Bocconi

FREE-MOVER SEMESTER

GUIDE TO THE INITIATIVE for a.y. 2025-2026

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Università Bocconi
MILANO

International Relations

April 2025

WHAT IS IT?

Students interested in spending a semester abroad without participating in the Exchange program can enroll as **Free-Movers (Fee-paying Visiting Students** *or* **Independent Students** *or* **Contract Students** *or* **Study-Abroad Students**) at some foreign Universities where they can study for **a semester only** in the first or second semester of **their 3rd year** (Undergraduate programs).

The **main differences** between the Free-Mover and the Exchange are:
- the **admission process freely defined** by the host institutions and out of any Bocconi responsibility or involvement;
- the **university fees to be paid** both to Bocconi and to the host school;
- scholarships are not foreseen for Free-Mover students.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDE?

The aim is to provide all the **necessary information** to Bocconi students that are interested in this initiative in terms of:

01. Academic requirements
02. Language requirements
03. Possible destinations
04. Application procedure & timeline
05. Academic recognition

Destinations are updated according to **past-year experiences** and Bocconi application @ Punto Blu opens in **May**.

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01. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

WHO CAN APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAM?

Undergraduate students enrolled - in the a.y. 2024-2025 - in **their 2nd year** of study if:
- ✓ they **satisfy** both **academic/language requirements** (see details below)
- ✓ they are **not selected** for the **exchange program** 2025-2026, DD Peking 2025-2026

MINIMUM
Minimum **60% of 1st year credits** before semester of departure

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- No Bocconi additional academic requirements
- Each hosting School has its own requirements which have to be investigated and fulfilled by the applicant.

Students who **withdrew from the exchange program cannot** apply for the Free-Mover Semester. Students who are in waiting list for the exchange program can apply for the Free-Mover Semester but, if they **apply** for this **initiative**, their name will be **removed** from the **waiting list** by the Study Abroad staff.

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02. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM
- **English**: level **B2**
- Language of instruction of the Host, if different from English: level **B1**

The language of selection indicated by Università Bocconi in the Exchange Program destinations is to be considered **compulsory** also to Free-Movers.

Please refer to this link released for the exchange program for specific guidelines on how to satisfy the minimum language requirements.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- No Bocconi additional language requirements
- Each hosting School has its own requirements which have to be investigated and fulfilled by the applicant.

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03. POSSIBLE DESTINATIONS

The lists of destinations provided on this page are designed to assist current Bocconi students in finding a suitable partner university for the Free-Mover Semester since most of the partner schools do not accept free-movers if they have already an Exchange agreement with Bocconi.

The universities listed in the pdf document "**possible destinations**" are those **who have accepted** Bocconi Students **in the past**. This does not guarantee these schools will accept students in the future.

Schools which inform Bocconi that they do not accept Free-Mover students are listed in in the pdf document "**destinations not available**".

POSSIBLE DESTINATIONS

DESTINATIONS NOT AVAILABLE

Any **other destination** must be endorsed ex-ante, on a case-by-case basis, by the Study Abroad Office. The request, accompanied by a letter of motivation and information material on the University selected (ranking, course offer, language of instruction), has to be presented **before enrolling in the foreign university** as a Free-Mover Semester student and sent to the Study Abroad Office through B in Touch.

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04. APPLICATION PROCEDURE & TIMELINE

ELIGIBILITY

✓ **Check** if you meet the Bocconi requirements
✓ **Check** if you meet the host school requirements
✓ **Ensure** you meet the host school application deadlines and procedures

RULES

Bocconi University will authorize maximum 10 students in each destination available, to recognize their courses taken abroad during their Free-Mover Semester. This number refers to the entire a.y. 2025-2026 (considering both first and second term).

Check the **application steps** available in the next slides to get the info on how to secure 1 of the 10 spots at Punto Blu. Places are assigned on a **first-come-first-served basis**.

By getting the slot at Punto Blu, Bocconi authorizes a student to **recognize** the experience, but this does **not guarantee** that the host University will accept the student' application as Free Mover.
If the host University accepts a student' application, but he/she does not have the place at Punto Blu, Bocconi will **not authorize** the recognition of the experience.

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APPLICATION STEPS

STEP 1 – BOOK A SLOT ON PUNTO BLU

WHEN?

Application **Open**: **May 7th 2025** at **12 p.m**. (Italian time)

Application **Close**: **February 1st 2026** at **12 p.m.** (Italian time)

WHERE?

Punto Blu
(Details in **Appendix**).

At this phase of the application, students do **not** need to **upload any document**.
Students are strongly advised **NOT to take any binding financial commitment** without having secured their place for a specific destination at Punto Blu.

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APPLICATION STEPS

STEP 1 – BOOK A SLOT ON PUNTO BLU

Access Punto Blu at the following path:
- **ITA**: Mobilità Internazionale > Bandi Mobilità > Ambito Mobilità [Free Mover]
- **ENG**: International Mobility > Mobility Exam Notices > Mobility Area [Free Mover]

Click on **Apply**, read carefully and confirm the mandatory requirements and select your destination.
Please, be aware that **only 1 destination** can be selected at Punto Blu and **a maximum of 10 places** (for the entire Academic year 2025-2026) **for each destination are available**. The 10 places are assigned on a **first-come-first-served basis**.

Once applied at Punto Blu:
- **If successful**, you will be able to display/print the application receipt. **You can then proceed with the Partner application** as you are among the first 10 students.
- **If not successful**, the system will notify in real time if the destination has just reached the 10 students cap.

If a destination – among the ones listed at Punto Blu - is no more displayed, it means that the 10 students cap has already been reached. If a student cancels the application for that destination, his/her place will become available again.

By getting the slot at Punto Blu, Bocconi authorizes a student to **recognize** the experience, but this does **not guarantee** that the host University will accept the student' application as Free Mover.
If the host University accepts a student' application, but he/she does not have the place at Punto Blu, Bocconi will **not authorize** the recognition of the experience.

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STEP 2 – APPLICATION WITH HOST UNIVERSITY

Once successfully completed Step 1, students can apply at the Host university for a Semester as fee-paying visiting students.

Students are advised that:
- the Study Abroad Office does **not** act as an intermediary between Free-Mover students and host universities;
- the Study Abroad Office does **not** provide any signed or stamped document for students' application.

Students can use the Free-Mover Semester **receipt** as a proof that they are authorized to apply at a host university for a semester only.

