

Mobility project for higher education students and staff

This higher education mobility action supports physical and blended mobility of higher education students in any study fields and cycle (short cycle, bachelor, master and doctoral levels). Students can either study abroad at a partner higher education institution or carry out a traineeship in an enterprise, a research institute, a laboratory, an organization or any other relevant workplace abroad. Students can also combine a study period abroad with a traineeship, further enhancing the learning outcomes and development of transversal skills. While long term physical mobility is strongly encouraged, this action recognizes the need to offer more flexible physical mobility duration to ensure the Programme is accessible to students from all backgrounds, circumstances and study fields.

This action also supports higher education teaching and administrative staff to take part in professional development activities abroad as well as staff from the world of work to teach and train students or staff at higher education institutions. These activities may consist of teaching as well as training periods (such as job shadowing, observation periods, training courses).

Furthermore, this action supports blended intensive programmes, allowing for groups of higher education institutions to jointly develop blended mobility curricula and activities for students as well as academic and administrative staff.

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Objectives of the Action

The objective of this action is to contribute to establishing a European Education Area with a global outreach and to strengthen the link between education and research.

The action aims to foster employability, social inclusion, civic engagement, innovation and environmental sustainability in Europe and beyond by enabling students from all study fields and at all study cycles to have the opportunity to study or train abroad as part of their studies. The objectives of the action are to:

- expose students to different views, knowledge, teaching and research methods as well as work practices in their study field in the European and international context;
- develop their transversal skills such as communication skills, language skills, critical thinking, problem solving, inter-cultural skills and research skills;
- develop their forward looking skills, such as digital and green skills, that will enable them to tackle the challenges of today and tomorrow;
- facilitate personal development such as the ability to adapt to new situations and self-confidence.

The objective is also to enable any staff, including staff from enterprises, to teach or train abroad as part of their professional development in order to:

- share their expertise;
- experience new teaching environments;
- acquire new innovative pedagogical and curriculum design skills as well as digital skills;
- connect with their peers abroad to develop common activities to achieve the programme's objectives;
- exchange good practices and enhance cooperation between higher education institutions;
- better prepare students for the world of work.

In addition, the objective is to foster the development of transnational and transdisciplinary curricula as well as innovative ways of learning and teaching, including online collaboration, research-based learning and challenge-based approaches with the objective of tackling societal challenges.

Eligibility criteria

Who can apply?

Any eligible participating organisation can act as coordinator and apply on behalf of all the organisations involved in the consortium.

Number of participating organisations

A mobility consortium must comprise a minimum of three eligible participating organisations, including two sending HEIs.

All member organisations of the mobility consortium must be identified at the time of applying for the consortium accreditation.

Duration of the consortium accreditation

The whole programme period.

Where to apply?

To the National Agency of the country in which the applicant organisation is established.

When to apply?

Applicants have to submit their accreditation application by **23 February at 12:00:00 (midday Brussels time) for projects starting as of 1 June of the same year or later years.**

How to apply?

Please see [part C of this Guide](#) for details on how to apply.

Description of the activities

Student mobility

Student mobility can be carried out in any study field and cycle (short cycle/bachelor/master/doctoral). To ensure high-quality mobility activities with maximum impact on the students, the mobility activity has to be compatible with the student's degree-related learning and personal development needs.

Students may carry out the activities described below:

- A **study period** abroad at a partner higher education institution. The study period abroad must be part of the student's study programme to complete a degree at any study cycle. A study period abroad may include a traineeship period as well. Such a combination creates synergies between the academic and professional experience abroad.
- A **traineeship** (work placement, internship) abroad in an enterprise, a research institute, a laboratory, an organisation or any other relevant workplace. Traineeships abroad are supported during studies at any study cycle and for recent graduates. This also includes teaching assistantships for student teachers and research assistantships for students and doctoral candidates in any relevant research facility. To further enhance the synergies with Horizon Europe, these mobilities can also take place in the context of Horizon Europe funded research projects, in full respect of the principle of no double EU funding of activities. Wherever possible, the traineeships should be an integrated part of the student's study programme.
- **Doctoral mobility**

To better meet the diverse learning and training needs of doctoral candidates and to ensure equal opportunities with those that have the status of higher education staff, doctoral candidates and recent graduates ('post-docs')⁵ can undertake short-term or long-term physical study or traineeship mobility periods abroad. Adding a virtual component to the physical mobility is encouraged.

- **Blended mobility**

Any study period or traineeship abroad of any duration, including doctoral mobility, may be carried out as a blended mobility. Blended mobility is a combination of physical mobility with a virtual component facilitating a collaborative online learning exchange and teamwork. For example, the virtual component can bring learners together online from different countries and study

fields to follow online courses or work collectively and simultaneously on assignments that are recognised as part of their studies.

