

ERASMUS MUNDUS 2009 - 2013: Frequently asked questions

ACTION 2: Students (undergraduate and master students and doctorate and post-doctorate candidates) and Staff (academic and administrative staff). Latest update: June 2016

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Replies

1. What is a Partnership?

A Partnership is composed of multiple European and non-European Higher Education Institutions. Partnerships projects are selected by the EACEA to organise and implement student and staff exchanges.

2. When can the mobility start?

The projects selected in 2014 can organize the mobility in different cohorts according to the following timeline:

- First cohort: the mobility can start as from September 2014, the latest date for starting mobility must be 31 December 2015.
- Second cohort: the mobility can start as from September 2015, the latest date for starting mobility must be 31 December 2016.
- Third cohort: the mobility can start as from September 2016, the latest date for starting mobility must be 31 December 2017.

Staff mobility, on the other hand, can start at any time within the project duration.

Both students and staff mobility must end within the project eligibility period.

3. Who selects students and staff for mobility exchange?

The selected Partnerships are responsible for the organisation, selection and implementation of the individual mobility. Each Partnership establishes specific mechanisms for the selection of students and staff. In order to know who the selected Partnerships are, see the EACEA website at the following address:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus mundus/results compendia/selected projects action 2 en.php

4. How can I apply for mobility?

Students and staff interested in a scholarship shall submit their application directly to the Partnership: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus mundus/results compendia/selected projects action 2 en.php

Each Partnership is responsible for publishing the different mobility opportunities.

Bear in mind that, for every Higher Education Institution, specific admission requirements apply.

5. How will I find out whether or not I have been selected for a mobility grant?

Partnerships are responsible for communicating the results of the selection to the candidates.

6. Who can be considered "staff"?

Staff comprises teaching staff, researchers and university administrators (rectors, personnel in charge of cooperation offices, admissions and recognition departments, etc.) from the Partnership. Both, academic and administrative staff, are eligible for a mobility exchange. They will be invited by the host institution member of the Partnership in order to perform training, teaching and/or research activities.

7. What are the requirements for staff candidates to apply?

In order to be eligible, academic and administrative staff must be nationals of the third countries concerned by the geographical lot or of one of the eligible European countries, and must work or be associated with a Higher Education Institution.

8. Is mobility from Europe to Europe or from third-country to third-country allowed?

No. The Erasmus Mundus funds cannot be used for individual mobility of Europeans between European institutions or third-country nationals between third-country institutions involved in the Partnership.

9. Can students benefit from more than one scholarship within the same project?

European or third-country students cannot benefit from more than one mobility period within the same project. However, they can benefit from a second scholarship for a different type of mobility under another Erasmus Mundus Action 2 project.

10. Can staff benefit from more than one mobility period?

European or third-country staff can benefit from more than one mobility period within the same project. Additionally, staff can benefit from a second scholarship for a different type of mobility under another Erasmus Mundus Action 2 project.

11. What does Target Group mean?

For European students:

- To be considered Target Group 1 (TGI): students need to be registered at one of the European countries Higher Education Institutions within the Partnership at the time of submitting their application to the Partnership. Undergraduate students must have successfully completed at least one year of studies in their home institution;
- To be considered Target Group 2 (TGII): students need either to be registered in a Higher Education Institution (not included in the Partnership) of any European country or to have obtained a university degree or equivalent from a Higher Education Institution of any European country, at the time of submitting their application to the Partnership.

For Third-country students

- To be considered Target Group 1 (TGI): students need to be registered at one of the third-country Higher Education Institutions within the Partnership at the time of submitting their application to the Partnership. Undergraduate students must have successfully completed at least one year of studies in their home institution;
- To be considered Target Group 2 (TGII): students need either to be registered in a Higher Education Institution (not included in the Partnership) of the third-country concerned by the lot or to have obtained a university degree or equivalent from a Higher Education Institution of these third-countries, at the time of submitting their application to the Partnership;
- To be considered Target Group 3 (TGIII): students need to be nationals of one of the third-countries concerned by the lot and be part of the vulnerable target groups.

12. What are vulnerable target groups?

For example: 1) having a refugee status or asylum beneficiaries (international or according to the national legislation of one of the European recipient countries) or 2) it can be proved that they have been the object of unjustified expulsion from university on racial, ethnic, religious, political, gender or sexual inclination or 3) they belong to an indigenous population targeted by a specific national policy or IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons)

13. Can third-country nationality students living in Europe apply for a mobility flow?

In order to be eligible, third-country students must have not resided nor carried out their main activity (study, work, etc.) for more than a total of 12 months over the last five years in one of the European countries at the time of submitting their application to the Partnership. For this purpose, you might be asked to sign a

declaration of honour.

This rule does not apply to Target Group 3 candidates (see question 11 for Target Groups definition).

14. Can students have a placement period at Associate partners?

Yes, as long as the placement period is clearly foreseen in the student agreement as an integral part of the study period. The student is also entitled to receive the substance allowance during this period.

15. Can students/staff receive scholarships from other EU programmes at the same time and for the same mobility period?

Only one EU grant can be awarded for the purpose of implementing an action or activity. In this context, student/staff already benefiting from an EU mobility scholarship is not entitled to be awarded additional grants from other EU initiatives for the same purpose.

16. Can Higher Education Institutions claim tuition fees from visiting students?

No. Under no circumstances can participating Higher Education Institutions claim tuition fees costs directly from visiting students.

17. What do I need to do to obtain my visa?

Please bear in mind that obtaining a visa might be a lengthy process.

Once you have received the official confirmation from the Partnership that you have been selected, you have to start the procedure to obtain a visa by approaching the embassy of your host country.

The international offices of home and host universities are best placed to advise you on how to proceed, if needed. In addition, they might liaise with the EU Delegations, Consulates and the Embassies of the relevant countries on your behalf.

18. Do I need to pay for insurance?

No. The Partnership will purchase a full insurance (health, travel, accident) to cover your participation to the programme.

The minimum requirements of the insurance coverage can be found on the Erasmus Mundus website: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/beneficiaries/documents/action2/minimuminsurance_en_modified_a2.pdf

19. Where are my rights defined?

When you are selected for mobility, you will have to sign a Student Agreement with the Partnership, prior to your enrolment. This agreement defines rights and obligations of all parties and must provide you with a comprehensive picture of all the aspects related to your academic and financial participation in the programme.

20. How my mobility abroad will be recognised?

Academic recognition must be assured by the Partnership at the end of the study period abroad. The Learning Agreement and the transcript of records are the key documents that ensure the recognition by the home institution. The Learning Agreement should be signed by the responsible authorities at home and hosting institutions, as well as by the student, before the mobility starts. Any modifications to this document need to be agreed by all three parties, in due time.

21. To how many scholarships can I apply?

There are many Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Partnerships offering scholarships. Depending on your nationality, you might be eligible to apply to more than one project, but you can go on mobility with one Partnership only.

22. Can I apply, at the same time, to Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Partnerships and Action 1 Masters/Doctorates?

You can apply for both, Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Partnerships and Action 1 Masters/Doctorates, at the same time. However, you can only participate under one mobility scheme.

There is no limit for Action 2 applications - in some cases there are various Partnerships providing mobility for nationals of your country. In such cases, you can apply to any or all of the Partnerships.

As far as Action 1 is concerned, you can apply for an Erasmus Mundus scholarship/fellowship to a maximum of three (3) different joint programmes, Erasmus Mundus Master Courses and Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate together. However, you can go on mobility with one joint programme only.