If students need a copy of their Transcript, is it possible to
- download an **unofficial** copy available for free at Punto Blu
- request an **official** copy subject to charges through Cert@B, accessible through the student's Diary (see B in Touch > University career certificates and self-certifications)

Bocconi application will open each year **in May**. Students are strongly advised not to undertake any binding financial commitment before the release of the updated information and/or having secured their place at Punto Blu.

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STEP 3 - CONFIRMATION

When students have received a formal admission letter from the host University, they are required to
- **access** once again their application at **Punto Blu** to **upload the required documentation**
- **notify the Study Abroad Office through B in Touch > Free Mover**

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Formal acceptance letter from the host University with a specific indication of the **semester** for which you have been accepted
Proof of **Language proficiency** among the ones that are suitable to fulfill the minimum language requirement (**level B2** for **English, level B1** for **other languages)**, if required

WHEN?

At least one working week before departure

The Study Abroad Office will the check if students meet the minimum Bocconi academic and language requirements and will send a notification once the recognition platform is available in the yoU@B Diary.

The Study Abroad Office may (or may not) validate the request according to the eligibility criteria. **Only upon receipt of this validation through B in Touch the student is definitely allowed to take part to the Free-Mover Semester experience and register it into his/her career once back.**

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05. ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

Study Abroad will provide eligible students with a **Recognition Platform** in their yoU@B Mobility sections once the process is finalized.

PRELIMINARY AUTHORIZATION

After evaluating the offer of the host university, students must verify or request **advance recognition authorization from Bocconi faculty members** by following the procedure described

Please refer to this link released for the exchange program for further info.
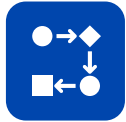
RECOGNITION PROCEDURE

Only at the end of the mobility, after receiving the **transcript**, students can start the recognition of the exams taken abroad by entering a request through the Recognition procedure available in the yoU@B Diary. Please remember that there is no deadline for the recognition procedure, but students need to pay attention to the Study Plan completion date depending on the graduation session they want to join.
Undergraduate Free-Mover Semester students can have **a maximum of 5 Bocconi courses** recognized once back from their experience abroad. Students must convert a **minimum of 1 exam** in order for the Free-Mover Semester initiative to be recognized in the academic career.

Please note that **NO additional point for the graduation grade** is awarded by recognizing a Free-Mover Semester in the student's study plan.

APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

The screenshots displayed in the appendix refer to past academic years.

*Please consider that **the procedure is the same for this year**.*

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APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #1

Access your **Punto Blu** and select the **menu** in the top right corner.
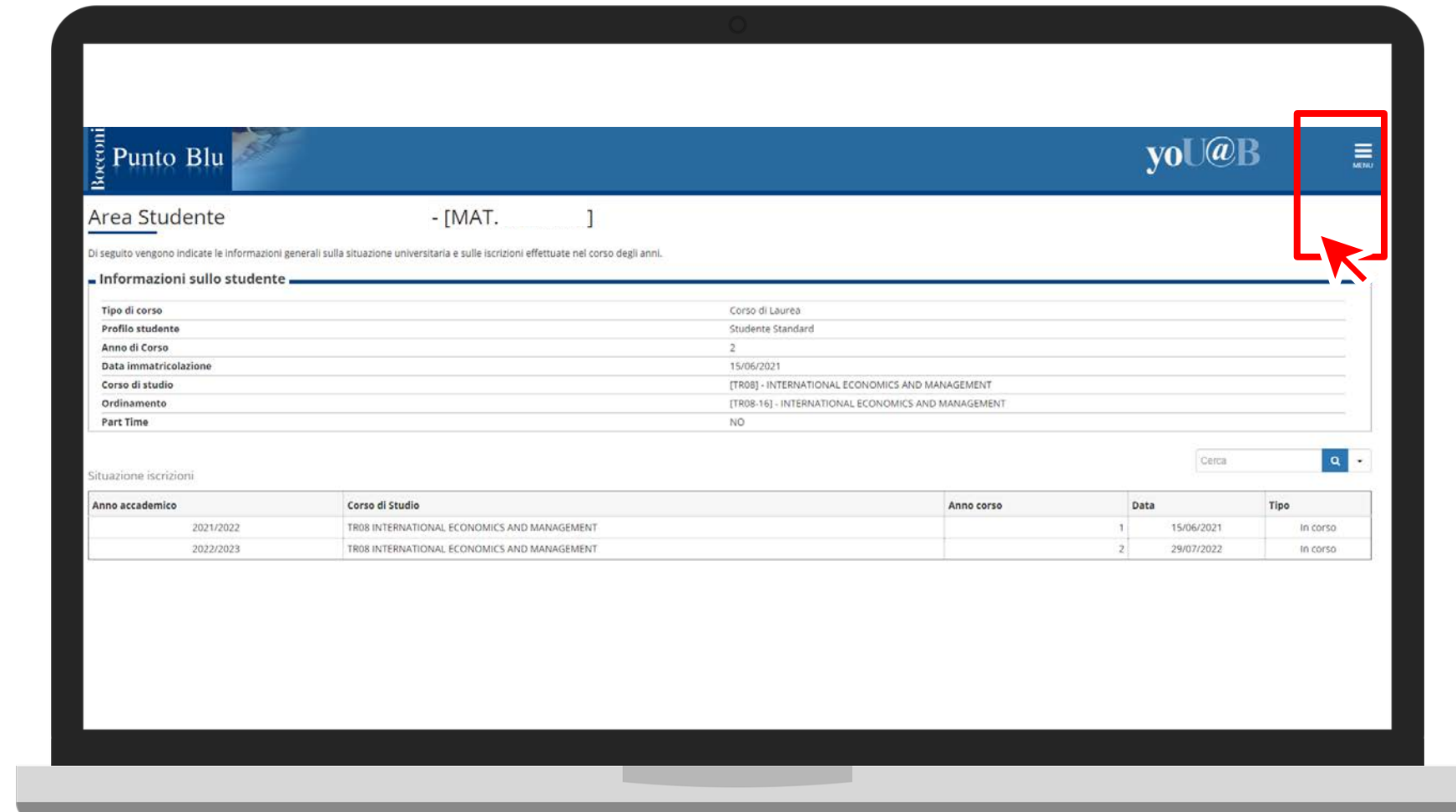
APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #2