Any student can also undertake blended mobility by participating in a **blended intensive programme** according to the specific eligibility criteria for blended intensive programmes, described in this Guide.

In addition, students (short cycle/bachelor/master) who are not able to participate in long-term physical study or traineeship mobility, for example, due to their study field or because they have fewer opportunities for participation, will be able to carry out a short-term physical mobility by combining it with a compulsory virtual component.

- **Staff mobility**

Staff mobility can be carried out by any type of higher education staff or by invited staff from outside the HEIs. To ensure high-quality mobility activities with maximum impact, the mobility activity has to be related to the staff's professional development and to address their learning and personal development needs. Staff may carry out any of the activities described below:

- A **teaching period** abroad at a partner higher education institution. The teaching period abroad enables any teaching staff at a higher education institution or staff from enterprises to teach at a partner higher education institution abroad. Staff mobility for teaching can be in any study field.
- A **training period** abroad at a partner higher education institution, enterprise or any other relevant workplace. The training period abroad enables any staff at a higher education institution to take part in a training activity abroad that is relevant to their day-to-day work at the higher education institution. It may take the form of training events (excluding conferences) or job shadowing and observation periods.

A staff mobility period abroad can combine teaching and training activities. Any teaching or training period abroad may be carried out as a **blended mobility**.

Blended intensive programmes

These are short, intensive programmes that use innovative ways of learning and teaching, including the use of online cooperation. The programmes may include challenge based learning where transnational and transdisciplinary teams work together to tackle challenges for example those linked to the United Nations' sustainable development goals or other societal challenges identified by regions, cities or companies. The intensive programme should have added value compared to existing courses or trainings offered by the participating higher education institutions and can be multiannual. By enabling new and more flexible mobility formats that combine physical mobility with a virtual part, blended intensive programmes aim at reaching all types of students from all backgrounds, study fields and cycles.

Groups of higher education institutions will have the opportunity to organise short blended intensive programmes of learning, teaching and training for students and staff. During these blended intensive programmes, groups of students or staff as learners will undertake a short-term physical mobility abroad combined with a compulsory virtual component facilitating collaborative online learning exchange and teamwork. The virtual component must bring the learners together online to work collectively and simultaneously on specific assignments that are integrated in the blended intensive programme and count towards the overall learning outcomes.

In addition, blended intensive programmes can be open to student and staff from higher education institutions outside the partnership. Blended intensive programmes build capacity for developing and implementing innovative teaching and learning practices in the participating HEIs.

What are the criteria used to apply for and engage in a mobility project?

General Eligibility Criteria of mobility projects

A higher education mobility project must respect the following formal criteria below in order to be eligible for an Erasmus+ grant. General eligibility criteria address general requirements at project level, whereas the specific criteria listed in the following sections address the requirements for the implementation of specific activities.

Eligible activities

Higher education institutions (HEIs) may implement one or more of the following activities:

- Student mobility for studies
 - Student mobility for traineeships
- Staff mobility for teaching
- Staff mobility for training
- Blended intensive programmes (not for mobility projects supported by external policy funds)

Duration of project

Mobility projects supported by internal policy funds: 26 months

Mobility projects supported by external policy funds: 24 or 36 months

Where to apply?

When to apply?

Applicants have to submit their grant application by **23 February at 12:00:00 (midday Brussels time) both for projects funded with internal policy funds starting on 1 June of the same year and for projects funded with external actions instruments starting on 1 August of the same year.**

How to apply?

Other criteria needed

Specific eligibility criteria for student mobility

Eligible participating organisations

Student mobility for studies:

All participating organisations associated to the Programme (both sending and receiving) must be higher education institutions (HEIs) awarded with an ECHE. All receiving organisations from third country not associated to the Programme (both sending and receiving) must be HEIs recognised by competent authorities and have signed inter-institutional agreements with their partners from EU Member States or third countries associated to the Programme, before the mobility takes place.

Duration of the activity

Student mobility for studies: from 2 months (or one academic term or trimester) to 12 months of physical mobility. This can include a complementary traineeship period, if planned, and may be organized in different ways depending on the context: either one activity after the other or both at the same time. The combination follows the funding rules and minimum duration of study mobility

Student mobility for traineeships: from 2 to 12 months of physical mobility.

Any student, in particular those who are not able to participate in a long-term physical mobility for studies or for traineeships, may combine a shorter physical mobility with a virtual component (blended short-term mobility). In addition, any student may participate in blended intensive programmes. In these cases, physical mobility must last between 5 days and 30 days and be combined with a compulsory virtual component facilitating collaborative online learning exchange and teamwork. A blended mobility for studies must award a minimum of 3 ECTS credits.

