ERASMUS+

Key Action 1

Erasmus Mundus
Joint Master Degrees
EMJMDs
Financial envelope for EMJMDs in 2016 has been significantly increased allowing the selection of approximately 27 projects and will continue increasing until 2020.

Targeted regions for which additional scholarships can be applied for have been enlarged to African-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) countries.

Award of additional scholarships for targeted regions of the world has been simplified: the award criterion needs to be addressed only once by the applicants for any of the regions.
 EMJMDs applicants will be able to choose if they want to **opt out from the preparatory year** and start **immediately after the selection** with the first intake

**Weight** and **text** of the award criteria have been revised for improved focus and coherence
## Erasmus+ EMJMD call for proposals 2016 Selection roadmap

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<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<td>Publication of the call for proposals</td>
<td>October 2015</td>
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<td>Deadline for submission of applications</td>
<td>18 February 2016 – 12:00 CET</td>
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<td>Expert assessment</td>
<td>April – May 2016</td>
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<td>Accreditation check of Masters</td>
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<td>Award Decision</td>
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<td>Notification of applicants and publication of results on EACEA web site</td>
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<td>Preparation and signature of grant agreements</td>
<td>August - September 2016</td>
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<td>Start of projects</td>
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Example of EMJMD of 5 years

- **Title:** EMMC MECHATRONIC ENGINEERING (EU4M)
- **Coordinator:** UNIVERSIDAD DE OVIEDO - ES
- **Partners (4):**
  - HOCHSCHULE KARLSRUHE-TECHNIK UND WIRTSCHAFT - (DE)
  - ECOLE NATIONALE SUPERIEURE DE MECANIQUE ET DES MICROTECHNIQUES - (FR)
  - NILE UNIVERSITY - (Egypt)
  - IVANOVO STATE POWER ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY - (Russia)
- **Associated Partners (8):**
  - Six from Programme Countries => 2 (DE), 3 (ES), 1 (FR)
  - Two from Partner Countries => 1 (Cuba), 1 (Egypt)
- **Grant Awarded:** 2.641.000 € - 53 EMJMD scholarships for 3 intakes:
  - 43 scholarships (9 Programme C. + 34 Partner C.) + 10 additional for targeted regions
Common requirements for all Erasmus+ International dimension – Centralised Actions

- Submission on-line to EACEA
- eForm with attachments
- Four types of assessment criteria
  - Eligibility Criteria
  - Exclusion Criteria
  - Selection Criteria
  - Award Criteria
Eligibility criteria


- eForm submission only possible if basic eligibility criteria are fulfilled:
  
  e.g., deadline, minimum consortium composition (n°, profile and role), attachments uploaded in the eForm, maximum duration of the EMJMD, maximum amount of the grant requested, …

- Other eligibility criteria will be checked by the Agency staff:
  
  e.g. accreditation, submission language, duly filled in attachments, valid ECHE, …

It does not matter how well the project has been designed. If it does not fulfil the eligibility criteria, this will lead to the automatic rejection of the proposal.
EMJMD Evaluation procedure

- Peer review by independent external experts – 3 experts assess each proposal in a two-step evaluation procedure

→ **First step**: 75% (30 points) of the maximum allocated points for "Relevance"

→ **Second step**: only those proposals that have passed the first step will be assessed against the remaining award criteria

✓ To be considered for funding, proposals must score at least 70 points overall
EMJMD Award Criteria – Step 1

❖ Relevance of the project (max 40 points)

✓ "jointness"/integration, design and structure
✓ integration in the partners' degree catalogues
✓ needs analysis in the academic field, added value
✓ relevance of academic programme and learning outcomes
✓ HEI internationalisation: benefits of student and staff mobility
EMJMD Award Criteria – Step 2

- Quality of the project design and implementation (max 20 points)
  - excellent academic content - evaluation
  - student mobility and involvement of scholars/guest lecturers
  - services to students and academic staff
  - course rules, student rights and obligations (academic, administrative, financial)
  - integration/networking of students within socio-cultural and professional environment
  - Interaction with non-educational actors
Quality of the project team & the cooperation arrangements (max 20 points)

- expertise of the involved partners/staff
- institutional commitment of partners; governing bodies and management tools
- joint criteria for student application, selection and admission requirements, examination and performance evaluation
- financial outline of the EMJMD, including complementary funding
Impact and dissemination (max 20 points)

- development and sustainability strategy, mobilisation of other funding sources for scholarships and self-funded students
- institutional impact and internationalisation strategy
- entrepreneurship, involvement of employers and employability of graduates
- promotion, dissemination and awareness raising strategy, excellent students
- promotion of course materials and media through open licences (if relevant)
Award Criterion for additional scholarships

Only for applicants asking for 4 additional student scholarships per intake - (3 intakes/editions per contract → ~ 12 scholarships)

**ADDITIONAL AWARD CRITERION**

Only projects that have passed the first step of the selection process ("Relevance") will be assessed against the additional criterion which will cover all targeted regions, for which additional scholarships have been applied for.
Award Criterion for additional scholarships

Relevance of the project in the targeted regions (max 5 points)

➢ The proposal describes the **methods** used to **attract highly talented students from the targeted region(s)**.

