



**UNIVERSITÀ
DI SIENA
1240**

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM IN

Biotech Engineering for Health

(Interclass Degree L-2 Biotechnology / L-8 Information Engineering)

Disclaimer – Courtesy Translation

*This document is an **unofficial English translation** provided **for informational purposes only**. The **official version** of the call for applications (*Bando di ammissione*) is published in Italian and is available on the program's official website biotech-engineering.unisi.it. In the event of any discrepancies or disputes, **the Italian version shall prevail** and shall be the sole legally binding text.*

Article 1 – Scope and Purpose

1. This call for applications governs the admission process for the Bachelor's Degree Program in *Biotech Engineering for Health* (Interclass Degree L-2 Biotechnology / L-8 Information Engineering) for the academic year 2025/2026. The official notice is published on the University's Official Register (<http://albo.unisi.it>).
2. The program, which has a standard duration of three academic years, is established pursuant to Ministerial Decree No. 270/2004 and has a limited number of available places. Admission is subject to the selection procedures outlined in Article 5 of this call, and is granted based on applicants' ranking in the merit list, within the limit of available seats.
3. For technical, IT, scientific, and organizational support related to the selection procedures, the University collaborates with the Interuniversity Consortium for Integrated Access Systems (CISIA), of which several Italian universities are members. An up-to-date list of participating institutions is available on the official CISIA website (<http://www.cisiaonline.it>).

Article 2 – Admission Requirements

1. In order to be admitted to the degree program, applicants must hold a secondary school diploma (high school diploma or equivalent) or a foreign qualification deemed valid for admission to Italian universities. In addition, a minimum English language proficiency of level B2 or higher, as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), is required.
2. Provided that the required level of English proficiency has been demonstrated in accordance with Article 3, the following categories of applicants are eligible to participate in the selection process described in this call for applications:
 - Candidates who already hold a qualification valid for admission;
 - Candidates who expect to obtain a valid qualification and meet the admission requirements by **September 2, 2025**, including:
 - Students currently enrolled in the final year of secondary school, in Italy or abroad;
 - Students enrolled in recognized pre-academic programs designed to meet the minimum curricular requirements for university admission in Italy.

Article 3 – English Language Proficiency

1. Applicants must demonstrate their English language proficiency by submitting an officially recognized language certificate, as specified on the following webpage: <https://admission.unisi.it/?p=1944>.
2. The following applicants are exempt from submitting a language certificate:
 - Citizens of countries where English is the primary language, as listed on the webpage: <https://admission.unisi.it/?p=1944>;
 - Students enrolled in recognized pre-academic programs or university courses for which a B2 level of English is an admission requirement;
 - Students who have completed the Foundation Course at the University of Siena, which includes attainment of B2 level English proficiency.
3. Applicants who are not exempt from submitting a language certificate and who fail to attach the required documentation to their application will be required to participate in a mandatory interview to assess their English language proficiency.

Article 4 – Available Seats

1. For the purposes of this call for applications, the following applicants are considered *EU citizens or EU-equated citizens*:
 - Citizens of a European Union Member State, including those holding dual citizenship, provided that at least one is Italian or from another EU Member State, pursuant to Article 19 of Law No. 218/1995;
 - Citizens of Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Swiss Confederation, the Republic of San Marino, and the Holy See;
 - Applicants who meet the requirements set forth in Article 39, paragraph 5 of Legislative Decree No. 286/1998, namely:
 - Holders of a long-term EU residence permit; residence permits for employment (dependent or self-employed); for family reasons; asylum; subsidiary protection; religious reasons; or for any of the reasons listed under Articles 18, 18-bis, 20-bis, 22 paragraph 12-quater, and 42-bis, as well as permits issued pursuant to Article 32, paragraph 3 of Legislative Decree No. 25/2008;
 - Applicants who have been legally residing in Italy for at least one year and have obtained an Italian upper secondary school diploma;
 - Applicants, regardless of place of residence, who hold final diplomas from Italian schools abroad or from foreign or international schools operating in Italy or abroad, provided these are recognized by bilateral agreements or specific legal provisions, and meet the general entry requirements for university study.
2. All applicants who do not fall under the category of *EU citizens or EU-equated citizens* are considered *non-EU and non-EU-equated applicants* for the purposes of this call.
3. For the academic year 2025/2026, the number of places available for first-year admission is 80, distributed as follows:

| | EU and EU-equated applicants | Non-EU and non-EU-equated applicants | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| | | Non-EU and non-EU-equated applicants not requiring a visa to enroll in the program | Non-EU and non-EU-equated applicants requiring a visa to enroll in the program ¹ |
| Number of seats | 65 | 15 | 0 |

¹ For the academic year 2025/2026, which marks the first year of activation of the degree program, no admission procedures will be opened for non-EU applicants requiring a visa for enrollment in the program.

