

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION  
TO THE THREE-YEAR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM  
IN DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING  
Training Cycle 2022 – 2025**

Updated: March 8, 2022 (9)

-----

## **Contents**

1. Application and Availability.....	3
2. Requirements for Admission.....	3
3. Selection Process.....	3
3.1 Phase One – Online Preselection.....	3
3.2 Phase Two – Onsite Exam.....	4
4. Exam Commission.....	5
5. Criteria for Selection.....	5
6. Registration and Tuition Fees.....	5
Attachment 1 – application tests online preselection.....	6
Part 2 – Documentary Film Project.....	6
Part 3 - Video Presentation of yourself.....	7
Attachment 2 – Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.....	8

**ZeLIG School for Documentary, Television and New Media – Bolzano, Italy**  
Office Hours: 8:30 am – 12 noon / 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Via Brennero 20/D - 39100 Bolzano, Italy

Tel. +39 0471 977930

e-mail: [info@zeligfilm.it](mailto:info@zeligfilm.it)

## 1. Application and Availability

Applications are currently being accepted for ZeLIG's three-year professional training program in documentary filmmaking.

The program is limited to a total of 30 students.

## 2. Requirements for Admission

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Ages 19-30 (i.e., persons at this age between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022);
2. High school diploma;
3. B2 level of listening, reading, spoken interaction and spoken production in two of the three official languages used in the program: German, Italian, English; A1 level in one of the three official languages used in the program.

*(see Attachment 2, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - Self-assessment grid)*

Proficiency levels indicated must be achieved prior to the date of the onsite entrance exam, and will be verified at applicant interviews.

**Note:** At the conclusion of the first year of training, all students must attain a **minimum** level of B2 in two of the program's three official languages, and level B1 (listening, reading, spoken interaction and spoken production) in one of the three official languages.

## 3. Selection Process

Selection of candidates is done through a **two-phase process**.

**Phase One** of the selection process is conducted online, and is open to anyone in possession of the above requirements. In this phase, we'll be accepting applications that include a series of documents and materials that allow us to select candidates to be admitted to Phase Two of the selection process.

**Phase Two** of the selection process is conducted at ZeLIG in Bolzano; the top 50 applicants from Phase One will be invited to participate.

### 3.1 Phase One – Online Preselection

In this phase, candidates are required to:

1. Download and familiarize themselves with the “Training Contract” available at the ZeLIG website. (To complete their applications, applicants must confirm their understanding and acceptance of the terms contained within the “Training Contract”);
2. Fill in the pre-registration form ([link on the ZeLIG website](#)) to obtain the link necessary to complete the online application;
3. Complete **Entrance Exam Part 1** (see attachment: Preselection Entrance Exam);
4. Complete **Entrance Exam Part 2** (see attachment: Preselection Entrance Exam);
5. Complete **Entrance Exam Part 3** (see attachment: Preselection Entrance Exam);
6. Complete and send online application form, with required documentation and completed entrance exam (parts 1, 2 and 3) attached.

**Note:** All of the above documentation is available at the ZeLIG website [www.zeligfilm.it](http://www.zeligfilm.it)

**Deadline for applications: May 28, 2022 (12:00pm)**

Preselection results will be available as of **June 10, 2022**, with publication of the top 50 applicants admitted to Phase Two of the application process, which consists of onsite exams at ZeLIG in Bolzano.

### 3.2 Phase Two – Onsite Exam

**Phase Two** of the selection process consists of a six-day period of testing and interviews, from July 11 to July 16, 2022, to be conducted at ZeLIG in Bolzano, which shall consist of:

- a) The creation of a visual story;
- b) A group test;
- c) An individual interview for each applicant.

Details and contents for each section shall be announced immediately prior to the start of Phase Two of the selection process.

Rankings shall be published on **July 16, 2022**. The top 30 applicants will be admitted to the training program. Applicants who have been admitted must confirm their participation no later than **July 29, 2022**, accompanied by payment of annual tuition fees of € 1.300.

Should any applicants among those selected for admission to ZeLIG’s three-year

training program opt out, applicants from outside the top 30 shall be asked to participate, based on their rankings.

#### **4. Exam Commission**

Phase One and Phase Two Entrance Exams shall be presided over by a three-member commission. Two members shall be part of ZeLIG's permanent staff; one member shall be chosen from our pool of guest teachers.

#### **5. Criteria for Selection**

Criteria used for the selection of future ZeLIG students, in both phases of the selection process, are based on applicants' social, cognitive and intellectual capacities, as well as their depth of cinematographic knowledge and culture.

Applicants will be judged based on their motivation for attending the ZeLIG program in documentary filmmaking and working in the documentary field in the future. We'll also be assessing each applicant's level of self-awareness (i.e., the capacity to recognize both their strong points and their limits), their communications and listening skills, their ability to analyze and break down situations, their aptitude for teamwork, their ability to deal with difficulties and unexpected problems, creativity, passion and interest with regard to filmmaking and audiovisual language in general.

#### **6. Registration and Tuition Fees**

Annual registration and fees: € 1.300.

Payment must be made upon registration, for each of the program's three years. No refunds in case of withdrawal from the program, for whatever reason.

## Attachment 1 – application tests online preselection

### Part 1 – The Essay

Applicants must write an essay, explaining why they want to attend ZeLIG. Essays must be submitted in PDF format and:

- Briefly describe your academic history and what you feel have been your most important work experiences and your skills acquired;
- Provide your reasons for applying to ZeLIG, including concrete experiences that led you to apply;
- Describe which difficulties you expect in the course of the training and through which competences you will be able to overcome these.

Each description should be no longer than **1500 characters (spaces not included) in Pdf format.**

The filename and text must contain the name of the applicant.