➢ The proposal encourages **cooperation with HEIs** and/or other eligible participating organisation from **Partner Countries in the targeted region(s)**. The **added value** of such cooperation to the EMJMD is clearly explained.

- **To be considered for funding the proposal must score at least 2.5 points** under this criterion
How to apply – eForm and annexes (1)

- **What?**

  **eForm:** Sections A, B, C, D - Consortium composition and project data

  + **compulsory attachments:**
    - ✓ Description of the project (Word format)
      - Step 1 – "Relevance of the project"
      - Step 2 - "Quality of the project design and implementation, Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements, Impact and dissemination" + if applicable "Relevance of the project in the targeted region(s)"
    - ✓ Grant request table (Excel format)
    - ✓ Declaration on honour and Partners' Mandates (pdf format)
  
  - **Optional:** Other relevant annexes (Word or pdf format)
Part A: Identification of the applicant and other organisations participating in the project (administrative information)
   A.1 Organisation
   A.2 Person responsible for the management of the application (contact person)
   A.3 Person authorised to represent the organisation in legally binding agreements (legal representative)

Part B: Description of the project (general information)
   B.1 Summary of the project
   B.2 Priorities addressed (by default: "Higher education")
   B.3 Dates and language (by default: "English")
Part C: EMJMD Typology

C.1 Duration in semesters and ECTS credits of an intake
C.2 Continuation of Erasmus Mundus Master Course (EMMC)
C.3 Proposal under previous EM calls for proposals
C.4 Proposal under previous Erasmus+ EMJMD call for proposals
C.5 Inclusion of internship/placement period
C.6 Study periods outside Programme countries
C.7 Application for additional scholarships for targeted regions of the world
C.8 Consortium plan (preparatory year) and EMJMD intake/edition duration
C.9 EMJMD tuition language(s)
C.10 Thematic field
C.11 Degree(s) intended to be awarded

Part D: Grant Request

The total EMJMD grant request amount(s) must be identical with the amount(s) of the Grant request Excel table
How to apply – Attachments (1)

- **Description of the project (Step 1 & 2):**
  - refers to the "Award criteria,“
  - Projects proofing skills and expertise of staff involved
  - Other EU grants

- **Grant request table** automatically calculates the maximum EU grant requested based on the following input:
  - ECTS credits / duration of an intake
  - Whether a preparatory year will be implemented
  - Participation costs of the EMJMD
  - Estimated number of students per intake, split into Programme/Partner Country
  - If applicable, number of additional scholarships for students from targeted regions of the world
How to apply – Attachment specifications (2)

 DECLARATION ON HONOUR & MANDATES

- Declaration on Honour: signed by the legal representative of the applicant HEI
- Mandates: signed by the legal representative of each partner (except applicant)
  - not required for Associated Partners (if applicable)
  - must be scanned and attached in one single .pdf document, with Mandates keeping the order as in the List of Participating organisation of the eForm (P2-Pn)

OTHER RELEVANT ANNEXES (OPTIONAL)

- cannot replace essential information expected in the mandatory parts of the Application Package
- should support, illustrate or evidence the information already provided in the Award Criteria attachments
- exhaustive list of documents provided in the "Instructions for completing the Application Package" (needs analysis, business plan, consortium/student agreement, etc.)
EMJMD Consortium Agreement

- Institutional commitment of all organisations participating in the EMJMD consortium. In line with the principles of the European Charter for Higher Education (ECHE), it must cover all academic, operational, administrative and financial aspects related to the implementation of the EMJMD.

  → Definition of the **roles** and **duties** of the consortium partners and of the **joint governing bodies** of the EMJMD consortium

  → Description of the **academic programme**, design of the **programme/semester structure** and establishment of the **mobility paths**

  → **Financial Management**: definition of **student participation costs** and the establishment of a **multi-annual budget**

  → Definition of a **development** and **sustainability plan**

  → Clear roles concerning the joint **promotion/awareness-raising** activities and the **marketing aspects**

How to apply – procedure

**Application procedure**

1. Register the partnership's organisations in the Participant Portal and receive a Participant Identification Code (PIC)
2. Create your electronic application form using your PICs
3. Fill in the eForm
4. Attach completed versions of the attachments within the eForm
   - *Description of the project (Step 1, Step 2, if applicable Targeted regions), Grant request table, Declaration on honour and Partners' Mandates, Other relevant annexes*
5. Submit the eForm on-line
6. Acknowledgement of receipt with application reference number
How to apply – Guidance for completing the eForm and annexes

✓ Instructions for completing the Application Package
  Rules and guidance on eForm content, annexes and the application process in general
✓ eForm User Guide
  Assistance with the technical aspects of completing the eForm
✓ Guide for Experts
  in particular section on "Good practices in the implementation of EMJMDs"
Prerequisites for an Erasmus Mundus proposal

- Your consortium has a "broad knowledge" of Erasmus+ and a "sound knowledge" of the Erasmus Mundus action
  - What/who is it for? How does it work? What activities does it support and how? Who could help you understand it better?