Select the last point of the menu:
**Mobilità internazionale
(ENG: International Mobility**)
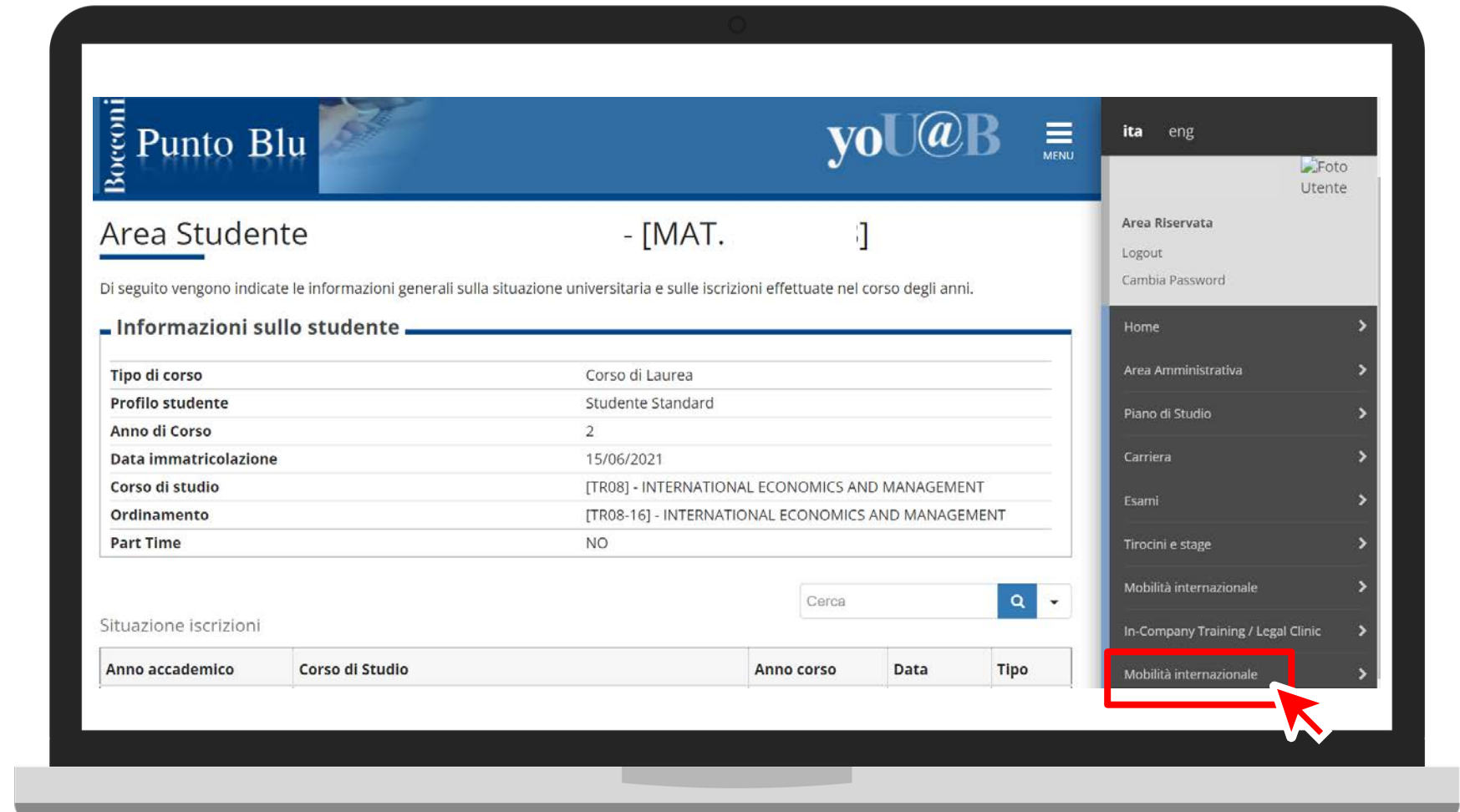
APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #3

Select the first point of the menu:
**Bandi di mobilità
(ENG: Mobility Exam Notices)**
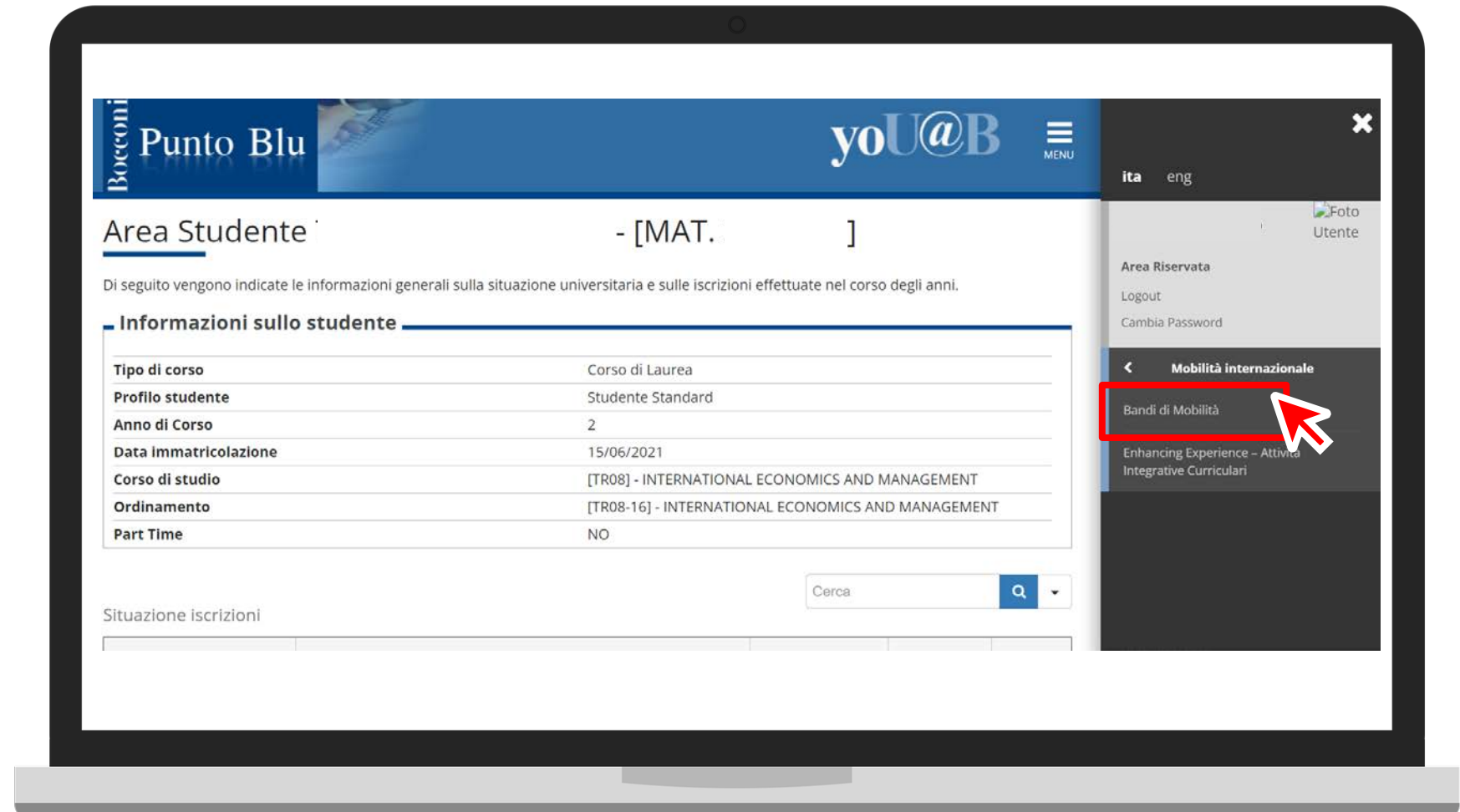
APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #4