- The applicant's category is determined based on their status at the time of application submission. Applications submitted by non-EU and non-equivalent applicants who require a visa for enrollment will be excluded from the selection process.

Article 5 – Selection Process

- Admission to the degree program is based on two separate selection rounds. Applications must be submitted within the deadlines indicated in the table below:

| Selection Round | Application Period | Seats Reserved for EU and EU-Equated Applicants (as per Art. 4) | Seats Reserved for Non-EU and non-EU-equated Applicants (as per Art. 4) | Results Announced |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|
| 1st Round | July 18, 2025 – July 24, 2025 | 40 | 10 | From August 6, 2025 |
| 2nd Round | July 18, 2025 – September 2, 2025 | 25 + any remaining seats from the 1st round | 5 + any remaining seats from the 1st round | From September 24, 2025 |

- Applications must be submitted online through the portal: <https://apply.unisi.it/courses/course/145-b-biotech-engineering-health>, by completing the application process described in Article 6 of this call.
- Any unfilled seats at the conclusion of the first selection round will be carried over to the second round within the same applicant category. This may occur if the number of successful candidates is lower than the number of available seats, or if one or more selected candidates fail to complete enrollment within the deadlines specified in Article 11, paragraph 2.

Article 6 – Application for Admission

- Applications must be submitted online through the portal <https://apply.unisi.it/courses/course/145-b-biotech-engineering-health>, and must include the following documentation:
 - Valid identity document.** Applicants must upload a scanned copy of a European identity card or passport. Non-EU applicants already residing in Italy must submit a passport along with a valid Italian residence permit.

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV).** A résumé outlining the applicant’s educational background, skills, any relevant work experience, and qualifications. Any format is acceptable, though the Europass CV format is recommended.
 - **High school diploma.** Official high school transcript (or a provisional certificate if the diploma has not yet been awarded). Documents issued abroad must be official—bearing the institution’s stamp and the signature of the issuing authority—and must be written in **Italian or English** (either language is acceptable). Documents issued in other languages must be accompanied by a certified translation.
 - **Recognized English language certificate,** at B2 level or higher, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). As stated in Article 3, applicants who are not exempt and do not upload the required documentation will be invited to a **mandatory interview** to assess their English language proficiency.
 - **Any documentation proving eligibility as an equivalent EU citizen,** as specified in Article 4.
 - **Optional documentation proving completion of the CISIA English TOLC-I test,** taken no earlier than January 1, 2024.
 - **Any additional documentation** required to verify eligibility for academic enrollment, for applicants who obtained their qualification abroad.
2. Submission of the application requires payment of a **non-refundable fee of €49.90**, which covers participation in one or both selection rounds (as outlined in Article 5), as well as optional participation in a reserved session of the English TOLC-I test, as described in Article 7, paragraph 3. Payment must be made exclusively through the apply.unisi.it portal, following the instructions provided.
 3. Information and documentation uploaded to the apply.unisi.it portal may be updated or modified at any time before the deadlines for the respective selection rounds, as indicated in Article 5.
 - 4.

Article 7 – English TOLC-I Test

1. In order to be eligible for the selection rounds described in Article 5, applicants must have taken the **CISIA English TOLC-I** test. The test score will be used as part of the evaluation process, in accordance with Articles 9 and 10. **No alternative tests will be accepted.** Information about the structure, content, duration, and participation procedures is available on the CISIA website: <https://www.cisiaonline.it>.
2. The English TOLC-I test may be taken at any institution participating in the CISIA consortium, either remotely via the TOLC@CASA format or in person. Dates for public test sessions are published on the CISIA website.

