

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS TACC PROJECT

TACC - Training for Advanced Companies Creation

TACC – Training for Advanced Companies Creation is a UNIMORE entrepreneurial program that trains students through an excellence pathway based on hands-on experiences. The program focuses on key areas such as sustainable mobility, technologies and services for energy and the environment, smart and sustainable manufacturing, and solutions to improve people's health and well-being.

The aim of this pre-incubation program is to support the ideation and prototyping of entrepreneurial projects developed by multidisciplinary and heterogeneous teams of UNIMORE master's students and PhD candidates, guided by a Faculty composed of professors, mentors, experts, and professionals.

The program represents the scale-up of the TACC – Training for Automotive Company Creation initiative, which over six editions has contributed to the creation of innovative companies within the Motor Valley ecosystem. The initiative is part of UNIMORE's International Academy for Advanced Technologies in High-Performance Vehicles and Engines and is an integral component of the Automotive Innovation Hub, established in Modena in 2017 to explore the trends driving the profound transformation of the automotive sector: electric vehicles, connectivity, autonomous driving, and new forms of mobility.

The TACC program is funded by the Emilia-Romagna Region through the institutional cooperation agreement between the Region and the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia for the implementation of Articles 6 and 8 of Regional Law no. 2/2023 'Emilia-Romagna for Talents', CUP E93C25001900007.

This project has been approved by the Scientific Committee the 10th December 2025.

DURATION OF THE PROJECT, ASSESSMENT AND ACADEMIC CREDITS

The program is based on English lessons provided by managers of leading automotive companies, participation in national and international fairs, corporate visits, workshops, prototyping, design and validation sessions for each start-up project.

The project is implemented in two phases: the first phase TACC1, from the April to July, 2026 is aimed at enhancing the entrepreneurial attitudes and soft skills needed to start a business in the automotive industry, as well as developing ideas and business projects, both individually and as a team. The second stage, TACC 2, from September to December, 2026 has a strong practical-applicative nature and it is aimed at the development, prototyping and validation of business ideas. Each stage duration is 120 hours; the students, in addition to the class activities, will participate in several activities such as workshops, company visits, group works etc. to improve their learning experience.

At the end of the first stage of the project (TACC1), the student teams created during this phase must present their own business ideas to the Commission - composed of business partners' managers, entrepreneurs and experts in the field - in a real pitch session. Based on the Commission's evaluation the best business ideas are admitted to the second stage (TACC2). At the end of TACC2, the participants will discuss their Project Work and Business Case with the Commission, showing their Business Plan.

Any student who fails to attend at least eighty percent of all the planned activities (i.e., fails to comply with "the 80% rule") will be excluded. Students will receive 6 academic credits for TACC1 and 6 academic credits for TACC2 as "Student's choice activities" or "Further training activities", according to their respective courses Faculty regulations and subject to evaluation by the Commission. Each participant will receive a grade at the end of the project, at the incontestable discretion of the Commission, with a maximum of 30.

For PhD students, academic credits may be recognized according to their PhD course regulations.

PROJECT WORK & BUSINESS CASE

The final output of the project (at the end of TACC 1 and TACC 2) will be a Project Work including a business model, a business plan, a potential market research and a business organization, developed under the supervision of the Faculty members and the support of assigned Academic Tutors and Mentors.

Participants will work at UNIMORE and Laboratorio Aperto Modena supported by Mentors. Participants will visit companies and attend meetings, learning new tools and being stimulated by suggestions and insights.

At the end of the project, partners and promoters of the initiative will decide whether to invest in the business project proposed by the students or not. Students will be able to make their own decision about any proposals from companies.

APPLICATION DETAILS AND PARTICIPATION

A committee of professors, entrepreneurs, and experts will be established for the selection of participants in the TACC project,

A. Criteria for participation

Applications are open to:

- students regularly enrolled in two-year Master Degree Courses;
- students enrolled in Single-Cycle Master Degree Courses (excluding those enrolled in the first three years);
- students enrolled in PhD courses;

The TACC program will be activated once 35 eligible candidates have been reached, while the maximum number is 50. If this threshold is exceeded, only the first 50 students based on the selection score obtained will be considered admitted. Students who participate in the Erasmus program during the TACC Project, cannot apply; furthermore, students who complete their studies before July 2026 will not be able to apply.

The selection will be in 2 steps: 1) Curricula Assessment, 2) the groups work test. The objective of the admission test is to create a list of students admitted to participate in the project.

