# Student Programs

## Erasmus programs

\*\*Studying abroad\*\*

Erasmus+ helps organize student and doctoral candidate exchanges. These take place within countries fully part of the Erasmus+ program and to and from countries associated with Erasmus+.

\*\*Quick explainer\*\*

Individuals from Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, or Türkiye can participate in most opportunities as these non-EU countries are associated with the Erasmus+ program. For individuals from other non-EU countries, there are some opportunities, such as Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees or the international dimension of student and staff exchange.

You will need to check the opportunity pages for more information, as eligibility varies between opportunities.

There are 2 types of countries where Erasmus+ is active:

1. \*\*EU Member States and third countries associated with the Programme:\*\*

- They can fully take part in all the actions of the Erasmus+ Programme.

- They include all EU countries, members of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), candidate EU countries, and others (previously called Programme countries).

2. \*\*Third countries not associated with the Programme:\*\*

- They can take part in certain Erasmus+ actions.

- They were previously called Partner countries.

See the full list of eligible countries.

By studying abroad with Erasmus+, you can improve your communication, language, and intercultural skills, and gain soft skills highly valued by future employers. You can also combine your period spent studying abroad with a traineeship to gain work experience, which is essential when starting out on the job market.

Opportunities to study abroad are available to students at short cycle Bachelor and Master levels and Doctoral candidates. Access to Erasmus+ Online Linguistic Support will help you learn the language used for your studies if you are moving between Programme countries. Students with physical, mental, or health-related conditions may apply for additional funding after they have been selected to study abroad.

\*\*Duration\*\*

Your long-term study period abroad can last a minimum of 2 months (or 1 academic term or trimester) and a maximum of 12 months. Students can also do a blended mobility, combining a virtual period with a physical short or long-term mobility. The short-term physical presence abroad as part of blended mobility lasts a minimum of 5 days and a maximum of 30 days.

You can benefit from an exchange abroad with Erasmus+ multiple times, either as a student or as a trainee, but your total time abroad (study abroad periods included) may not exceed 12 months within one cycle of study.

"Cycle" refers to the level of study as defined by the European Qualifications Framework (EQF):

- First cycle (Bachelor or equivalent) EQF – 5/6

- Second cycle (Master or equivalent) EQF 7

- Third cycle (Doctoral or equivalent) EQF 8

For "one-cycle" courses such as medicine or architecture, you can go abroad with Erasmus+ for as long as 24 months.

\*\*Conditions\*\*

To study abroad with Erasmus+, you must be registered in a higher education institution and enrolled in studies leading to a recognized degree or tertiary-level qualification. For students in the first cycle, you need to be at least in the second year of your studies.

Your period of study abroad must be relevant for your degree-related learning and personal development needs and be part of the study program that you are following. Your home institution and the receiving institution must have an inter-institutional agreement between them for you to study there with Erasmus+. Both institutions must also hold the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (if they are in Programme countries). Institutions from Partner countries commit to the principles of the Charter when signing the inter-institutional agreements.

\*\*Academic recognition\*\*

Before the study abroad period:

- You, your sending and receiving higher education institutions must sign a Learning Agreement for Studies to ensure a transparent and efficient preparation of the exchange abroad, as well as to agree on how activities successfully completed abroad will be recognized. This document sets out rights and responsibilities of the various parties.

- You will receive the Erasmus+ Student Charter, explaining your rights and obligations with respect to your period of study abroad.

After the study abroad period:

- The receiving higher education institution must provide you and your sending institution with a transcript of records confirming that the agreed program has been completed and acknowledge the results.

- Your higher education institution must recognize the credits (using ECTS credits or an equivalent system) as agreed in the Learning Agreement before the mobility and count them towards your degree, without any further requirements.

- If your higher education institution is in a Programme country, your mobility period should also be recorded in the Diploma Supplement. Follow the link to read more on the Guidelines on how to use the Learning Agreement for Studies.

\*\*Financial support\*\*

You may receive an Erasmus+ grant as a contribution to your travel and subsistence costs. This may vary according to differences in living costs between your country and the destination country, the number of students applying for a grant, the distance between countries, and the availability of other grants.

If you are moving between Programme countries, check with your National Agency and your sending higher education institution for applicable rates. There is also extra support for students going on a traineeship, students from disadvantaged backgrounds, or from outermost Programme countries or regions.

Grant levels and fixed rates for exchanges between Programme and Partner countries are published in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide. Students in receipt of an Erasmus+ grant or an Erasmus+-zero-grant will sign a grant agreement specifying the duration of the mobility, the amount of the grant, and other rights and obligations.

If you are mobile within Programme countries, your sending institution will sign your grant agreement and be responsible for making all payments. If you are moving between Programme and Partner countries, the Programme country institution will sign the grant agreement. Your sending and receiving institutions will decide which one will make your payments.

As an Erasmus+ student, you are exempted from fees for tuition, registration, examinations, and charges for access to laboratories or libraries at the receiving institution. Small fees for insurance or student union membership may still apply. You may be eligible for additional grants from your institution, government, or other sources. Check the European Funding Guide or the Study Portals. You may also be eligible to apply for a scholarship for a Joint Master program or an EU-guaranteed student loan. These loans are made available by financial intermediaries participating in the European Investment Fund-run Skills & Education Guarantee Pilot.

\*\*How to apply\*\*

You can apply through the international or Erasmus+ office of your higher education institution. You should be selected by your sending higher education institution in a fair and transparent way.

\*\*Arrangements for students with physical, mental, or health-related conditions\*\*

Students with physical, mental, or health-related conditions may apply for additional funding after they have been selected for a mobility period.

\*\*Find out more\*\*

Make sure you know your rights when you study or do a traineeship abroad. Download a guide on blended mobility, detailing how higher education institutions can organize blended mobility opportunities for students and staff. Students with further questions about taking part in Erasmus+ should check the frequently asked questions before contacting their institution, their National Agencies for Programme countries, and National Offices for Partner countries (where available).

The ESAA - Erasmus+ Student and Alumni Association offer Erasmus+ students and alumni a dynamic forum for networking, professional development, and intercultural exchange. Doctoral students can also receive EU support for periods of research abroad through Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.

**Useful links to Erasmus program:**

Studying abroad: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/opportunities/opportunities-for-individuals/students/studying-abroad>