3. To facilitate access for international applicants, the University of Siena organizes **private test sessions**, not open to the general public, exclusively for candidates applying through this call who request to participate when submitting their application on the portal apply.unisi.it. Instructions for accessing these sessions will be sent to registered candidates by email. The calendar for these private sessions is shown below:

| English TOLC-I Test Date (private session) | Registration Deadline |
|--|-----------------------|
| September 10, 2025 (valid for applicants in the 2nd selection round) | September 2, 2025 |

4. The registration fee for private sessions organized by the University of Siena (as described in paragraph 3) is **included in the application fee** specified in Article 6, paragraph 2. For this reason, **each candidate may take part in only one private session** of the English TOLC-I test.
5. The number of test attempts is regulated by CISIA. Within the application deadlines specified in Article 5, candidates who wish to improve their score may register—at their own expense—for additional **public sessions** of the English TOLC-I test offered by any participating institution, following the procedures and fees published on the CISIA website (<https://www.cisiaonline.it>).
6. Applications from candidates who **have not taken part in one of the University of Siena's private test sessions** and who **do not submit valid documentation certifying participation in an English TOLC-I test organized by another center** will be excluded from the selection process.

Article 8 – Applicants with Disabilities, Health Conditions, or Specific Learning Disorders (SLD)

1. Applicants holding a disability certificate, a certification under Law No. 104 of February 5, 1992, or a diagnosis of Specific Learning Disorders (SLD) under Law No. 170 of October 8, 2010, may request specific accommodations during the test, including assistive tools, compensatory measures, or extra time. Such applicants must explicitly request these accommodations during the online application process, indicating their needs in relation to the required support and/or additional time. Requests must also be communicated by email to: **didattica.diism@unisi.it**.
2. These applicants may be allowed to take the test upon submission of their existing medical documentation, subject to the University's right to request additional documents at a later stage.
3. To ensure proper organization of the test, candidates with a disability certificate or certification under Law No. 104/1992 must submit to the University—promptly and in either original form or as a simple authenticated copy—a document issued by the competent medical commission certifying the type and/or degree of recognized

disability. Candidates with an SLD diagnosis under Law No. 170/2010 must likewise provide, in a timely manner, their diagnosis in original form or as a simple authenticated copy.

4. Candidates with a disability certificate or certification under Law No. 104/1992 are entitled to receive **extra time not exceeding 50%** of the standard test duration.
5. Candidates with an SLD diagnosis under Law No. 170/2010 are entitled to **extra time of up to 30%** of the standard test duration. In cases of particularly severe, certified SLD, the University may authorize additional compensatory tools to ensure equal opportunities, such as: Non-scientific calculator, Video magnifier, Reader appointed by the University, with support from qualified experts or the University's Disability and SLD Support Office, where available.
6. The SLD diagnosis must have been issued **no more than three years prior** to the test date, or **after the candidate turned 18**, and must come from public health authorities or professionals/institutions accredited by the regional healthcare system.

The following tools are strictly **not permitted** under any circumstances: dictionaries; glossaries; formula sheets; periodic tables; concept maps; personal computers; tablets; smartphones; or similar devices.

7. Applicants residing abroad who have a disability, health condition, or SLD and wish to request accommodations must submit **legalized certification** issued in their home country, together with a **sworn or certified translation** in Italian or English, verified by the Italian diplomatic authorities. The University's designated office will verify whether the foreign documentation corresponds to a condition recognized under Italian law.

These applicants must contact the **University's Disability and SLD Services Office** at:
Address: Via Banchi di Sotto, 55 – 53100 Siena, Italy. **Phone:** +39 0577 235412. **Email:** servizidsa@unisi.it / disabilita@unisi.it .

8. They must submit valid documentation attesting to the recognized disability or an official SLD diagnosis, along with the appropriate request form for accommodations. The form can be downloaded from the following webpage and sent by email once completed: <https://orientarsi.unisi.it/studio/servizi-di-supporto-agli-studenti/dsa>

Article 9 – Evaluation of EU and EU-equated Applicants and Formation of the Corresponding Ranking List

1. For each of the selection rounds described in Article 5, the ranking list for **EU and EU-equated applicants** is based on the score obtained in the recognized entrance test (**English TOLC-I**). If the CISIA database shows that a candidate has taken more than one English TOLC-I test, the **highest score** obtained within the application deadline

(as indicated in Article 5) will be considered.

