

**ERASMUS+ INTERNATIONAL CREDIT MOBILITY PROGRAMME
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PhD STUDENTS AND STAFF MOBILITY
BETWEEN A4U UNIVERSITIES AND PARTNER UNIVERSITIES IN RUSSIA,
SOUTH AFRICA, INDONESIA, INDIA, IRAN AND MALAYSIA
2018-2019 and 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR**

1. Purpose of the Call

Alliance of 4 Universities (A4U) is a strategic partnership of four Spanish public universities: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, and Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona. One of the objectives of A4U internationalization strategy is to promote mobility with leading universities in countries with emerging economies such as Russia, South Africa, Indonesia, India, Iran and Malaysia.

A4U has been awarded funds under Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme, which enables PhD students and staff from A4U universities and its partner universities in Russia, South Africa, India, Indonesia, Iran and Malaysia (see list below) to undertake a mobility stay.

The main purposes of this call are:

- To offer training, research and study development opportunities to PhD students and staff at participating universities.
- To support PhD students and staff achieve sustained improvements in knowledge, teaching and research skills.
- To forge and deepen lasting links between A4U universities and its partner universities thus enhancing transnational academic cooperation.
- To improve participants' language and cultural skills, promoting mutual enrichment and understanding.

Mobilities announced in this call should be carried out in 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 during the period of academic activity at the host university and should end before 31 July 2020.

2. Participating Higher Education Institutions

The participating Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in this call are:

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<p style="text-align: center;">SPAIN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona • Universidad Autónoma de Madrid • Universidad Carlos III de Madrid • Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona 	<p style="text-align: center;">RUSSIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lomonosov Moscow State University • Higher School of Economics • Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA) • North-West Institute of Management, Branch of RANEPA (St. Petersburg) • New Economic School • Russian State University for the Humanities • St. Petersburg University of Information Technologies, Mechanics and Optics (ITMO) • St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University • Moscow Power Engineering Institute • Southern Federal University • Kazan State Technological University
	<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH AFRICA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Pretoria • University of the Witwatersrand • Stellenbosch University • University of Cape Town • University of Western Cape • University of the Free State
	<p style="text-align: center;">INDIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Institute of Science of Bangalore • Symbiosis International University, Pune • Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Delhi • St. Xavier's College, Mumbai • Jaypee Institute of Information Technologies • Indian Institute of Technology of Delhi • Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai
	<p style="text-align: center;">INDONESIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universitas Indonesia • Institute of Technology of Bandung • Universitas Gadjah Mada • Universitas Airlangga • BINUS University • Telkom University • Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta
	<p style="text-align: center;">IRAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Tehran • Allameh Tabataba'i University • Amirkabir University of Technology
	<p style="text-align: center;">MALAYSIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Malaya • Universiti Teknologi Malaysia • Universiti Putra Malaysia • Universiti Sains Malaysia

An Interinstitutional Agreement between the home and the host universities must be signed before the start of the mobility.

3. Grants to be awarded

The following grants are available, distributed as follows:

Incoming from partner countries to A4U universities

From	To	Level	Number of grants	Duration of stay	Grant amount		
					Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
India	Spain	PhD	2	3 months	€850/month	€820	€3.370
Indonesia			2	3 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050
Iran			1	3 months	€850/month	€820	€3.370
Russia			4	3-5 months	€850/month	€530	min. €3.080 max. €4.780
South Africa			1	3 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050
Malaysia			1	3 months	€850/month	€1.500	€4.050
India		Staff	3	5 days	€160/day	€820	€1.940
Indonesia			2	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620
Iran			3	5 days	€160/day	€820	€1.940
Russia			4	5 days	€160/day	€530	€1.650
South Africa			2	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620
Malaysia			3	5 days	€160/day	€1.500	€2.620

Outgoing from A4U universities to partner countries

From	To	Level	Number of grants	Duration of stay	Grant amount		
					Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Spain	India	PhD	1	3 months	€700/month	€820	€2.920
	Iran		2	3 months	€700/month	€820	€2.920
	Russia		4	3-5 months	€700/month	€530	min. €2.630 max. €4.030
	South Africa		1	3 months	€700/month	€1.500	€3.600
	Malaysia		1	3 months	€700/month	€1.500	€3.600
	India		Staff	3	5 days	€180/day	€820
	Indonesia	3		5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760
	Iran	2		5 days	€180/day	€820	€2.080
	Russia	4		5 days	€180/day	€530	€1.790
	South Africa	2		5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760
	Malaysia	3		5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760

The call is open to all subject areas. However, the applicants must check that the requested mobility proposal matches the offer available at the host university.