Mobility for studies and/or traineeships for doctoral candidates: from 5 to 30 days or from 2 to 12 months of physical mobility (a study mobility may include a complementary traineeship period, if planned).

Total eligible duration per study cycle:

The same student may participate in mobility periods totalling up to 12 months⁹ of physical mobility maximum per each cycle of study¹⁰ , independently of the number and type of mobility activities:

- during the first study cycle (Bachelor or equivalent) including the short-cycle (EQF levels 5 and 6);
- during the second study cycle (Master or equivalent - EQF level 7); and
- during the third cycle as doctoral candidate (doctoral level or EQF level 8).

The duration of a traineeship by recent graduates counts towards the 12 months maximum of the cycle during which they apply for the traineeship.

Venue(s) of the activity

Students must carry out their physical mobility activity in an EU Member State or third countries associated to the Programme or a third country not associated to the Programme different from the country of the sending organisation and the country where the student has his/her accommodation during his/her studies¹¹ .

Specific Eligibility Criteria for Staff Mobility

Eligible participating organisations

Staff mobility for teaching:

The sending organisation must be:

- a third country associated to the Programme awarded with an ECHE, or
- a HEI from a third country not associated to the Programme recognised by competent authorities that has signed inter-institutional agreements with their partners from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme,

Staff mobility for training:

The sending organisations must be a HEI from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme awarded with an ECHE, or a HEI from a third country not associated to the Programme recognised by competent authorities that has signed inter-institutional agreements with their partners from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme, before the mobility takes place.

The receiving organisation must be:

- A HEI from a EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme awarded with an ECHE, or a HEI from a third country not associated to the Programme recognised by competent authorities that has signed inter-institutional agreements with their partners from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme before the mobility takes place, or
- any public or private organisation from EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme (or from third countries not associated to the Programme, if the mobility project is funded with internal policy funds) active in the labour market or in the fields of education, training, youth research and innovation.

Duration of the activity

Staff mobility for teaching and training:

From 2 days to 2 months of physical mobility, excluding travel time. In case of mobility involving third countries not associated to the Programme, the duration must be from 5 days to 2 months. In both cases, the minimum days must be consecutive.

In the case of **invited staff from enterprises**, the minimum duration is 1 day of physical mobility.

A teaching activity has to comprise a minimum of 8 hours of teaching per week (or any shorter period of stay). If the mobility lasts longer than one week, the minimum number of teaching hours for an incomplete week should be proportional to the duration of that week. The following exceptions apply:

- There is no minimum number of teaching hours for invited staff from enterprises.
- If the teaching activity is combined with a training activity during a single period abroad, the minimum number of hours of teaching per week (or any shorter period of stay) is reduced to 4 hours

A) Funding rules applying to all mobility activities

Budget category - Organizational support

Eligible costs and applicable rules

Costs directly linked to the implementation of mobility activities (excluding subsistence and travel for participants).

Financing mechanism: contribution to unit costs.

Rule of allocation: based on the number of mobility participants.

Amount

For mobility projects supported by internal policy funds:

Up to the 100th participant: **400 EUR per participant**, and beyond the 100th participant: 230 EUR per additional participant

For mobility projects supported by external policy funds:

500 EUR per participant

Budget category - Inclusion support

Eligible costs and applicable rules

Costs related to the organisation of mobility activities for participants with fewer opportunities requiring additional support based on real costs.

Financing mechanism: contribution to unit costs

Rule of allocation: based on the number of participants with fewer opportunities receiving additional support based on real costs through the inclusion support category.

Amount

Additional costs directly related to participants with fewer opportunities, which cannot be covered through the top-up amount for individual support for participants with fewer opportunities. In particular these costs aim at covering the extra financial support required for participants with physical, mental or health related conditions to allow their participation in the mobility as well as in

preparatory visits and for accompanying persons (including costs related to travel and subsistence, if justified and as long as it is not covered through budget categories "travel support" and "individual support" for these participants).[14](#)

Financing mechanism: real costs.

Rule of allocation: the request must be justified by the applicant and approved by the National Agency.

Amount

100% of eligible costs

Budget category - Exceptional costs

Eligible costs and applicable rules

Costs for providing a financial guarantee, if the National Agency asks for it.

In the case of a mobility project funded with internal policy funds: Expensive travel costs of participants eligible for travel support.

Financing mechanism: real costs.