From the drop-down menu select **FREE MOVER** and then "Free-Mover Semester – Undergraduate 2025-2026" **Clicking** on the **magnifying glass**.

The screenshots refers to the academic year 2023-2024, please consider that the procedure is the same for this year.
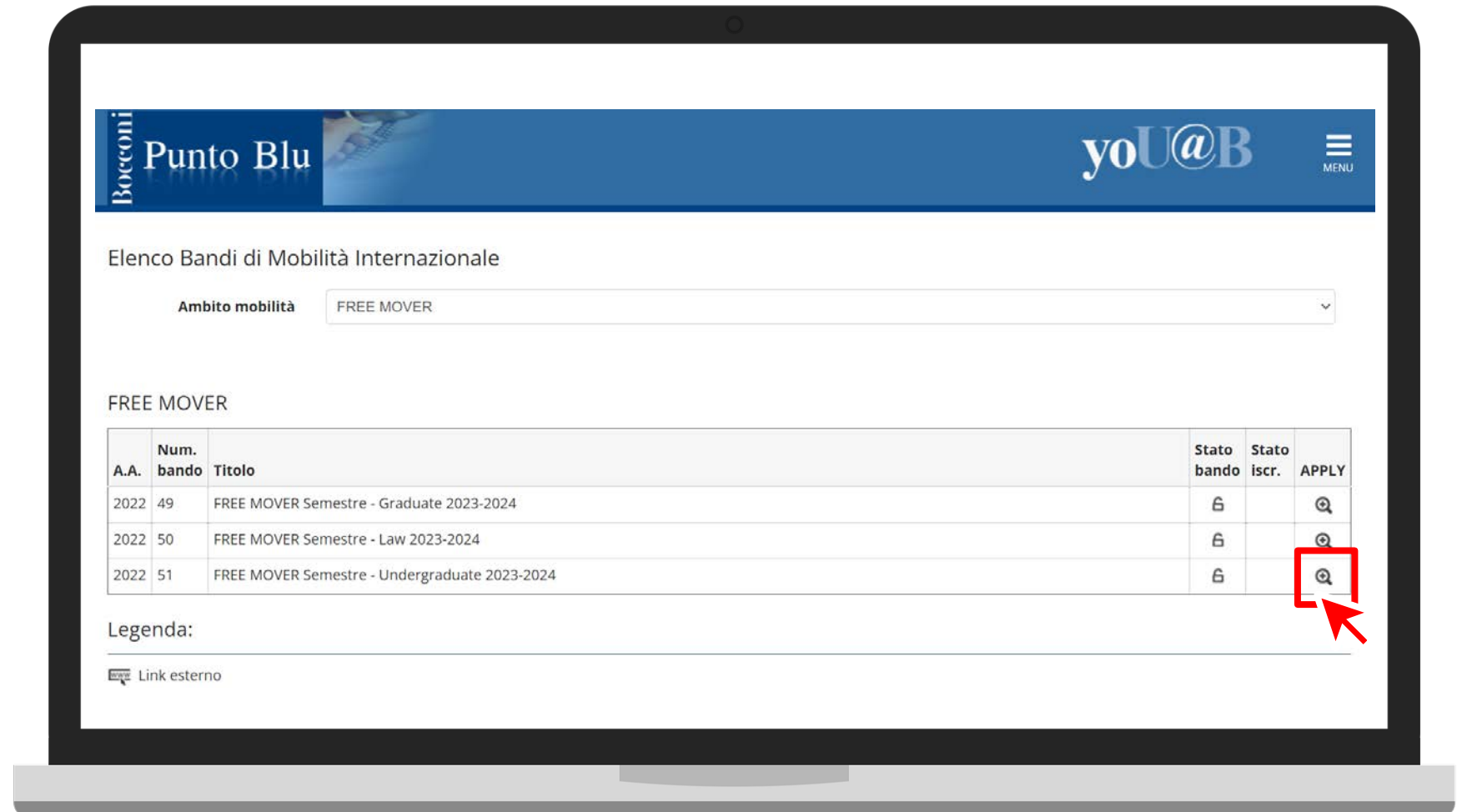
APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #5

