

Grant Francesco Morelli

From idea
to impact

2025 Edition

Regulations

1.1 Purpose and Resources

The **Francesco Morelli Foundation** aims to promote access to design culture and professions, especially among young creatives. As part of its 2025 initiatives, the Foundation presents the fourth edition of the Francesco Morelli Grant, supporting IED and Accademia Aldo Galli graduates who wish to further develop their final thesis projects.

This program is intended to grant the most outstanding and promising thesis projects—those that stand out for their originality, innovation, sustainability, and social impact—by offering a **financial** and **mentoring package** to support **business planning** and **early-stage implementation**.

A total **fund** of **€100,000** is available. The Francesco Morelli Foundation will evaluate all submitted proposals and, at its sole discretion, allocate specific amounts to selected projects until the available budget is exhausted. Should any funds remain, they might be redirected toward related Foundation activities, with no obligations.

1.2 Who Can Apply

The Francesco Morelli Grant is open to students who graduate in IED Network between September 2024 and July 2025 from the following institutions and programs:

- IED Italy: DAPL and DASL programs
- Accademia Aldo Galli: DAPL, DASL, and five-year Restoration programs
- IED Spain: four-year IED Diplomas, TGEAS and BA (Hons) programs
- IED Brazil: Bachelor's Degree programs

Both individual and group thesis projects will be considered.

1.3 How to Apply

Eligible graduates may apply independently and proactively by completing the online form available [here](#) no later than midnight (Italian time zone) on **15 October 2025**.

Applicants must upload a PDF outlining the development idea for their thesis project. The Foundation may request further materials at its discretion. The working language of the grant is English, and all submissions must be in English—except the original thesis document, which may remain in its original language.

All the instructions to apply will be found at the FM Grant web page

1.4 Evaluation Criteria

Submitted development ideas will be assessed based on:

- **Originality** and **innovation** of the concept
- **Feasibility** and **sustainability** of the proposed plan
- **Potential social impact**

1.5 The Process: From Idea to Impact

Phase 1: Training, Business Plan & Mentoring

Selected applicants will be notified by **15 November 2025**. They will then begin a 6-week training program including workshops on business planning and one-on-one mentorship.

By the end of the training session, grant recipients will have prepared their own business plan, which will be presented to the Assessment Committee by **7 February 2026**. Plans will be evaluated based on:

- Their impact on the development of the original thesis
- Alignment with eligibility criteria (point 1.4)
- Coherence, clarity, and financial sustainability

Phase 2: Funding and Project Development

Applicants selected for Phase 2 will be announced by **28 February 2026**. These projects will receive financial support—determined based on the eligible costs and the potential for impactful implementation—and continue with ongoing mentorship (every 4–5 weeks).

The development phase must be completed by **30 November 2026**.

1.6 What Costs Are Covered?

The grant may be used to cover:

- Professional consulting services (e.g., legal, tax, IP protection)
- Participation in events and fairs that support project growth
- Promotional and communication materials (e.g., videos, presentations, publications)
- Essential materials and goods, provided they are justified and directly relevant

Each grant ranges from a **minimum of €3,000** to a **maximum of €25,000**, and can cover up to 100% of eligible costs. Proposals with higher budgets are accepted only if they involve co-financing by third parties.

1.7 Monitoring & Payments

Each selected project will enter a monitoring and mentoring program.

Regular reports demonstrating the effective progress of the project are required to receive funding in instalments.

The payment schedule is as follows:

- 1st Instalment: 25% — After Phase 2 admission
- 2nd Instalment: 25% — Upon submission & approval of the first quarterly report
- 3rd Instalment: 25% — Upon submission & approval of the second quarterly report
- Final Instalment: 25% — After submission of the final report

The final report is due no later than 30 November 2026, submitted via email to: grant@ffmorelli.it and must include a clear breakdown of expenses, backed by invoices and traceable payments (bank transfers or cards in the winner's name only).

1.8 Changes and Withdrawal

If changes to the original development plan occur, the Foundation must be notified within 15 days.

Minor variations (up to 20% budget changes) are allowed. More significant changes require justification. The Foundation may reduce or revoke the grant in case of inconsistency or unjustified divergence from the original project.

The grant may also be withdrawn or reduced if:

- The beneficiary becomes ineligible
- False or misleading information is discovered
- Obligations or deadlines are not respected

If a beneficiary decides to waive the grant, they must notify the Foundation officially and refund any amounts received within 30 days.

1.9 Project Timeline Summary

Here is a full breakdown of key deadlines and phases:

15 October 2025 – Deadline to apply

15 November 2025 – Announcement of Phase 1 participants

30 January 2026 – End of Phase 1: Business plan presentation

7 February 2026 – Deadline to submit Business Plans

28 February 2026 – Announcement of Phase 2 participants and grant recipients

30 November 2026 – End of project and final reporting deadline