Rule of allocation: the request must be justified by the applicant and approved by the National Agency

Amount

Costs for financial guarantee: 80% of eligible costs

Expensive travel costs: 80% of eligible travel costs

B) Grant support for the mobility of students

Individual support for physical mobility – base amounts for long-term mobility

Students may receive an individual support grant as a contribution to their additional costs for travel and subsistence related to their period of study or traineeship abroad.

For mobility between EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme and to third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 and 14, the monthly amounts will be defined by the National

Agencies in agreement with National Authorities, and/or the higher education institutions on the basis of objective and transparent criteria as described below. The exact amounts will be published on the websites of National Agencies and of higher education institutions.

EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme and third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 and 14¹⁵ are divided into the three following groups:

Group 1 - Countries with higher living costs

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden.

Group 2 - Countries with medium living costs

Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain.

Group 3 - Countries with lower living costs

Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, North Macedonia, Turkey.

The EU Erasmus+ individual support grant provided to students will depend on their mobility flow between the sending and receiving countries of the student, as follows:

- mobility towards a country with similar living costs: students will receive the medium range EU grant;
- mobility towards a country with higher living costs: students will receive the higher range EU grant;
- mobility towards a country with lower living costs: students will receive the lower range EU grant.

The amounts defined by National Agencies will be set within the following minimum and maximum ranges

- **Medium range EU grant:** a medium range, between 260 and 540 EUR per month, will apply to mobility activities towards a country of similar living costs: a) from Group 1 to Group 1, b) from Group 2 to Group 2 and c) from Group 3 to Group 3.
- **Higher range EU grant:** corresponds to the medium range applied by the National Agency plus at least 50 EUR and between 310 and 600 EUR per month. It applies to mobility activities towards a country of higher living costs: a) from Group 2 to Group 1 countries and b) from Group 3 to Group 1 and 2 countries.
- **Lower range EU grant:** corresponds to the medium range applied by the National Agency minus at least 50 EUR and between 200 and 490 EUR per month. It applies to mobility activities towards a country of lower living costs: a) Group 1 to Group 2 and 3 countries and b) from Group 2 to Group 3.

When defining the amounts to be applied by beneficiaries in their country, National Agencies will consider two specific criteria:

- the availability and the level of other sources of co-financing from private or public bodies at local, regional or national level to complement the EU grant;
- the general level of demand of students who intend to study or receive training abroad.

For mobility activities between EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme and to third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 and 14, National Agencies may decide to grant flexibility to their higher education institutions by fixing ranges instead of amounts at national level. This should be based on justified grounds, for example in countries where co-financing is available at regional or institutional level.

Students and recent graduates on international long-term mobility involving third countries not associated to the Programme

The base amounts for individual support is set as follows:

From	To	Amount
EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme	Third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 1-12.	700 EUR per month
EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme	Third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 and 14.	As described above in section “Grant support for the mobility of students – Individual support for physical mobility”
Third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 1-12.	Group 1 of EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme Group 2 of EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme Group 3 of EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme	900 EUR per month 850 EUR per month 800 EUR per month

The top-up amount for students and recent graduates with fewer opportunities will apply in this case.

The top-up amount for traineeships will apply only in the case of mobility to third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 and 14.

The EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme include outermost regions and OCTs.

Students and recent graduates on short-term physical mobility (blended mobility and doctoral short-term mobility)

The base amounts of individual support are set as follows:

Duration of the physical activity	Amount (any EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme or third country not associated to the Programme)
Up to the 14th day of activity	70 EUR per day
15th to the 30th day of activity	50 EUR per day

One travel day before the activity and one travel day following the activity may also be covered by individual support.

Students and recent graduates with fewer opportunities - top-up amount to the individual support for short-term physical mobility

Students and recent graduates with fewer opportunities receive a top-up amount to the individual support of their EU Erasmus+ grant of an amount of 100 EUR for a physical mobility activity period of 5-14 days and 150 EUR for the one of 15-30 days. The criteria to be applied are defined at national level by the National Agencies in agreement with National Authorities.

The top-up amount for traineeships will not apply in this case.

The EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme include outermost regions and OCTs.

Students and recent graduates not receiving travel support - top-up amount to individual support for green travel

Students and recent graduates who do not receive travel support can opt for green travel. In this case, they will receive a single contribution of 50 EUR as a top-up amount to the individual support and up to 4 days of additional individual support to cover travel days for a return trip, if relevant.

Travel support

The following participants will receive the below amounts of travel support to support them in covering their travel costs (with the exception of those to whom the opt-out described below applies):

- students and recent graduates studying or having studied in higher education institutions located in outermost regions of EU Member States, Cyprus, Iceland, Malta, and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) associated to EU Member States and who are going to EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme or third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 or 14;
- students and recent graduates with fewer opportunities on short-term mobility; and
- outgoing and incoming students and recent graduates in international mobility involving third countries not associated to the Programme, except Regions 13 and 14.