B. Deadlines

Opening of applications: the selection procedure for Unimore students will be online from **March 24th to April 13th, 2026**; the candidates will submit their application on the online form.

On **April 14th** curricula will be evaluated and analyzed (step 1 of the selection).

On **April 15th**, the list of those admitted to the second phase of the selection will be published. The second selection will be made through the group's work test and online tests. The Commission will contact candidates admitted to Step 2 directly by email for submitting the groups work test and Business Analysis Potential test.

April 20th, 2026 the final ranking will be published.

C. Selection

STEP 1

Evaluation of Curricula (maximum: 30 points, minimum threshold to be attained: 18 points).

The following criteria will be assessed: the degree course, age, curricular experiences, possible work experience and/or entrepreneurial and/or international experiences and English knowledge.

STEP 2

Evaluation of the group's work test.

For each candidate, the following skills will be evaluated: empathy, cooperation and teamwork, results orientation, client orientation, proactivity, analytical skills and problem solving.

The evaluation points will be from a minimum of 24 to a maximum of 40.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Applications to the TACC project can be submitted from **March 24th, 2024 – 1:00 pm** to **April 13th, 2026 – 1:00 pm**, by accessing the restricted area of ESSE3 from the following link:

<https://www.esse3.unimore.it/Home.do>

- > select in the menu “*Ammissione*”;
 - > select “*Iscrizione concorsi*”;
 - > select “*Laurea*” as “Tipologia di Titolo”;
 - > select the call for application “*Ammissione al progetto TACC*”;
- and follow the instructions

The following documents must be attached to the application:

- Curriculum Vitae in the following format (Annex A);
- Self-declaration in the following format (Annex B).

IMPORTANT: to effectively apply, the candidate must save the data and confirm the application by clicking on the “*explicit confirmation of validity*”. Then, the student can print the valid application as a personal reminder (it should not be delivered to any administrative office). Before the deadline, if you need to open the application to correct the data or to add documentation you can send an email to: webhelp@unimore.it

FINAL RANKING

Students who have obtained a minimum of 42 points and a maximum of 70 points, based on the combined scores of their CV and the group tests, are eligible to participate in the project.

In the event of a tie evaluation, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

The ranking will be communicated to candidates via publication on the website:

<https://www.unimore.it/it/ateneo/bandi> (Recipients: students; Category: career guidance) and also on the online register “Albo Online Unimore”.

For organizational reasons, those admitted to the project must confirm their commitment to participate or withdraw by April 21, 2026. If eligible applicants withdraw following the final ranking, the ranking will be updated by April 30, 2026.

PRIVACY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TACC students will have to sign a confidentiality agreement regarding private information that may be issued under the project.

Concerning intellectual properties, due to the educational nature of the program, it is not foreseeable whether any industrial rights might emerge from the activities carried out during the project. In any case, the ownership of any output, whether patentable or not, that derives directly from the activity carried out during the project, as well as all the related property rights shall be regulated in subsequent specific agreements, in compliance with current legislation and the University internal Regulation “Regolamento in materia di nuova imprenditorialità e di titolarità, gestione e valorizzazione della proprietà intellettuale dei risultati della ricerca dell'Università degli studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia ” - (Regulation of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia concerning the innovative entrepreneurship and the ownership, management and exploitation of research results' intellectual property).

CONTROLS

It is reported that, according to art. 71 of Presidential Decree 445 of 28/12/2000, the Administrative office will carry out appropriate controls, even spot checks, and in all cases if there are any doubts about the accuracy of the statements.

RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROCEDURE

According to art. 4 of Law 241 of August 7, 1990 "*Nuove norme in materia di procedimento amministrativo e di diritto di accesso ai documenti amministrativi*" Alessandra Lopez – Career Guidance and Placement Office is the person in charge of the proceedings is.

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

Personal data provided by the candidates will be dealt with for the purpose of managing selections and subsequent phases of the project in according with "*Notification of personal data processing*" (Annex C), on the basis of article 13 from EU general regulation 679/2016 on data protection

Services for Students UNIMORE Paolo Grasso

CONTACTS

For further information on the project, please contact:

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For administrative questions and tender clarifications, please contact:

Alessandra Lopez - alessandra.lopez@unimore.it

For technical problems, please contact: webhelp@unimore.it from Monday to Thursday 9 am to 4 pm, on Friday 9 am to 2 pm.