2. The English TOLC-I test score ranges from **–12.5 to +50 points**. A minimum score of **10 points** is required to be deemed eligible.
3. The ranking list is compiled in descending order based on the English TOLC-I test score. In the case of a tie, the candidate with the highest partial score in the following subsections of the test will be given priority, in this order: Mathematics, Logic, Sciences, Reading Comprehension. If a tie still remains, the **younger candidate** will be given priority.
4. In accordance with Article 3, **EU and EU-equated applicants** who are **not exempt** and **have not submitted** a recognized English language certificate will be required to attend a **mandatory online interview** to verify their English language proficiency. Candidates will receive an email invitation with at least **three days’ notice**. Failure to attend the interview will result in exclusion from the selection process.
5. Eligible but non-admitted candidates, or those excluded from the **first selection round**, may request to be **reconsidered for the second round** at no additional cost by writing to **didattica.diism@unisi.it** no later than **August 26, 2025**. By the deadline for the second selection round (see Article 5), candidates will also have the opportunity to **update or supplement** the documentation submitted with their application. The revised application will be used in the evaluation for the second round. Candidates who fail to submit their request by the deadline will be excluded from the second round.
6. Final ranking lists for each selection round will be **approved by Rectoral Decree** and published on the University’s official notice board at www.unisi.it under *Albo online*, and on the program’s website: <https://biotech-engineering.unisi.it>. These publications serve as **official notification** for all applicants. **No individual communications** will be sent.

Article 10 – Evaluation of Non-EU and Non-EU-equated Applicants and Formation of the Corresponding Ranking List

1. The ranking lists reserved for **non-EU and non-EU-equated applicants** are based on a **total score**, calculated as the sum of the following:
 - The score obtained in the **English TOLC-I test**, which ranges from –12.5 to +50 points. If a candidate has taken the test more than once, the **highest score** will be considered. A **minimum score of 10** is required to be considered eligible.
 - The score obtained in an **oral examination** assessing the candidate’s motivation and foundational competencies relevant to STEM disciplines. The

oral exam is scored from 0 to 30 points. A **minimum score of 15** is required to be considered eligible.

The final score ranges from **0 to 80** points and is the **only score** published in the final ranking results.

2. The oral examination will be conducted **online**. Candidates will receive the invitation via email with a **minimum of three days' notice**. The oral exam will also serve as a **language proficiency interview** for candidates who, in accordance with Article 3, are **not exempt** and **did not submit** a recognized English language certificate. Failure to attend the oral exam will result in exclusion from the selection process.
3. The ranking list is compiled in **descending order** based on the total score described in paragraph 1. In the event of a tie, priority will be given to the candidate with the **higher score in the oral examination**. If a tie still remains, the candidate with the **higher partial score** in the subsections of the English TOLC-I test will be given priority, in the following order: Mathematics, Logic, Sciences, Reading Comprehension. If a tie still persists, the **younger candidate** will be ranked higher.
4. Eligible but non-admitted candidates, or those excluded from the **first selection round**, may request to be **reconsidered for the second round** at no additional cost by writing to **didattica.diism@unisi.it** no later than **August 26, 2025**. By the deadline of the second selection round (see Article 5), candidates will also have the opportunity to **update or supplement** the documentation submitted with their application. The revised materials will be used in the evaluation for the second round. Candidates who fail to submit their request by the deadline will be excluded from the second selection.
5. Final ranking lists for each selection round will be **approved by Rectoral Decree** and published on the University's official notice board at www.unisi.it under *Albo online*, and on the program's website: <https://biotech-engineering.unisi.it>. These publications serve as **official notification** for all applicants.

Article 11 – Enrollment

1. Enrollment procedures are carried out in accordance with the digital instructions set forth in the University of Siena's Academic Regulations (Manifesto degli Studi) for the academic year 2025/2026, subject to the deadlines specified in this call for applications.
2. Applicants admitted in the first selection round (as per Article 5) must complete their enrollment by September 2, 2025. Failure to do so by the deadline will be considered as withdrawal. Withdrawn applicants are not eligible to participate in the second selection round.

