THE FUTURE OF ERASMUS+

Launched in 2014, the Erasmus+ Programme has created numerous opportunities for mobility and cooperation in education, training, youth, and sport. It has provided valuable skills and experience to participants, and helped to modernise education, training, and youth work across Europe.

The new Programme (2021-2027) aims to be even more inclusive, accessible, and sustainable. Important goals include supporting the digital transition in European education and helping to build the European Education Area.

To achieve these objectives, the new Programme has been designed to be easier than ever for organisations to access. Erasmus accreditation is crucial for this objective.

Erasmus accreditation is a new way to access mobility activities under the new Programme. This brochure explains how accreditation works, who can apply, and what the benefits are.

WHAT DOES ERASMUS ACCREDITATION COVER?

Erasmus accreditation gives organisations access to learning mobility opportunities under the Programme’s Key Action 1. Key Action 1 supports organisations in delivering professional and personal development opportunities for learners, teachers, trainers, and other education staff.

Each Erasmus accreditation covers one of three fields of education:

- **ADULT EDUCATION**
  - Including formal, informal, and non-formal adult education.

- **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING**
  - Including initial and continuing vocational education and training, and work-based learning in all of its forms.

- **SCHOOL EDUCATION**
  - Including early childhood education and care, pre-primary, primary and secondary schools.

Erasmus accreditation is like a membership card for the Programme’s mobility action.

A guarantee of quality

When applying for Erasmus accreditation, organisations agree to follow a set of Erasmus quality standards. For accredited organisations, these standards are a ready-made recipe for success. For the participants, they are a guarantee of quality. You can read the quality standards by opening the call for accreditations or the application form.

Supported activities:

- Staff mobility in school education, vocational education and training, as well as adult education
- Mobility for learners in vocational education and training
- Group and individual mobility for pupils in school education

Organisations only need to be accredited once to receive funding for Key Action 1 mobility activities during seven years of the Programme.
WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications are open to organisations from Programme Countries. This includes all European Union Member States, as well as a number of other countries that have joined the Programme. A full list of Programme countries and their National Agencies is available here: www.ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/contact

MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF ORGANISATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE, INCLUDING:

- Organisations providing school education, vocational education and training, or adult education
- Local and regional public authorities, coordination bodies and other organisations with a role in the field of school education, vocational education and training, or adult education
- Companies and other organisations that host, train or otherwise work with learners and apprentices in vocational education and training

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF AN ERASMUS ACCREDITATION?

To check if your organisation can apply, visit the website of your National Agency!

STABLE FUNDING

Your organisation already has a VET Mobility Charter?

This is your opportunity to extend it until 2027 by applying for Erasmus accreditation. A ‘light’ re-accreditation process has been designed for organisations with a VET Mobility Charter. Find out more by reading the call and contacting your National Agency!

To be accredited, organisations need to create a plan to implement high-quality mobility activities and use them to improve their education and training offer. Once accredited, organisations can take advantage of the following benefits:

- Opportunity to grow and explore
- Stable funding
- Investing into the future

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Making your own strategy

Erasmus accreditation lets you define your own goals and gives you the freedom to choose the speed at which you want to move. As you progress, you can also update your plan to keep it relevant.

Investing into the future

Stable access to funding means you can focus on long-term goals. Mobility activities can be used to gradually raise the quality of teaching and learning in your organisation to new levels.
ERASMUS ACCREDITATION

TWO TYPES OF ERASMUS ACCREDITATION

If you decide to apply for Erasmus accreditation, there are two options:

1. ERASMUS ACCREDITATION FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANISATIONS
   This is the standard option – your organisation applies to receive funding for its own staff or learners.
   It is also possible to upgrade your individual accreditation to an accreditation for mobility consortium coordinators once you have gained some valuable experience!

2. ERASMUS ACCREDITATION FOR MOBILITY CONSORTIUM COORDINATORS
   Accredited mobility consortium coordinators can take the lead of a group of organisations working on a joint plan and organising mobility activities abroad.
   Your consortium members do not need to have Erasmus accreditation themselves, but they need to be from the same country as your organisation.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications are submitted to the National Agency in your country.
The application process is centred on the creation of your Erasmus Plan. The plan sets out how you plan to organise mobility activities and what your organisation aims to achieve by implementing them. Your Erasmus Plan should cover at least two years. Extending it further will not require a new application.
The application process is straightforward. The application form provides you with a frame to build your Erasmus Plan. Each section contains explanations and guidance.
Check out the application form here: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-applications

HOW DO I RECEIVE FUNDING?

If your application is successful, you will gain access to the special Key Action 1 funding fast track. You can then request funding every year – simply by submitting a funding request to your National Agency.
The good news is that a funding request is quite different from a regular application. You only need to provide basic information such as participant numbers and the type of activities, to estimate the funds you need.
The National Agency distributes the available funds among accredited organisations each year. Details of the process for budget requests and allocations are described at the National Agency’s website and in the Programme Guide, which is published every year.

WHAT IF MY ORGANISATION WORKS IN MORE THAN ONE FIELD OF EDUCATION?

Your organisation can be accredited in more than one field! In this case, you should submit a separate application for each field in which you would like to be accredited.

CAN I APPLY IF MY ORGANISATION HAS NO EXPERIENCE IN ERASMUS+?

Yes, you can! Erasmus accreditations are open to all interested organisations.
Previous experience in Erasmus+ is not necessary. If unsure, check with your National Agency if your organisation is eligible.

WHAT IF I NEED TO CHANGE MY ERASMUS PLAN LATER ON?

Circumstances change and all plans need to be adapted from time to time.
With Erasmus accreditation, this is not a problem.
Practical details – such as the exact number of participants, the location or duration of activities – can be modified during implementation. You can also update your Erasmus Plan objectives if needed.
The National Agency will provide you with guidance on when and how you can do it.

CAN I APPLY NEXT YEAR?

Yes, you can! A new call for Erasmus accreditations will open each year.
However, if your organisation already has an Erasmus+ VET Mobility Charter, you must apply in 2020 if you would like to use the light re-accreditation procedure.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Not sure you want to apply? There are other options!
Erasmus accreditation is not obligatory. There are other ways to join the Programme. Here are some alternatives:
- apply for a short Key Action 1 project
- join an existing mobility consortium
- host participants from a partner organisation abroad

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WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Further information and resources are available below:

Read the Rules of application:
https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/calls/2020-erasmus-accreditation

Check out the application form:
https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-applications

Get in touch with your National Agency:
http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/contact