Select "**Iscrizione al bando**" (**ENG: Click here to apply**) in the lower part of the page.
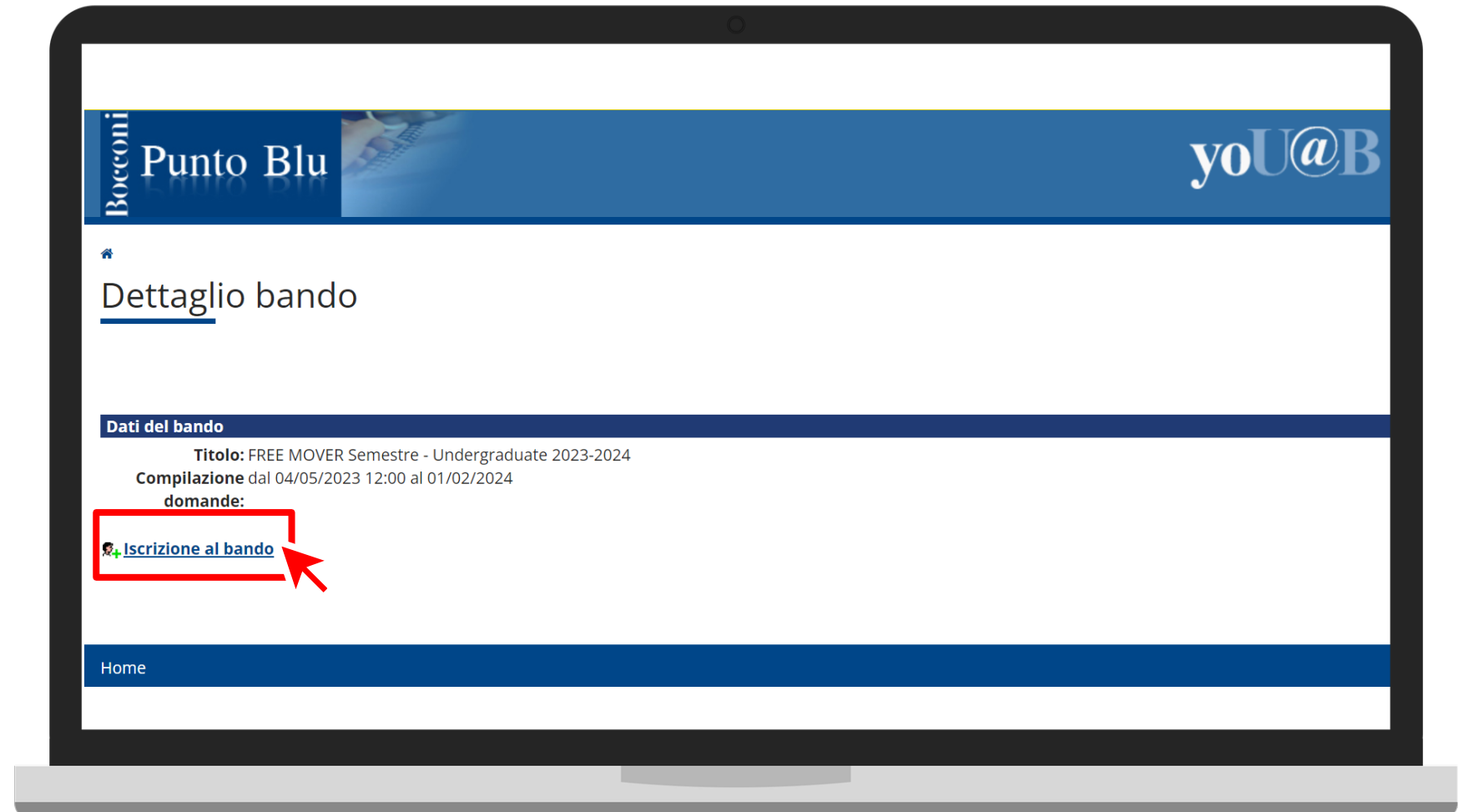
APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #6

Read carefully the **text** of the "declaration of responsibility of the student" and then **accept** the **conditions** by ticking the **following square** and the **all the mandatory requirements**.

APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #7

Scrolling down the page, you will view the destinations listed in the pdf document.
Remember that you can **apply for one single host school** among the available ones listed.

NB: it is not necessary to specify the desired semester in this phase of the application.

If a destination – among the ones listed in the pdf - is no more displayed, it means that **the 10 students cap has already been reached**.

If a student cancels the application for that destination, his/her place will become available again.

Selezionare la destinazione e l'opzione necessaria per soddisfare il requisito minimo richiesto. In caso il requisito minimo richiesto risulti soddisfatto tramite la carriera, procedere con l'iscrizione senza selezionare alcuna opzione dal menu a tendina.

Cod.	Sede di destinazione	Pref	Lingua	Certificazioni Linguistiche	Voto	Data (dd/mm/aaaa)
78	New York University - Visiting Students		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
135	University of California, Berkeley		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
147	University of California Santa Barbara		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
153	Universidad Argentina de la Empresa - UADE		SPAGNOLO			gg/mm/aaaa
154	Universidad de Belgrano		SPAGNOLO			gg/mm/aaaa
166	HEC Paris		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
184	University of Melbourne		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
191	Corvinus University of Budapest		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
206	Yonsei University		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
219	Universidad Catolica de Uruguay		SPAGNOLO			gg/mm/aaaa

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APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

<div style="background:#e8392e;color:white;text-align:center;">STEP #8</div>

Leave **blank** the box "**Certificazioni linguistiche**" (ENG: **Language Certificates**) if you already meet the minimum language requirement by having the English/second language exam registered in career *or* you are enrolled in a Bachelor taught in English.

Select the general certification (**163/166/169/172**) for each choice if you do NOT have the English/other second language exam registered in career and you are not enrolled in a Bachelor taught in English in order to **declare** that you have an alternative supporting document to apply for Free-Mover Semester. It is **not necessary to upload the document in this phase** of the application.

Selezionare la destinazione e l'opzione necessaria per soddisfare il requisito minimo richiesto. In caso il requisito minimo richiesto risulti soddisfatto tramite la carriera, procedere con l'iscrizione senza selezionare alcuna opzione dal menu a tendina.