3. Applicants admitted in the second selection round must complete their enrollment by October 7, 2025. Those who do not complete enrollment by this deadline will also be considered withdrawn. If seats remain available after October 7, 2025, the ranking lists will be reopened and updated according to the following schedule:

| | Start Date | End Date |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| First reallocation | Friday, October 10, 2025 | Monday, October 2025 |
| Second reallocation | Friday, October 24, 2025 | Monday, November 3, 2025 |

4. All enrollment procedures will be concluded by November 3, 2025, regardless of whether all available seats have been filled.
5. Enrollment must be completed online via the University's platform: segreteriaonline.unisi.it.
6. Before proceeding with online enrollment, applicants holding a qualification obtained abroad must obtain prior authorization (nulla osta) from the University's Admission Office by contacting: admissionoffice@unisi.it at least 5 days before the relevant deadline. The required documentation is listed at: <https://admission.unisi.it/?p=1982>.
7. Information on tuition fees and payment methods is provided in the Regulations on Tuition and University Fees for the Academic Year 2025/2026, available at: <https://www.unisi.it/didattica/immatricolazioni-e-iscrizioni/tasse>.
8. Enrollment is considered provisional until all required documentation is submitted, and the validity of the applicant's qualification and the authenticity of the submitted academic records have been verified.
9. As stated above, all enrollment procedures will be closed on November 3, 2025, regardless of the number of seats filled.

Article 12 – Assignment of Additional Learning Requirements (OFA)

1. Students who enroll in the program with a score **below 18** on the **English TOLC-I test** will be assigned **Additional Learning Requirements (OFA)**. These requirements must be fulfilled **within the first year of the program**, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the program's official academic regulations.

Article 13 – Responsible Officer

1. Pursuant to Law No. 241 of August 7, 1990, and subsequent amendments and additions, the **officer responsible for the administrative procedure** outlined in this call is **Dr. Maria Antonietta Chelo**, Head of Student Services at the Department of

Information Engineering and Mathematics. For inquiries, please contact:
didattica.diism@unisi.it

Article 14 – Access to Records

1. The provisions of this call for applications are intended to ensure transparency throughout all phases of the selection process and to regulate the criteria and procedures for appointing selection committees, in accordance with **Law No. 241 of August 7, 1990**.

Candidates have the right to access the records related to the selection process, in accordance with applicable legislation and the procedures established by the University's internal regulations.

Article 15 – Data Processing

1. The processing of personal data provided by applicants is carried out by the **University of Siena** solely for institutional purposes and for the administrative management of this call for applications. The privacy notice regarding the processing of student data is available in the *Privacy* section of the University's website: [Privacy and Cookie Policy | University of Siena](#).

2. The University is committed to safeguarding the confidentiality of the data and information provided by applicants. All personal data will be processed in compliance with **EU Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR)** and **Italian Legislative Decree No. 196/2003**, as amended by **Legislative Decree No. 101 of August 10, 2018**.

The **Data Controller** is the **University of Siena**, represented by the Rector, **Prof. Roberto Di Pietra**.

Applicants may exercise their rights by contacting the Data Controller via certified email at **rettore@pec.unisipec.it** or via regular email at **segreteria.rettore@unisi.it**.

3. The provision of personal data is **mandatory** for managing the relationship between the student and the University (e.g., selection, admission, enrollment, academic record management, etc.). Failure to consent to data processing will result in **exclusion from the application process**.

Article 16 – Final Provisions

1. For any matters not expressly covered in this call for applications, reference shall be made to the applicable laws and regulations in force. This call serves as the *lex specialis* governing the selection procedure; therefore, participation implies **unreserved acceptance** of all terms and conditions contained herein.

2. All applicants are admitted to the selection process **provisionally**. The University administration reserves the right to exclude any applicant, at any time, by a reasoned decision, if it determines that the required eligibility criteria have not been met. Such a decision will be communicated via email to the address provided at the time of application submission.
3. If any false statements or forged documents are found in the submitted application materials, the applicant will be **automatically excluded** and will forfeit all rights and benefits obtained, without prejudice to the **criminal penalties** provided for under the Italian Penal Code and related legislation (**Articles 75 and 76 of Presidential Decree No. 445/2000**). Any false declaration may also result in **legal liability for damages** claimed by third parties. In such cases, **no refund** will be issued for any fees paid.
4. Corrections of clerical errors or official amendments to this call for applications will be published as specific notices on the degree program's official webpage. Such publications shall serve as **formal and legally binding notification** to all applicants.