- Your consortium has a concrete idea for an international partnership to jointly implement a Master course
  - Does it fit the EMJMD objectives, priorities, requirements, etc.?
  - Does it address the needs of all the consortium partners?

- Your idea is embedded in your institutions
  - Have it discussed with the relevant instances (Rector, Dean, international affairs office, etc.)
  - Ensure support for the proposal preparation and, if successful, the project implementation
Building up your EMJMD consortium (1)

- **Start locally in your institution:**
  
  _other colleagues, services, departments with experience in running international mobility projects (in particular Erasmus Mundus)_

- **Consult your Erasmus+ National Agency:**
  
  _for advice and networking opportunities_

- **Continue searching for other stakeholders** from Programme Countries to _expand the consortium:_
  
  _other HEIs, research institutes, enterprises, local/regional/national authorities, etc._

- **Enlarge** the consortium with _international partners_ from Partner Countries:
  
  _organisations you have worked with in the past with specific expertise, colleagues that share the same enthusiasm for international cooperation and mobility projects, etc._

- **Keep the size of the partnership manageable**
Building up your EMJMD consortium (2)

- Participating organisations:
  - bring specific expertise, concrete added value to the EMJMD
  - gain a worldwide visibility, work together with excellent students
  - benefit from a very attractive EU funding scheme

- Cooperation is based on **trust, confidence** and on **formalised agreements**, ensuring institutional commitment and defining the role and tasks of each partner

- **Academic** and **administrative** management are **jointly** designed and structured
Drafting the EMJMD proposal

**COHERENT** in its entirety; avoid contradictions; avoid "patchwork"

**SIMPLE & CONCRETE** use examples, justify your statements, bring proofs

**CLEAR:** Follow the questions and answer them in the right order

**EXPLICIT:** do not take anything for granted; do not assume experts will always understand y; avoid abbreviations or explain them

**RIGOROUS:** the application is the basis on which your project will be implemented; it is also the cornerstone of your partnership commitment

**FOCUSED:** stick to what is asked

**COMPLETE:** ensure (twice!) you have followed all the instructions and that the proposal fulfils all the mandatory requirements.
Advice for a successful proposal

A successful proposal…

✓ demonstrates that the combination of all its elements will produce concrete and sustainable results for the benefit of all the parties concerned
✓ has been prepared and agreed jointly by all consortium partners
✓ involves representatives from the world of work and bridges the needs of academia and the labour market
✓ has received the full institutional commitment and support of all consortium partners
✓ is ready to start immediately after the selection decision
When to start? Now!

- Propose / Discuss potential **cooperation projects** within your institution (e.g., CBHE, with or without mobility Special Mobility Strand)

- If a mobility action is in view,
  - **What type** of student mobility (level of study, duration, thematic area, type of activities, etc.) or staff mobility?
  - **What added value** can you offer to incoming students / staff?
  - Does your university fulfil the **principles of the Erasmus Charter**?
  - On what criteria will you select your **EU mobility partners**?
Information on Erasmus+ and EMJMD (Programme Guide, call for proposals 2016, application procedure, etc.)

- [https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding_en](https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding_en)

EMJMD consortia selected in 2014 and 2015

Information sources (2)

✓ Best practices of Erasmus Mundus joint programmes

✓ The "Joint Degrees from A to Z (JDAZ)" project: Joint Programmes from A to Z - A reference guide for practitioners
  ➢ https://www.nuffic.nl/en/expertise/jdac

✓ "Joint International Master Programmes: lessons learnt from Erasmus Mundus" (free of charge e-brochure)
Information sources (3)

✔ Erasmus+ short leaflet for individuals "Come to study or teach in Europe" in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Arabic, Chinese


✔ Erasmus+ short leaflet for institutions "Work together with European higher education institutions" in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Arabic, Chinese

We wish you a lot of success for your application!

For further questions, please contact us at:

EACEA-EPLUS-JMD@ec.europa.eu: questions on the application process and content of eForm & annexes

eacea-helpdesk@ec.europa.eu: technical problems in relation to the eForm (helpdesk phone: +32 2 2990705)