The mobility grant consists of a travel allowance and a monthly/daily subsistence allowance according to the flat rates determined by the Erasmus+ Programme. It is a **contribution** towards the costs of the planned Erasmus+ mobility period¹.

The beneficiaries are free to make travel and accommodation arrangements that best suit their needs and are not required to present receipts for their expenses. Important: For booking their flights and accommodation, beneficiaries need to advance their own funds since the mobility grant will be paid only once their stay begins (see procedures for grants payment in section 8).

4. Duration of mobility

The mobility period for PhD students is 3 months. PhD students to/from Russia can stay up to 5 months due to the availability of more funding.

The mobility period for staff is maximum 5 days plus 2 days for travel. In total, 7 days will be covered by the grant.

5. Activities during mobility

PhD students are expected to engage in research for their doctoral thesis.

Staff mobility can be for teaching, training, or both can be combined. Teaching and administrative staff can apply, the former being preferred.

During mobility for teaching, staff are expected to deliver at least 8 hours of teaching.

Mobility for training is for the professional development of teaching and administrative staff in the form of training events (excluding conferences), job shadowing, observation periods, or training at the receiving institution.

Mobility can also be for teaching and training. In this case, the minimum number of hours of teaching per week is 4 hours.

6. Eligibility requisites

To be eligible, applicants must fulfill the following general conditions:

- To take responsibility for performing the mobility in **2018-2019 or 2019-2020 during the period of academic activity based on the academic calendar at the host university, and always end the mobility before 31 July 2020.**
- To submit all the required documents before the application deadline. Since preparing and getting a learning/mobility agreement signed takes time, applicants are strongly advised to start

¹ As a guideline, the average monthly living expenses in Madrid or Barcelona are 500€ for accommodation in student residence (an apartment shared with other students might be cheaper) and €250 for food.

preparing their application as early as possible and to submit it well before the deadline so that there is time to check it and correct errors if necessary.

Specific requisites for **PhD students**:

- To be enrolled at their home institution at the time of application and during the mobility.
- If planned mobility activities will be conducted in a language that is not the native language of the applicant, to have an appropriate level of the language of instruction, **B2 being the minimum level. Please refer to your home institution, which will confirm whether you have the required level.**

Specific requisites for **staff**:

- Have a contractual relationship with their home institution at the time of application and during the mobility.
- If the planned mobility activities will be conducted in a language that is not the native language of the applicant, to have an appropriate level of the language of instruction, **B2 being the minimum level. Please refer to your home institution, which will confirm whether you have the required level.**

Lower priority will be given to applicants (both PhD students and staff) who have already participated in mobility actions under the Erasmus Mundus Programme or Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (non-European) Programme. In the case of Erasmus Mundus Master Courses and Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, previous participation is only taken into account for scholarship holders.

For PhD applicants who received Erasmus grants for mobility in Europe, mobility under this call will count towards the maximum of 12 months allowed per study cycle.

7. Timeline

Call opens	Upon publication on A4U website
Call closes	23 January 2019 at 24:00 Central European Time
Publication of selection results	15 February 2019

8.

9. Application process

The call and the application form will be published on A4U website <http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/>. All partner universities websites will refer to it by publishing an announcement.

Applicants must complete an online application form and attach the following documentation:

Level	Documents to be submitted
PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CV – Learning Agreement signed by the applicant, the thesis supervisor at the home university and the host academic at the receiving university. Applicants should complete ONLY the first 2 pages of the Learning Agreement. Scanned signatures are accepted. – Recommendation letter, which should not be attached to the online application form but instead sent directly by the referee to coordinacion@a-4u.eu with “Recommendation letter” in the subject field before 23 January 2019.
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Abridged CV – Mobility Agreement for teaching/training, signed by the applicant, and the responsible academic (head of host Faculty or Department, or the host academic) at home and host institutions. Scanned signatures are accepted.

International Offices at participating institutions will assist applicants in getting signatures for the learning/mobility agreements. For contact details of A4U universities, please check section 11. Contact details of universities in Russia, South Africa, India, Iran, Indonesia and Malaysia can be found in the factsheets available on A4U website.

Selection results will be published in A4U website <http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/> and will be announced to the beneficiaries and partner universities by e-mail.

10. Evaluation criteria and selection

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, based on the evaluation of quality of applications and following a procedure, which guarantees fairness and transparency.