Cod.	Sede di destinazione	Pref.	Lingua	Certificazioni Linguistiche	Voto	Data (dd/mm/aaaa)
78	New York University - Visiting Students		INGLESE	[163] International Certificate to satisfy the minimum English la		gg/mm/aaaa
135	University of California, Berkeley		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
147	University of California Santa Barbara		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
153	Universidad Argentina de la Empresa - UADE		SPAGNOLO			gg/mm/aaaa
154	Universidad de Belgrano		SPAGNOLO			gg/mm/aaaa
166	HEC Paris		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
184	University of Melbourne		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
191	Corvinus University of Budapest		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
206	Yonsei University		INGLESE			gg/mm/aaaa
219	Universidad Catolica de Uruguay		SPAGNOLO			gg/mm/aaaa

APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #9

Once you select the desired destination, in order to submit your application, you have to click on **"Iscrivi"** (**ENG: Apply**)

NB: In case you do not meet the requirements and you do not declare that you have a supporting document when you click on "Iscrivi", the system reports an error → see the next slide

APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

WARNING

If you do not meet the requirements and you do not declare that you have a supporting document, the system gives an **error** as displayed in the **following screen**.
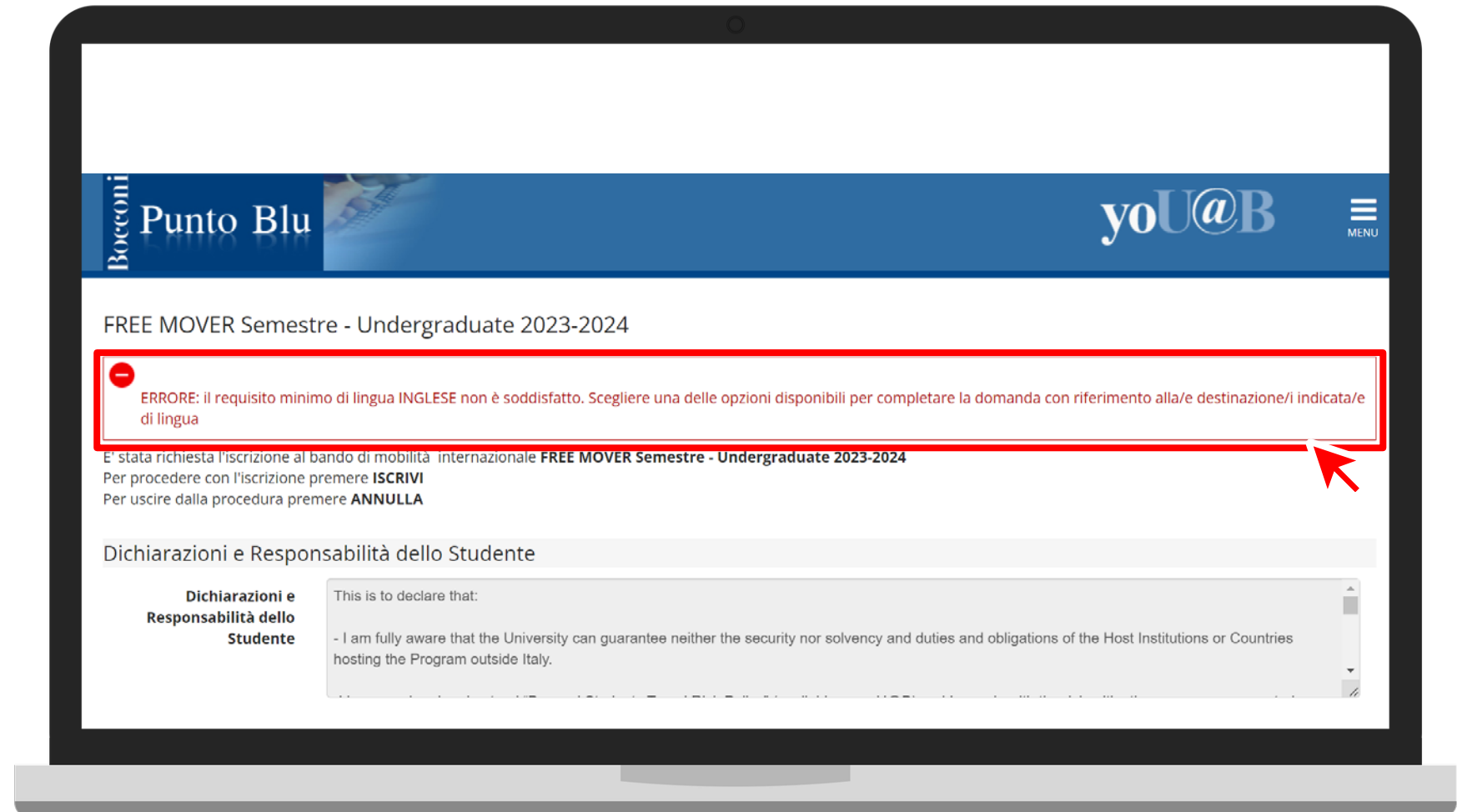
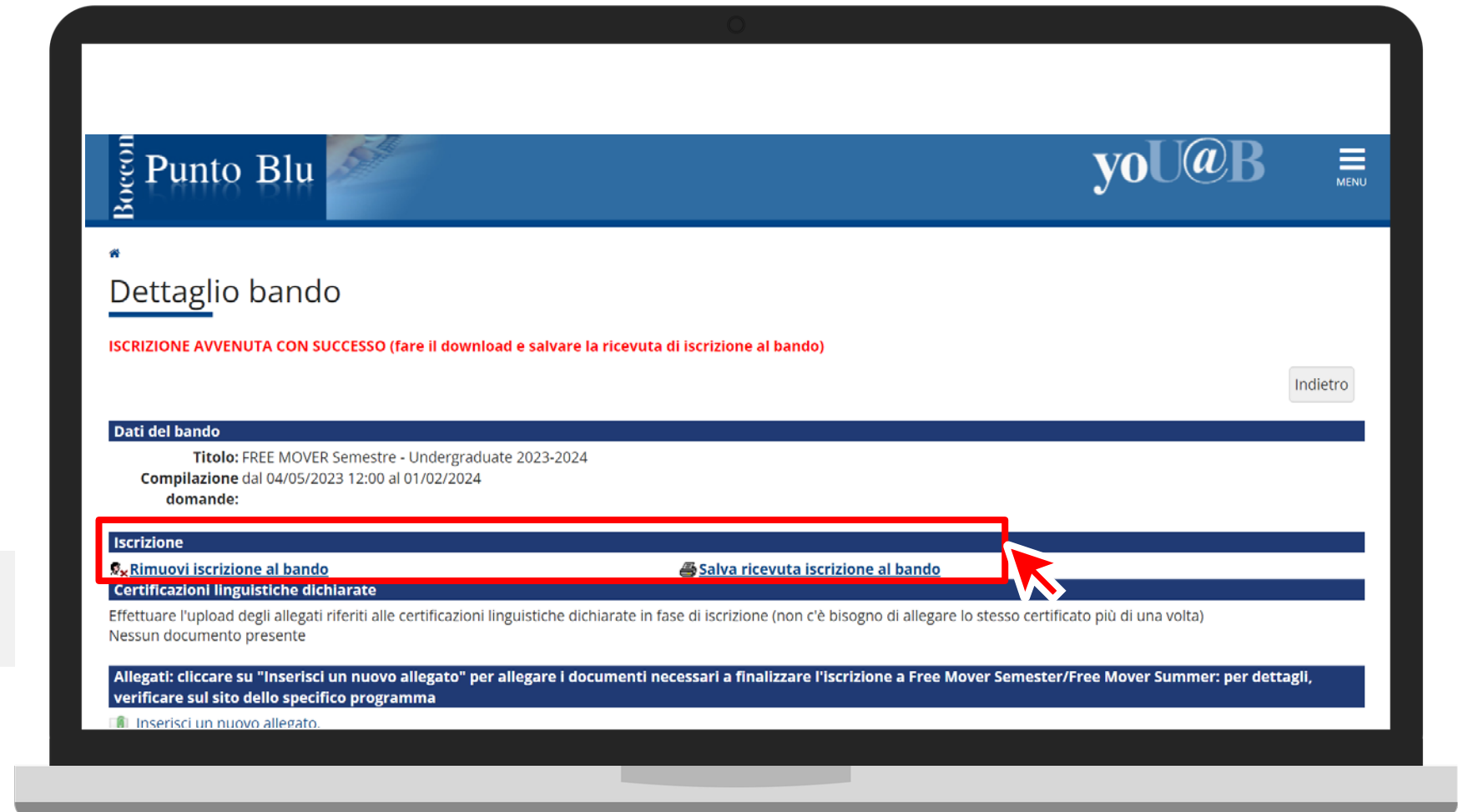# **APPENDIX**. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

