The original Italian version shall prevail.

Title II – Registration fee for Bachelor's and Master's programmes

Art. 3
Registration fee

1 Submission of an application for admission to the Bachelor's and Master's programmes offered by USI entails, for applicants whose previous studies were completed in a country that is not a signatory to the Lisbon Convention[2] , the payment of a registration fee of CHF 200.-, to be paid at the same time as the online application is submitted.

2 The registration fee:

a. is payable regardless of the outcome of the application;
b. is non-refundable in the event of withdrawal of the application or rejection;
c. if the application is successful, it is deducted from the tuition fee for the first semester of study;
d. cannot be offset against other university charges or fees.

3 The following are exempt from paying the registration fee:

a. persons in the field of asylum who hold a permit issued by the relevant Swiss authorities;
b. those applying 'sur dossier' to a Bachelor's programme offered by the Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society, the Faculty of Economics or the Faculty of Informatics.

4 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the collection of registration fees for the Bachelor's and Master's programmes in Architecture offered by the Academy of Architecture is governed exclusively by Article 4 of these Provisions.

Art. 4
Registration fee for Bachelor's and Master's programmes in Architecture

1 For the Bachelor's and Master's programmes in Architecture offered by the Academy of Architecture, the submission of an application for admission entails the payment of a registration fee of CHF 200.-, to be paid at the same time as the online application is submitted.

2 Applicants holding Swiss qualifications listed in Article 4 of the Directives on admission requirements for Bachelor's and Master's programmes and on enrolment procedures, or a qualification awarded by EPFL, ETHZ or a Swiss university of applied sciences, are exempt from paying the registration fee for the Bachelor's in Architecture.

3 Applicants holding a Bachelor's degree in Architecture awarded by USI, a Swiss Federal Institute of Technology or a Swiss University of Applied Sciences are exempt from paying the registration fee for the Master's in Architecture.

4 The registration fee:

a. is payable regardless of the outcome of the application;
b. is non-refundable in the event of withdrawal of the application or rejection;
c. if the application is successful, it is deducted from the tuition fee for the first semester of study;
d. cannot be offset against other university charges or fees.

[2] Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications relating to Higher Education in the European Region of 11 April 1997 ('Lisbon Convention'; RS 0.414.8).

Title III – Tuition fee for Bachelor's and Master's programmes

Chapter I – Tuition Fee

Art. 5
Amount

The tuition fee is CHF 5,000.- per semester and is payable until the completion of the Bachelor's or Master's programme.

Chapter II – Reduction and Exemption from Payment of the Tuition Fee

Art. 6
Students eligible for a reduced tuition fee

The tuition fee is reduced to CHF 2,000.- in the following cases:

a. for students of Swiss nationality;
b. for students of foreign nationality who are legally resident in Switzerland or the Principality of Liechtenstein at the time of obtaining their school-leaving certificate or the qualification granting access to university studies;
c. for students of foreign nationality admitted 'sur dossier' who are legally resident in Switzerland at the time the decision to admit them to university studies is issued;
d. for students who acquire Swiss nationality during their period of enrolment, with effect from the semester following its acquisition;
e. for students in the field of asylum who hold a permit issued by the relevant Swiss authorities;
f. for students who are Swiss nationals or citizens of the European Union and who are resident in Campione d'Italia.

Art. 7
Fee for the Elective term of the Master's in Medicine

The tuition fee for the Elective term of the Master's in Medicine is CHF 500.-.

Art. 8
Fee for the Practical Training period of the Bachelor's and Master's in Architecture

The tuition fee for the compulsory 9-month external Practical Training undertaken as part of the Bachelor's or Master's programme in Architecture is CHF 200.- per semester.

Art. 9
Fee for incoming exchange students

1 Students undertaking an exchange period at USI from a partner university – that is, a university with which USI has concluded a reciprocal exchange agreement (including the SEMP, International Mobility and Swiss Mobility programmes) – are exempt from paying the tuition fee at USI for the entire duration of the exchange period.

2 This does not apply to the Advanced Master Placement Programme of the Faculty of Informatics, whose students are required to pay the standard tuition fee at USI.

3 Freemover students from a university that has concluded an agreement with USI (partner university) are required to pay the standard USI tuition fee, but benefit from a 50 per cent reduction. Freemover students from a university that has not entered into any agreement with USI (non-partner university) are, however, required to pay the full tuition fee.