PhD students: evaluation criteria and their weighing in the total score

1. Quality of the research proposal in the Learning Agreement. Matching with the research areas at the host university and expected impact of the research stay	40%
2. Academic qualifications and research experience according to CV	30%
3. Recommendation letter	20%
4. Motivation according to the statement in the learning agreement	10%

Staff: evaluation criteria and their weighing in the total score

1. Quality of the proposal in the Mobility Agreement, according to methodology, feasibility, teaching and learning innovation and/or curriculum development	40%
2. Academic record of the candidate, including teaching experience, research, publications, etc. according to CV	30%
3. Relevance and expected impact of the proposal for the host institution and added value upon return to the home institution	20%
4. Motivation according to the statement in the mobility agreement	10%

The applications will be evaluated by A4U Selection Committee consisting of 4 Vice-rectors for International Relations of A4U universities, with the support of A4U international Project Manager.

If two or more candidates score equal marks, the decision will be made on the basis of seeking a balanced distribution of grants among partner universities.

In case the selected applicants outnumber available grants, A4U will keep them on a waiting list should a grant become available.

11. Grant payment procedure

Grant amounts will be calculated according to the real arrival and departure dates reported by the host institutions, taking into consideration their academic calendars.

Payment of grant to students

PhD students going from Spain to Russia, South Africa, India, Iran and Malaysia: The grant will be paid in two instalments via a bank transfer into the participant's bank account. The first instalment of 70% of the total grant will be paid once the student has registered at the host university, the home university has received the certificate of arrival, and the student has signed the Grant Agreement. The second instalment of 30% of the total grant will be paid at the end of the mobility once the student has received a certificate of attendance and completion from the host university, and has completed the online EU survey.

PhD students going from Russia, South Africa, India, Indonesia, Iran and Malaysia to Spain: the procedure is as above, with the only difference that upon his/her arrival to Spain, the student needs to open a Spanish bank account, where the grant will be paid.

Payment of grant to staff

Faculty going from Spain to Russia, South Africa, India, Indonesia, Iran and Malaysia: Once the participant has signed the Grant Agreement, the home university has received the certificate of attendance, and the participant has completed the online EU survey, the grant will be paid in one instalment to the beneficiary's bank account.

Faculty going from Russia, South Africa, India, Indonesia, Iran and Malaysia to Spain: Once the Grant Agreement and the certificate of attendance from the host university have been issued, the grant will be paid in one instalment by a cheque. After the mobility the participant should also complete the online EU survey.


12. Rights of the beneficiary

- To perform the entire mobility period awarded. The grant received must coincide with the actual dates of the mobility period.
- To receive the grant according to the amounts set out in the Erasmus+ Programme guidelines. The expenses not covered by the grant 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.
- To receive information and advice on the application procedure from the home university, as well as pre-departure and on-site guidance from the host university.
- To have the study or teaching period abroad recognized by their home university.

13. Obligations of the beneficiary

- To be in possession of adequate insurance throughout the mobility period according to Erasmus+ programme rules. Insurance will be provided and paid for by Alliance 4 Universities.
- To obtain the visa for the stay in the receiving country and bear the costs of obtaining the visa.
- To book flights and accommodation in the country of destination. For this, beneficiaries will need to advance their own funds since the mobility grant will be paid only once their stay begins. Host universities can provide information to participants how to find suitable accommodation.
- To carry out the mobility stay according to the proposal and dates committed, during 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 academic years, always ending before 31 July 2020.
- To participate, if requested, in sharing their mobility experience.
- To complete the required procedures and fill in the necessary documents as per Erasmus+ Programme before, during and after the mobility period, meeting the deadlines established by A4U. Before mobility: signature of the learning/mobility agreement and grant agreement. After mobility: submission of the certificate of attendance and completion and online EU survey.
- Any other obligation inherent to the Erasmus+ Programme and the internal regulations of the home and host institutions.

14. Information

 Should any doubt arise over the interpretation of this Call, the Selection Committee will decide on the case and interpret it in the light of the guidelines of Erasmus+ Programme.

A4U International Project Manager will be in charge of the general coordination and management of this call, and will be the initial point of contact for applicants and beneficiaries.

Olga Belova
International Project Manager
coordinacion@a-4u.eu
+34 935 422 079

International Relations Services at A4U universities will provide advice to incoming and outgoing applicants at the application stage and during mobility.

Mobility Office at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB):

erasmus.ka107@uab.cat / +34 93 586 8499

Mobility Office at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM):

proyectos.internacionales@uam.es / +34 91 497 2935, + 34 91 497 3283

Mobility Office at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M):

proyectos_internacionales@uc3m.es / +34 91 6248658

International Relations Office at Universidad Pompeu Fabra (UPF):

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Please note that A4U universities will be closed for Christmas holidays from 22 December 2018 until 7 January 2019 and for Easter holidays from 14 until 22 April 2019.

Any additional information related to this call will be published on A4U website <http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/>

Bellaterra, 7 November 2018



Margarita Arboix Arzo
President of Alliance 4 Universities
Rector of Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

