

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2015-2016, ERASMUS+ KA107 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INCOMING MOBILITY FROM ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES

Since its inception, the Alliance 4 Universities (A4U) has sought to boost collaborative ties between the universities of the A4U and other universities abroad by fostering student and staff mobility schemes.

Through international mobility programmes, A4U better equips students and staff, improving their language and cultural skills, with the goal of training a new generation of global students, and facilitating lecturers' international outlook and connections. Moreover, people-to-people links help to establish and strengthen international institutional ties, and foster pluralism and multiculturalism between the A4U and partner universities.

The clear mission of Alliance 4 Universities is to promote relations between its universities and those in countries with emerging economies due to the strategic opportunity they represent.

The Alliance 4 Universities has been awarded funds under the KA107 action of the Erasmus+ programme. Through these funds, students and lecturers from Russian and South African partner universities have the opportunity to participate in mobility schemes with the universities of the A4U and be hosted by them.

GUIDELINES

1. Purpose of the Call

Student and teaching mobility is one of the key activities within the framework of the European Commission's Erasmus+ Programme in the field of Education, Youth and Sport.

The present Call is based on the funding awarded to A4U for mobility projects with EU-associated countries under Key Action 107 of the Erasmus+ Programme. As a consequence, Mobilities will be implemented during the first or second semesters of the 2016-2017 academic year, and will have to finish always before 31 July 2017

The main purposes of this call are:

- To offer training, research and study development opportunities to students, young researchers and lecturers of partner universities in Russia and South Africa.
- To achieve sustained improvements in knowledge, teaching and research skills.
- To forge and deepen lasting links between A4U universities and universities in Russia and South Africa, thus enhancing transnational academic cooperation.
- To improve participants' language and cultural skills, promoting mutual enrichment and understanding.

The receiving institutions of the A4U are:

- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
- Universitat Pompeu Fabra

In view of the availability of scholarships, and with the objective of maximizing the mobility opportunities in the framework of this call, all eligible candidates will be taken into consideration regardless of the allocation previously established by the universities in the first call, indistinctively.

There are 26 scholarships available, distributed as follows:

Origin	Number of Scholarships				TOTAL	
	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	PhDs	Teaching Staff		
RUSSIA	4	2	8	1	15	26
SOUTH AFRICA	3	4	4	0	11	
TOTAL	7	6	12	1		

RUSSIA	RECEIVING INSTITUTION	NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS	ISSUING INSTITUTIONS
Bachelor's degree (5 months)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	4	RANEPA Higher School of Economics New School of Economics Moscow State Law Academy Russian State University for the Humanities Lomonosov Moscow State University ITMO St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University North-West Institute of Management Kazan State Technological University Southern Federal University Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University Strelka Institute Moscow Power Engineering Omsk State University
Master's degree (5 months)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	2	

PhD (5 months)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	8	RANEPA Higher School of Economics New School of Economics Moscow State Law Academy Russian State University for the Humanities Lomonosov Moscow State University ITMO St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University North-West Institute of Management Kazan State Technological University Southern Federal University Pyatigorsk State Linguistic University Strelka Institute Moscow Power Engineering Omsk State University
Teaching Staff (5 days)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	1	

SOUTH AFRICA	RECEIVING INSTITUTION	NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS	ISSUING INSTITUTIONS
Bachelor (5 months)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	3	Stellenbosch University University of Cape Town University of Pretoria University of Witwatersrand
Master's degree (5 months)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	4	Stellenbosch University University of Cape Town University of Pretoria University of Witwatersrand
PhD (5 months)	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Universidad Autónoma de Madrid Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Universitat Pompeu Fabra	4	Stellenbosch University University of Cape Town University of Pretoria University of Witwatersrand

In the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme, all mobility activities are conditional upon the signature of an interinstitutional agreement between the issuing and the receiving universities before the start of the mobility.

2. Requisites for applicants

To be eligible, applicants must fulfil the following general condition:

- Assume responsibility for performing the mobility, **during the first or second semesters of the 2016-2017 academic year, always before 31 July 2017.**

Specific requisites for **students (undergraduate and master's)**:

- Be enrolled at one of the partner universities from Russia or South Africa
- Be nominated for mobility by one of the partner universities from Russia or South Africa
- Submit a **Learning Agreement Proposal** for students accepted by the issuing and the receiving institution. Please refer to the templates in the [Annex](#).

Specific requisites for **PhD students**:

- Be enrolled at one of the partner universities from Russia or South Africa
- Be nominated for mobility by one of the partner universities from Russia or South Africa
- Submit a **Mobility Agreement Proposal** for PhD students accepted by the issuing and the receiving institutions. Please refer to the templates in the [Annex](#).

Specific requisites for **Teaching Staff**:

- Have a contractual relationship at the time of application and while in mobility at one of the partner universities from Russia or South Africa
- Submit a **Mobility Agreement Proposal** for teaching staff, including at least 8 hours of teaching, accepted by the issuing and the receiving institutions. Please refer to the templates in the [Annex](#).