	4	Students participating in a Double Degree programme are exempt from paying the tuition fee at USI. They are, however, required to pay an administrative fee in accordance with the specific agreements concluded between USI and its partner institutions.
Art. 10 **Fee for outgoing exchange students**	1	USI students who, during their studies, undertake an exchange period of at least 2 months shall pay the tuition fee applicable at USI, benefiting from a 50 per cent reduction.
	2	Study periods which, as part of Joint Degree or Double Degree programmes, must be undertaken at the partner university are not considered mobility periods. No reduction in the tuition fee is therefore granted for such study periods, unless otherwise stipulated in individual agreements concluded between USI and the partner universities.
	3	USI students participating in a Double Degree programme that does not include a compulsory mobility period and who undertake a study period at the partner university are subject to the Guidelines for Study Exchanges. During their stay, the tuition fee is reduced by 50 per cent. Students who meet the eligibility criteria may also be awarded a SEMP grant.
	4	USI students undertaking a mobility period as 'freemovers' remain enrolled at USI and are required to pay the tuition fees charged by the host university. During the mobility period, the tuition fee payable to USI is reduced by 50 per cent.
	5	In matters not expressly provided for in these Provisions, the Guidelines for Study Exchanges shall apply.
Art. 11 **Fees during a leave of absence**		A student who is granted a period of leave in accordance with the General Regulations for Admission and Matriculation retains their enrolment at USI by paying a reduced fee of CHF 100.- per semester and continues to hold student status.

Chapter III – Refunds and late payments

Art. 12 **Refund**	1	In the event of withdrawal of an application for admission to USI or from studies, or in the event of revocation of admission, the tuition fee may be refunded in accordance with the provisions set out below. Withdrawal must be notified promptly and in writing to the Student Administration.
	2	Refunds are subject to the following conditions: a. in the event of the student withdrawing, their admission being revoked or them failing to obtain a visa before the start of the semester, the amount paid will be refunded, less a deduction of CHF 500.-; b. in the event of withdrawal or revocation of admission after the start of the semester and within two weeks of the start of classes, half the amount paid will be refunded; c. in the event of withdrawal or revocation of admission more than two weeks after the start of classes, no refund will be made; d. in the event of withdrawal for reasons deemed serious and communicated within the time limits set out above, the Director of Operations shall decide on the terms of the refund.
	3	For students simultaneously enrolled on a Bachelor's programme and a Master's programme offered by USI, in the event of withdrawal from the Master's programme, the tuition fee paid for the Master's programme will be

used to cover the tuition fee for the Bachelor's programme. Any excess amount will be refunded.

Art. 13
Late Payment

In the event of late payment of the tuition fee, the student shall be automatically exmatriculated upon the expiry of the payment deadline for the fee relating to the following semester.

Title IV – Tuition fee for doctoral studies

Art. 14
Amount

1 The tuition fee for doctoral studies is CHF 2,000.- per semester.

2 The tuition fee for the Doctor of Medicine (Dr. med.) programme is a one-off payment of CHF 500.-.

Art. 15
Exemption

1 The following are exempt from paying the tuition fee:

a. PhD students who are employed by USI (specifically, under a contract as a doctoral assistant or research associate), for the entire duration of that employment;
b. PhD students enrolled on the Doctoral programme in Biomedical Sciences offered by the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences and who are employed by an institute affiliated with, linked to, associated with or partnering with USI, for the entire duration of that employment;
c. PhD students enrolled in the first year of the PhD programme in Finance offered by the Faculty of Economics and who are recipients of a scholarship;
d. PhD students who are recipients of a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships or a USI scholarship;

2 PhD students who, following the termination of an employment contract with USI – specifically as a doctoral assistant or research associate – remain enrolled at USI as external PhD students may be granted a further exemption from payment of the tuition fee, provided that their employment with USI lasted for at least two years.

3 The exemption referred to in paragraph 2 is granted for a maximum period of two semesters, whether consecutive or not, starting from the semester immediately following the termination of the employment relationship with USI. Once this period has elapsed, the PhD student is required to pay the full tuition fee.

