

Baltic Research Programme (*EE: Balti teaduskoostööprogramm Eestis*)

2019. CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Activity 1 – cooperation projects in higher education Activity 2 – learning mobility projects within higher education

The Ministry of Education and Science of Estonia in cooperation with Archimedes Foundation publishes the call for applications funded through the Baltic Research Programme funding higher education cooperation projects, as well as learning mobilities.

About the call

The Baltic Research Programme funded from the grants of the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism 2014-2021 also supports, in addition to scientific cooperation, higher education cooperation between Estonia and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (hereinafter: donor countries). The total funding of the scholarships for the Baltic Research Programme is 1 183 000 EUR, out of which approximately 383 000 € will be granted within the 2019 call for proposals.

Expected goals of the programme

- Cooperation projects strengthen the long-term cooperation between higher education institutions, promote the internationalisation of higher education institutions, improve the quality of studies and enable students and professors to supplement their professional knowledge and skills in an international environment.
- Learning mobility projects that give employees of higher education institutions and partner institutions an opportunity to acquire new knowledge and skills in an international team.

Supported activities

- cooperation projects
- mobility within the higher education sector

A. Activity 1 – Cooperation projects in higher education

The objective of the cooperation projects is to contribute to development of curricula and teaching methods (intellectual output), also create possibilities for mobility windows or contribute to the integration of higher education and the world of work. Another objective is to exchange positive experiences with teaching methods and enable short-term study mobility for students. The projects must involve a minimum of two partners: one from Estonia and the other from a donor country.

A.1. *Who can apply*

- Cooperation projects can be submitted in all fields of higher education.

At least two partner higher education institution must participate in a cooperation project – one from Estonia and the other from a donor country. In the case that three or more countries wish to participate in the project, the main partner in each country must always be a higher education institution. Higher education institution of each donor country may include other partners in the project, for instance, enterprises or other institutions or organisations interested in the topic. Partner institutions can only be included from countries in which the primary partner is a higher education institution. Only Estonian higher education institutions may submit applications as coordinators.

A.2. *Eligible activities*

The activities within the cooperation projects have to be clearly directed towards the topics in accordance to the goals of the overall programme. If necessary to achieve the goals of the cooperation project, international learning mobility is also supported. Mobilities can be funded, as long as they are connected to any of the following types of activities: short-term mobility of students, intensive courses, joint courses for staff.

It is mandatory to realise at least one joint activity (intensive course, seminar, workshop, study course etc) within every cooperation project. All activities need to take place in the countries of the partner institutions.

A.3. *Financing regulations*

The financing of cooperation projects is based on unit costs. Projects can be between 12-24 months in length and receive financing between the sums of 10 000 and 150 000 EUR.

The coordinating institution of the project (who has signed the project contract) is responsible for how the financing will be used. They will distribute the money among the partner organisations from Norway, Iceland or Lichtenstein.

A.4. *Selection process*

Applications that meet the requirements of each technical inspection are evaluated by two independent and impartial experts. The selection panel receives a ranking of projects and, after review, decides which projects to support under the programme. The process ensures that all applications are evaluated according to the same criteria.

A.5. Submitting applications

Applications can only be submitted electronically and these need to include the letters of intent from every single partner organisation proving their participation in the project. The application form can be found on the programme website: <http://haridus.archimedes.ee/emp-toetused>. The applications need to be digitally signed and then uploaded through archimedes.ee/dokumendi-saatmine.

Only applications will be accepted which fulfill all regulations mentioned within the application form.

The deadline for submitting cooperation project applications is **25 April 2019 at 16.00 (Estonian time)**. Applications received after this time will automatically be excluded from the evaluation process.

Further information and contact details

Further information, the application form and other details can be found on the website <http://haridus.archimedes.ee/emp-toetused>.

Should you have any questions, feel free to send an email to eeagrants@archimedes.ee

B. Activity 2 – Learning Mobility Projects

This activity supports professional development of employees at partner higher education institutions in line with the strategic goals of internationalisation of higher education institutions, increase professional and teaching competence of employees, their innovation and ability to improve the quality of teaching and promote cooperation between Estonian and donor country higher education institutions. Learning mobility projects also increase participants' awareness of other cultures and support the emergence of international networks.

B.1. Who can apply

Only Estonian higher education institutions may submit applications as coordinators. Institutions (higher education institutions or enterprises) from donor countries can participate as partners.

B.2. Eligible activities

- Mobility of academics (in both directions) and staff of other partner institutions (incoming to Estonia) to **teach in higher education institutions**,
- mobility of higher education institutions' staff to **training taking place in a donor country** (outgoing from Estonia).

More information about eligible activities, programme priorities and selection criterias are available in Guidelines for applicant, in section 3.

B.3. Financing regulations

The coordinating institution of the project (who has signed the project contract) is responsible on using the funds of the learning mobility programme. The support for one mobility project is up to 150,000 euros.

The financing of cooperation projects is based on unit costs. The eligible costs are:

- travel costs of individual participant (including travel insurance)
- living costs of individual participant (meant to use to cover living costs but also for costs to participate a training/ conference)
- institutional costs to organise the learning mobility programme

B.4. Selection Process

Applications that meet the requirements of each technical inspection are evaluated by two independent and impartial experts. The selection panel receives a ranking of projects and, after review, decides which projects to support under the programme. The process ensures that all applications are evaluated according to the same criteria.

B.5. Submitting applications

The application must be on electronic form that can be found here: <http://haridus.archimedes.ee/emp-toetused>. Applications are submitted by Estonian higher education institutions (project coordinators). The application must be digitally signed and all the documents required in the application form must be attached. The application must be submitted by uploading it to archimedes.ee/dokumendi-saatmine

The deadline for submitting applications is **25 April 2019 at 16.00** (Estonian time). Applications submitted later than that are automatically considered ineligible.

Further information and contact details

Further information, the application form and other details can be found on the website <http://haridus.archimedes.ee/emp-toetused>.

Should you have any questions, feel free to send an email to eeagrants@archimedes.ee

Legislation regulating the EEA grants:

- [Regulation on the implementation of the European Economic Area \(EEA\) Financial Mechanism 2014–2021](#)
- [Memorandum of understanding on the implementation of the EEA financial mechanism 2014–2021 between the Republic of Estonia, Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Kingdom of Norway](#)
- [Guideline for Educational Programmes – Rules for the establishment and implementation of programmes falling under programme Area 3 “Education, Scholarships, Apprenticeships and Youth Entrepreneurship”](#)

Annex I Results framework

The projects submitted under this Call for Proposals should contribute to the achievement of the following final results (outputs) and indirect results (outcomes) of the programme:

Number	Expected programme results	Indicator	Target value
Outcome 2	Improved skills and competences of students and staff in higher education	Number of joint intellectual outputs created in cooperation projects	10
		Number of students with received ECTS credits	150
Output 2.1	Cooperation projects implemented in higher education	Number of HEI staff from Beneficiary State participating at joint events	60
		Number of HEI staff from Donor States participating at joint events (disaggregated by Donor State)	50
		Number of joint events (courses, summer/winter schools, workshops, seminars, etc)	15
		Number of students from Beneficiary State participating at joint events	100
		Number of students from Donor States participating at joint events (disaggregated by Donor State)	50
Output 2.2	Facilitated professional mobility of staff (HEI workers and academic staff) in higher education	Number of staff from Donor States in exchanges (disaggregated by gender, Donor State)	50
		Number of staff from Beneficiary State in exchanges (disaggregated by gender, Donor State)	200