The Alliance 4 Universities recommends that all mobility proposals be presented and signed by all parties before the submission of the full application. If any candidate is not able to achieve that, he/she shall receive support in this sense during the selection procedure. Nevertheless, the selection shall be faster if the contact person and acceptance of the application at/by both the home and host universities are defined before the application.

3. Application process

The application period will start upon the publication of these guidelines and will remain open until **21 June 2016**. Applicants must complete the online application and attach the required documentation to the online application form through the A4U website.

Level	Documents
Undergraduate /Master's degree	Application form Transcript of academic records Nomination certificate Learning Agreement Proposal for students Letter of motivation

PhD students/ Teaching Staff	Application form Abridged CV Mobility Agreement Proposal according to the profile Letter of motivation
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PhD/Staff Applicants should prioritize the receiving institution on the application form but produce a mobility agreement for the first choice only.

A decision for this call will be published on the A4U website at the latest by **12 July 2016** and will be announced to the beneficiaries and partner universities by e-mail.

Deadline for submission of proposals	21 June 2016
Announcement of Eligibility results	24 June 2016
Period for amendments to the application	25 to 30 June 2016
Final Decision	By 12 July 2016

4. Criteria for evaluation

The selection process will evaluate the applicants and will prioritize candidates according to the established criteria and budgetary availability. The selection process will be based on the principles of equity, fairness and transparency, and will seek a balanced distribution of the scholarships among the issuing and receiving institutions. Preference will be given to those universities who hasn't yet benefitted from the programme.

Evaluation criteria for **Students (undergraduate and master's degree):**

- Outstanding academic record, according to the GPA in the students ToR (100%)

Evaluation criteria for **PhD students and Teaching Staff:**

- Outstanding academic record (30%)
- Mobility Agreement Proposal feasibility and contribution to common academic interests between the issuing and receiving partner institutions (40%)
- Relevance to institutional relations between the issuing and receiving partner institutions (30%)

5. Selection Committee

The vice-rectors for International Relations of the A4U universities or, by power of attorney, the directors of International Relations, with the support of the A4U Secretary, are in charge of conducting the selection process.

6. Scholarship amount

Mobility grants consist of a travel allowance and a monthly or daily amount according to the flat rates stated by the Erasmus+ Programme.

RUSSIA	Maximum Duration	Monthly/Daily Allowance	Travel Expenses
Undergraduate	5 months	800€	530€
Master's degree	5 months	800€	530€
PhD students	5 months	800€	530€
Teaching Staff	5 days ¹	120€	530€

SOUTH AFRICA	Maximum Duration	Monthly/Daily Allowance	Travel Expenses
Undergraduate	5 months	800€	1100€
Master's degree	5 months	800€	1100€
PhD	5 months	800€	1100€

Scholarships will be paid to the beneficiaries by the main receiving institution in Spain through the Alliance 4 Universities, according to real arrival and departure dates.

7. Rights of the beneficiary

- To perform the entire mobility period awarded between 3 and 5 months, without extensions. The scholarship received must coincide with the actual dates of the mobility period.
- To receive the scholarship according to the amounts set out in the Erasmus+ Programme guidelines. The expenses not covered by the scholarship will be borne by the beneficiary.
- To benefit from tuition fee waiver as a student, notwithstanding other fees for the use of certain services or activities that might be applicable.

¹ 5 working days plus two days of travel

- To receive information and advice on the application procedure, as well as pre-departure and on-site guidance.
- To have the study or teaching period abroad recognized by their issuing university.

8. Obligations of the beneficiary

- To take out and prove to be in possession of adequate insurance throughout the mobility period according to Erasmus+ programme rules. That shall be facilitated by the Alliance 4 Universities whenever possible.
- To obtain the Visa for the stay in the receiving country
- To carry out the mobility stay according to the proposal and dates committed, during the first or second semesters of the 2016-2017 academic year, always before 31 July 2017.
- To complete all procedures and fill in the required documents as required by the Erasmus+ Programme, before, during and after the mobility period, meeting the deadlines established by A4U:
 - i. Before mobility: Signature of the Grant Agreement and the Learning/Mobility Agreement Proposal, and online language assessment (students only).
 - ii. After mobility: Submission of the Mobility Certificate, online mobility final assessment survey, and online language assessment (students only).
- Any other obligation inherent to the Erasmus+ Programme and the internal regulations of the issuing and receiving institutions.

9. Information:

The Secretary of the A4U will be in charge of the general coordination and management of this call, and will be the first point of contact for applicants and beneficiaries.

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International Relations Services at each A4U receiving institution will take care of their respective incoming mobility students and lecturers.

10. Final dispositions:

Updated information and all resolutions derived from these Call guidelines shall be consulted in the Alliance 4 Universities website (<http://www.alliance4universities.eu>)

Prof. Jaume Casals
Rector of Universidad Pompeu Fabra
President of the Alianza 4 Universities

Barcelona, 25 May 2016