Title V – Course attendance fees for individual courses

Art. 16
Course attendance fee for Bachelor's and Master's programmes

1 The fee for attending a Bachelor's or Master's course as an auditing student is:

a. 1.5 ECTS: CHF 200.-;
b. 2.5 ECTS: CHF 335.-;
c. 3 ECTS: CHF 400.-;
d. 4.5 ECTS: CHF 600.-;
e. 5 ECTS: CHF 670.-;
f. 6 ECTS: CHF 800.-.

2 For AVS pensioners and individuals in the field of asylum who hold a permit issued by the relevant Swiss authorities, the fee is reduced by 50 per cent.

3 The attendance fee for auditing students admitted to the Master's in Medicine is set in accordance with the provisions of the Sectoral Regulations for limitation of admission to medical studies at USI.

4 Auditing students who are duly enrolled as students at other Swiss universities are exempt from paying the fee.

5 Any exceptions may be granted by the Director of Operations.

Title VI – Other fees

Art. 17
Fees for the issue of documents

1 The first issue of graduation certificates and related documentation is free of charge for the student.

2 From the second issue of the same document onwards, the following fees apply:

a. CHF 15.- for the Diploma Supplement;
b. CHF 15.- for the official transcript;
c. CHF 15.- for the Certificate of Qualification;
d. CHF 15.- for the Leaving Certificate.

3 The issue of a duplicate diploma, even on first request, is subject to a fee of CHF 30.-. This does not apply in the case of the issue of a replacement diploma in accordance with the Provisions relating to changes to official data and the use of preferred first name, surname and gender, for which no fee is payable.

Title VII – Procedures for issuing invoices and payment terms

Art. 18
Methods of sending invoices

Invoices relating to the fees referred to in these Provisions shall be sent in digital format.

Art. 19
Payment Terms

1 Payment of the required fee must be made by the deadlines indicated on the invoice.

2 Payment of the tuition fee within the aforementioned deadlines is a condition for obtaining or renewing enrolment at USI.

Title VIII – Final Provisions and Transitional Rules

Art. 20
Entry into force

These Provisions shall enter into force from the 2027/2028 academic year.

Art. 21
Application of the new tuition fee

1 The tuition fee of CHF 5,000 .- will be charged from the 2027/2028 academic year onwards for new students enrolled on a Bachelor's or Master's programme offered by USI.

2 Students enrolled on a Bachelor's or Master's programme offered by USI prior to the 2027/2028 academic year remain subject to the previous regulations and are required to pay the tuition fee of CHF 2,000 .- or CHF 4,000 .-, as applicable.

3 Students enrolled at USI prior to the 2027/2028 academic year who are continuing their Master's studies following completion of their Bachelor's degree at USI, or who decide to transfer, in accordance with the General

		Regulations for Admission and Matriculation, from the Bachelor's or Master's programme in which they are enrolled to another study programme offered by USI, are subject to the new regulations and are required to pay the tuition fee of CHF 2,000 .- or CHF 5,000 .-, as set out in these Provisions.
Art. 22 **Students who have exceeded the standard duration of study**	1	Students who enrolled before the 2027/2028 academic year and who have completed the required coursework in accordance with their study programme – namely 6 semesters for the Bachelor's programme and 3 or 4 semesters for the Master's programme – but have not sat all the required examinations and/or completed the Bachelor's final paper, their Master's thesis, or an equivalent assessment as determined by the relevant Faculty (so-called 'students behind schedule'), remain subject to the previous regulations and are required to pay a tuition fee of CHF 500.- for each of the first two 'behind schedule' semesters, and CHF 1,000.- for subsequent semesters.
	2	Students enrolled from the 2027/2028 academic year onwards who become 'behind-schedule' students are subject to the new regulations and are required to pay the full tuition fee of CHF 2'000.-, or CHF 5'000.-, as provided for in these Provisions, until they complete their Bachelor's or Master's programme.
Art. 23 **Exemption from the tuition fee for PhD students**		PhD students who, at the time these Provisions come into force, have already terminated their employment with USI and are enrolled as external PhD students without, however, being required to pay the tuition fee, shall likewise benefit from the exemption provided for in Article 15(2) and (3) from the first semester of the 2027/2028 academic year. After this period, they shall be required to pay the tuition fee in accordance with these Provisions.