### Part 2 – Documentary Film Project

Applicants must write a proposal for a documentary film project based on the theme “Destinies”. Applicants are encouraged to interpret the assigned theme in a free and creative manner. The important thing is to describe the film and what happens in it, rather than expound on abstract theoretical issues.

Documentary film projects must contain the following:

- Title and subtitle (if applicable)
- Introduction – Logline – Short Description  
*Use one or at most two sentences to succinctly describe the focus of your film and what it's about.*
- Synopsis  
*Provide a clear description of the story told in your film, the various layers and subplots, and the development of the narrative. Keep in mind that you are being asked to tell what happens in the film, and not for an essay on the theme assigned.*
- Main Characters  
*Describe the main characters in the film. They may be people, of course, but also other living and even non-living things. Explain their roles, discuss what they do, their*

*relevance and what happens to them. Your description should help anyone reading the project to imagine what your characters are really like.*

- **Stylistic Approach**  
*Describe the kind of film you aim to make in terms of style and filmic language. Also tell us the point of view you plan to adopt and which artistic elements you'd like to include.*

Your documentary film project must include all the above points and must be **no longer than 3,000 characters** (spaces not included), and submitted as a PDF. The filename and text must contain the name of the applicant.

### **Part 3 - Video Presentation of yourself**

Applicants must record a 2-part video with a **maximum total running time 2 minutes 30 seconds**.

- **Part 1 - 1 Minute**  
Show us your skills and potential. The only limit is length. Reveal your artistic personality in this video entitled "This is Me!"
- **Part 2 - 1 Minute 30 seconds**  
Film an interview of yourself: use either a head shot or a three-quarter shot. Provide the following information as if you were answering an interviewer's questions:
  - Recount an experience that taught you a lot;
  - Select and give a presentation of an everyday object that in some way represents who you are, and explain why;
  - Tell us about what you expect to get out of the ZeLIG experience;
  - Tell us which satisfaction you hope to gain from your future profession.

**Important: for the video presentation the applicants must use at least two of the official languages of the school.**

Video presentations must be uploaded onto a delivery platform (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.). Applicants may provide a link (and password, if necessary) for viewing below.

**Do not attach video files to this online application form!**

		A1 Basic User	A2 Basic User	B1 Independent	B2 Independent user	C1 Proficient user	C2 Proficient user
Understanding	 Listening	I can understand familiar words and very basic phrases concerning myself, my family and immediate concrete surroundings when people speak slowly and clearly.	I can understand phrases and the highest frequency vocabulary related to areas of most immediate personal relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local area, employment). I can catch the main point in short, clear, simple messages and announcements.	I can understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. I can understand the main point of many radio or TV programmes on current affairs or topics of personal or professional interest when the delivery is relatively slow and clear.	I can understand extended speech and lectures and follow even complex lines of argument provided the topic is reasonably familiar. I can understand most TV news and current affairs programmes. I can understand the majority of films in standard dialect.	I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly. I can understand television programmes and films without too much effort.	I have no difficulty in understanding any kind of spoken language, whether live or broadcast, even when delivered at fast native speed, provided I have some time to get familiar with the accent.
	 Reading	I can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.	I can read very short, simple texts. I can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses, menus and timetables and I can understand short simple personal letters.	I can understand texts that consist mainly of high frequency everyday or job-related language. I can understand the description of events, feelings and wishes in personal letters.	I can read articles and reports concerned with contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints. I can understand contemporary literary prose.	I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I can understand specialised articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.	I can read with ease virtually all forms of the written language, including abstract, structurally or linguistically complex texts such as manuals, specialised articles and literary works.
Speaking	 Spoken interaction	I can interact in a simple way provided the other person is prepared to repeat or rephrase things at a slower rate of speech and help me formulate what I'm trying to say. I can ask and answer simple questions in areas of immediate need or on very familiar topics.	I can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar topics and activities. I can handle very short social exchanges, even though I can't usually understand enough to keep the conversation going myself.	I can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. I can enter unprepared into conversation on topics that are familiar, of personal interest or pertinent to everyday life (e.g. family, hobbies, work, travel and current events).	I can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible. I can take an active part in discussion in familiar contexts, accounting for and sustaining my views.	I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skilfully to those of other speakers.	I can take part effortlessly in any conversation or discussion and have a good familiarity with idiomatic expressions and colloquialisms. I can express myself fluently and convey finer shades of meaning precisely. If I do have a problem I can backtrack and restructure around the difficulty so smoothly that other people are hardly aware of it.
	 Spoken production	I can use simple phrases and sentences to describe where I live and people I know.	I can use a series of phrases and sentences to describe in simple terms my family and other people, living conditions, my educational background and my present or most recent job.	I can connect phrases in a simple way in order to describe experiences and events, my dreams, hopes and ambitions. I can briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. I can narrate a story or relate the plot of a book or film and describe my reactions.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects related to my field of interest. I can explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.	I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.	I can present a clear, smoothly-flowing description or argument in a style appropriate to the context and with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points.
Writing	 Writing	I can write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings. I can fill in forms with personal details, for example entering my name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form.	I can write short, simple notes and messages. I can write a very simple personal letter, for example thanking someone for something.	I can write simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. I can write personal letters describing experiences and impressions.	I can write clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects related to my interests. I can write an essay or report, passing on information or giving reasons in support of or against a particular point of view. I can write letters highlighting the personal significance of events and experiences.	I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can select a style appropriate to the reader in mind.	I can write clear, smoothly-flowing text in an appropriate style. I can write complex letters, reports or articles which present a case with an effective logical structure which helps the recipient to notice and remember significant points. I can write summaries and reviews of professional or literary works.