

Erasmus Mundus Scholarship Programme

Postgraduate and postdoctoral students can now benefit from the Erasmus Mundus programme, which was recently extended in scope and budget to include opportunities for higher level tertiary students.

Erasmus Mundus is a programme that provides support to individual students, researchers and university staff who wish to spend a period studying, researching or teaching.

Erasmus Mundus, the European Union (EU) mobility programme in the field of higher education, has now entered its second phase, with a significantly increased budget and with a scope that has widened to specifically include doctoral level studies. The programme's first phase ran from 2004 to 2008, with a budget of 230 million Euros, provided more than 6,000 students from non-EU countries with scholarships to obtain masters degrees in Europe and 1,000 academics to share know-how through teaching and research.

The programme's second phase, which will run from 2009 to 2013, extends the programme to include doctoral studies and encourages non-EU Higher Education Institutions to implement joint programmes at Masters and Doctoral levels. In its second phase, the programme also facilitates a study period abroad that forms part of a degree at home and places emphasis on the employability prospects of Erasmus students. The expanded Erasmus Mundus programme is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students, doctoral candidates, teachers, researchers and university staff (academic and/or administrative) from any part of the world.

There are several funding opportunities for students and academics. Students can receive scholarships for undergraduate studies and Masters studies, while doctoral candidates can receive fellowships for doctoral and post-doctoral studies. Teachers and researchers can receive fellowships for teaching and research periods; and other academic staff can receive both scholarships and fellowships. Scholarship amounts can vary according to the duration and level of studies, teaching or research, and according to the grantee's nationality. (Scholarships for non-EU individuals are higher than for EU individuals). The Erasmus Mundus Programme Guide provides all the necessary information on the application conditions. To download the full programme guide, click http://ec.europa.eu/education/external-relation-programmes/doc/call09/guide_en.pdf.

For more information about the Erasmus Mundus programme, please visit the official website at http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/index_en.ph