

TAXES

- SCHOLARSHIPS, ELIGIBLE BUT NOT BENEFICIARY STUDENTS

This year more than 2,400 freshmen did not receive the scholarship they were eligible for. How did it get to this?

The causes are many and inextricably interconnected: the increase in the number of students eligible for a scholarship and in the amount of the scholarship itself, which was decided by the Italian Government, was not followed by an effective increase in the public funds allocated for scholarships. For years the Region has not provided enough funds to provide all eligible students with the scholarships they are entitled to, but for some time UniPd managed to cover the missing amount of money to guarantee all eligible students their scholarship. This year, however, for the reasons presented above, the funds allocated by UniPd were simply not enough to cover for all eligible but not beneficiary students, thus more than 2,400 freshmen were excluded from scholarships.

The criterion with which the actual beneficiaries were selected among freshmen remains unknown. In particular, it does not seem like income was taken into account to make such selection, which we consider on the contrary fundamental: students more in need of financial help to continue their studies should have the highest priority.

The Region should intervene by fully funding scholarships for the eligible students.

The University should clarify the criterion used to select beneficiaries and, above all, make a further effort to guarantee immediate support to students in financial troubles.

- MILLE E UNA LODE SCHOLARSHIP

Every year the University of Padua finances some merit scholarships, the so-called “Mille e Una Lode” scholarships, worth one thousand euros each. They are awarded according to parameters taking into account the number of credits obtained in a year and the GPA.

We ask that these scholarships are guaranteed to the effective 3% of the students of each Bachelor's and Master's program, while monitoring that the two aforementioned criteria are balanced so as to be equivalently weighted in the evaluation.

- RE-MODULATION OF THE TAX SYSTEM

Currently the tax system of the University of Padua guarantees to students with an ISEE score of up to 25,000 points a total exemption from paying taxes. A linear increase is therefore applied in the macro - range ranging from 25,001 to 60,000 ISEE points; between 60 and 70,000 points there is no increase meaning all students in this bracket pay an identical fee, while higher taxes are paid by students with an ISEE score above 70,000, which also does not vary as the ISEE increases.

This tax system does not provide an adequate differentiation between very distant ISEE ranges. We believe that in the range between 25 and 50,000 ISEE points, taxes should increase much more slowly and regularly than in the range between 50 and 60,000 points. Such a change would help students with medium and medium-low ISEEscores, especially in the current, critical, economic situation.

Moreover, in the range between 25 and 30,000 ISEE points an increase in taxes with an even greater gradient than in the range between 40 and 50,000 points.

Starting from these considerations, and taking as reference the tax systems of other Italian universities, such as the University of Milan and the University of Milan Bicocca, we propose to reform the taxation system by introducing different gradients according to the macro-band of ISEE to which students belong.