HOW TO APPLY?

STEP #10

The following screenshot gives the **confirmation** of your **reservation** for the slot**.**

Here you can **save** the **receipt** of registration (it is important that all students do so) or **cancel** your reservation.

NB: If not successful, the system will notify in real time if the destination has just reached the 10 students cap.
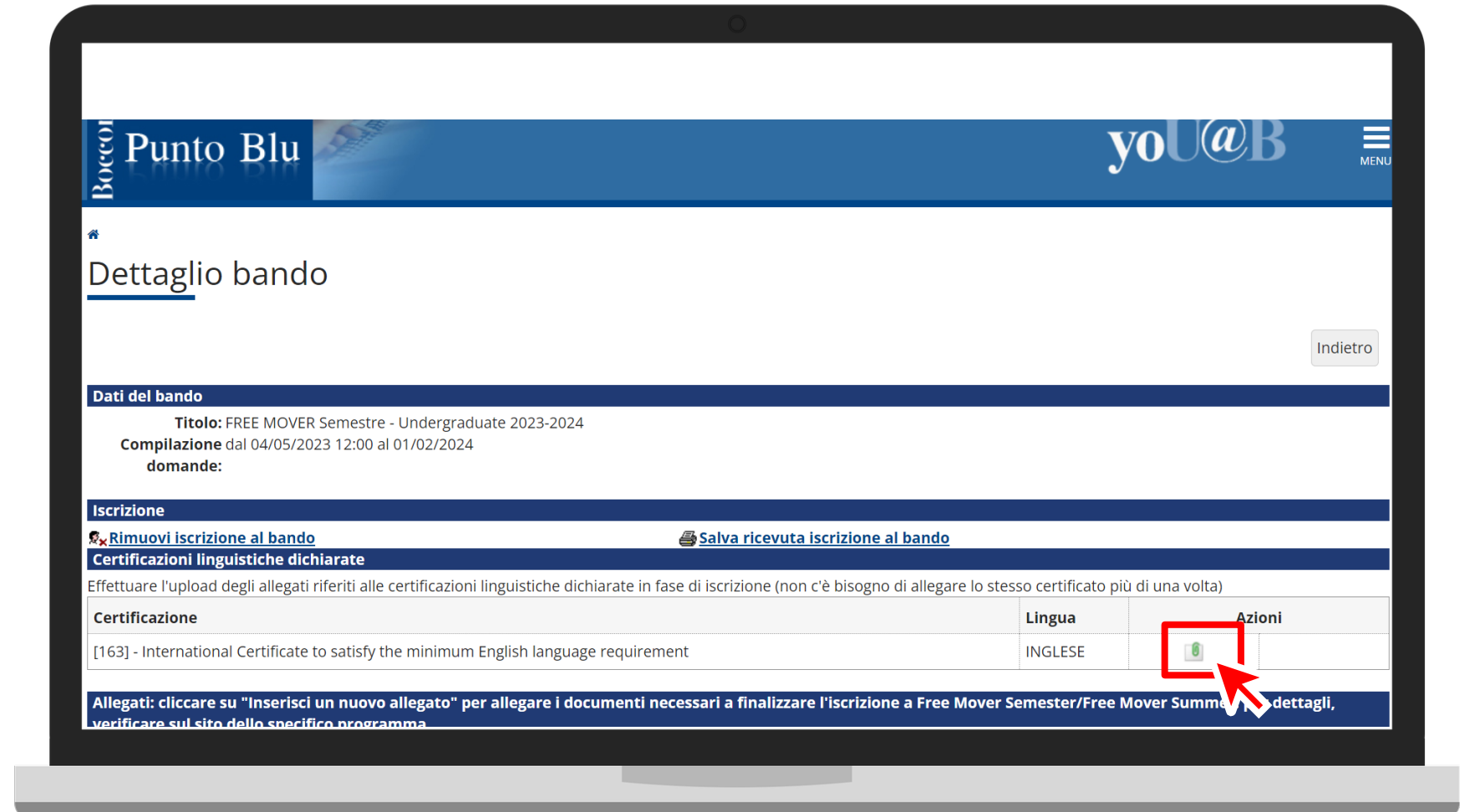

Punto Blu   yoU@B   MENU

Dettaglio bando

ISCRIZIONE AVVENUTA CON SUCCESSO (fare il download e salvare la ricevuta di iscrizione al bando)

Indietro

Dati del bando

    Titolo: FREE MOVER Semestre - Undergraduate 2023-2024
Compilazione dal 04/05/2023 12:00 al 01/02/2024
domande:

Iscrizione

🗑 **Rimuovi iscrizione al bando**   🖨 **Salva ricevuta iscrizione al bando**

Certificazioni linguistiche dichiarate

Effettuare l'upload degli allegati riferiti alle certificazioni linguistiche dichiarate in fase di iscrizione (non c'è bisogno di allegare lo stesso certificato più di una volta)
Nessun documento presente

Allegati: cliccare su "Inserisci un nuovo allegato" per allegare i documenti necessari a finalizzare l'iscrizione a Free Mover Semester/Free Mover Summer: per dettagli, verificare sul sito dello specifico programma
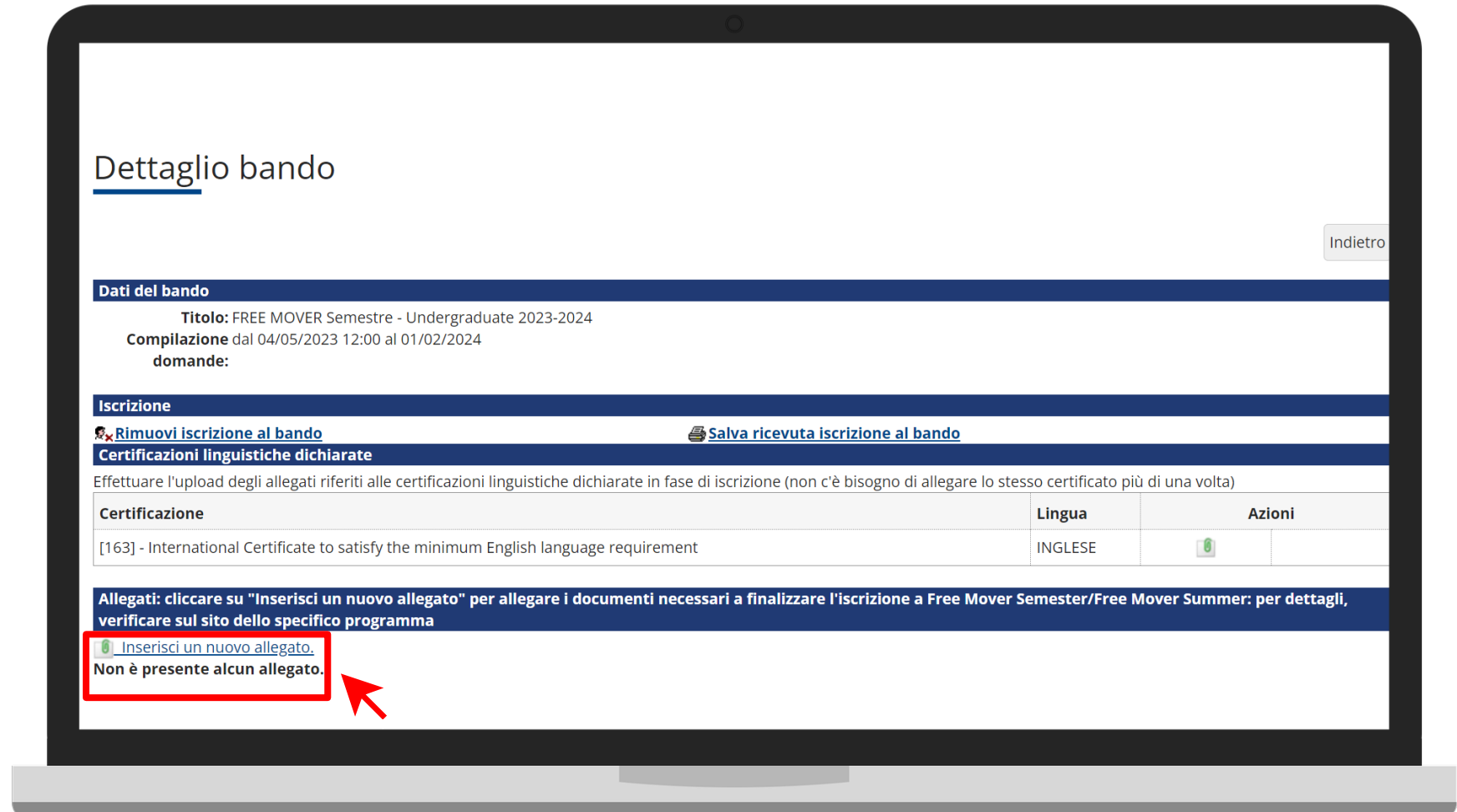
   Inserisci un nuovo allegato

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APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

WHAT'S NEXT?

BEFORE DEPARTURE

For those who declared that they need a supporting document in order to meet the minimum language requirements, it is **mandatory** to **upload** the **PDF** with the scanned **document (international certificate/secondary school diploma/passport)** by **clicking** on the appropriate **icon**.

IMPORTANT: If you **forget** to **upload** your supporting document **at least one working week before departure** and do not meet the minimum language requirements, your **application** will be considered **invalid**.

APPENDIX. APPLICATION AT PUNTO BLU

WHAT'S NEXT?

BEFORE DEPARTURE

After receiving the **official admission letter from the host university**, it is **mandatory** to **upload** the **PDF** with the scanned **document** by **clicking** on the appropriate **icon**.

IMPORTANT: If you **forget** to **upload** your supporting document and to **notify** the Study Abroad Office **at least one working week before departure**, your **application** will be considered **invalid**.

Dettaglio bando

Indietro

Dati del bando

Titolo: FREE MOVER Semestre - Undergraduate 2023-2024
Compilazione dal 04/05/2023 12:00 al 01/02/2024
domande:

Iscrizione

🔖 **Rimuovi iscrizione al bando**   🖨 **Salva ricevuta iscrizione al bando**

Certificazioni linguistiche dichiarate

Effettuare l'upload degli allegati riferiti alle certificazioni linguistiche dichiarate in fase di iscrizione (non c'è bisogno di allegare lo stesso certificato più di una volta)

Certificazione	Lingua	Azioni
[163] - International Certificate to satisfy the minimum English language requirement	INGLESE	📄

Allegati: cliccare su "Inserisci un nuovo allegato" per allegare i documenti necessari a finalizzare l'iscrizione a Free Mover Semester/Free Mover Summer: per dettagli, verificare sul sito dello specifico programma

📄 Inserisci un nuovo allegato.
Non è presente alcun allegato.

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CONTACTS
- *B in Touch > Free Mover*
- *Appointments*
available on the yoU@B Diary