Travel distances¹⁶	Amount	In case of green travel
Between 0 and 99 KM	23 EUR per participant	
Between 100 and 499 KM	180 EUR per participant	210 EUR per participant
Between 500 and 1999 KM	275 EUR per participant	320 EUR per participant
Between 2000 and 2999 KM	360 EUR per participant	410 EUR per participant
Between 3000 and 3999 KM	530 EUR per participant	610 EUR per participant
Between 4000 and 7999 KM	820 EUR per participant	
8000 KM or more	1500 EUR per participant	

Students and recent graduates who opt for a green travel will receive up to 4 days of additional individual support to cover travel days for a return trip, if relevant.

C) Grant support for the mobility of staff

Staff will receive an EU grant as a contribution to their costs for travel and subsistence during the period abroad as follows:

Budget category - Travel support

Eligible costs and applicable rules

Contribution to the travel costs of participants, from their place of origin to the venue of the activity and return.

Financing mechanism: contribution to unit costs.

Rule of allocation: based on the travel distance per participant. The applicant must indicate the distance between the place of origin and the venue of the activity¹⁷ by using the distance calculator supported by the European Commission¹⁸.

Amount

Travel distance	Standard travel	Green travel
10 – 99 km	23 EUR	
100 – 499 km	180 EUR	210 EUR
500 – 1999 km	275 EUR	320 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	360 EUR	410 EUR
3000 – 3999 km	530 EUR	610 EUR
4000 – 7999 km	820 EUR	
8000 km or more	1500 EUR	

Budget category - Individual support

Eligible costs and applicable rules

Costs directly linked to the subsistence of participants during the activity.

Financing mechanism: contribution to unit costs.

Rule of allocation: based on the duration of the stay per participant (if necessary, including also one travel day before the activity and one travel day following the activity) Staff who opt for a green travel will receive up to four days of additional individual support to cover travel days for a return trip, if relevant.

Amount

Up to the 14th day of activity: table A1.1, per day per participant from EU Member States and third countries associated to the programme or table A1.2, per day per participant from third countries not associated to the programme

between the 15th and 60th day of activity: 70% of table A1.1, , per day per participant from EU Member States and third countries associated to the programme or 70% of table A1.2, per day per participant from third countries not associated to the programme

Table A – Individual support (amounts in euro per day)

The amounts depend on the receiving country. These amounts will be set within the minimum and maximum ranges provided in the table below. When defining the amounts to be applied by beneficiaries in their country, National Agencies, in agreement with National Authorities, will consider two specific criteria:

- the availability and the level of other sources of co-financing from private or public bodies at local, regional or national level to complement the EU grant;
- the general level of demand of staff who intend to teach or receive training abroad.

The same percentage within the range should be applied to all destination countries. It is not possible to give the same amount for all destination countries.

Receiving country	Staff from EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme	Staff from third countries not associated to the Programme
	Min-Max (per day)	Amount (per day)
	A1.1	A1.2
Norway, Denmark, Luxembourg, Iceland, Sweden, Ireland, Finland, Liechtenstein	80-180	180
Third countries not associated to the Programme from Region 14	80-180	Not eligible
Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Cyprus, Greece, Malta, Portugal	70-160	160
Third countries not associated to the Programme from Region 13	70-160	Not eligible
Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Croatia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Turkey, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Serbia	60-140	140
Partner Countries Third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 1-12	180	Not eligible

For mobility activities between EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme and to third countries not associated to the Programme from Regions 13 and 14, National Agencies may decide to grant flexibility to their higher education institutions by fixing ranges instead of amounts at national level. This should be based on justified grounds, for example in countries where co-financing is available at regional or institutional level. The exact amounts will be published on the website of each National Agency and higher education institutions.

D) Level of financial support for students and staff defined by higher education institutions and mobility consortia

In all cases, higher education institutions and mobility consortia will be required to respect the following principles and criteria when defining and/or applying the EU rates within their institution:

- Once the rates have been defined by the institutions/consortia, they shall remain the same throughout the duration of the mobility project. It is not possible to decrease or increase the level of grants within the same project.
- The rates must be defined and/or applied in an objective and transparent manner, taking into account all the principles and the methodology described above (i.e. considering the mobility flow as well as the additional specific funding).
- The same level of grant must be given to all students going to the same group of countries for the same type of mobility – studies or traineeships (except for students and recent graduates with fewer opportunities or from outermost EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme, outermost regions and OCTs).