

Funding Modalities Included in Key Action 2 of the Erasmus+ Programme

Key Action 2 “Cooperation among Organisations and Institutions” encompasses several actions. Each action has its own funding characteristics. In table 1, you find an overview of the main financial features of the actions launched in 2022 that are relevant for higher education institutions.

Table 1. Funding actions and modalities in Key Action 2

Action	EU Grant	Funding model	EU-contribution	Own contribution	Project duration
Cooperation Partnerships	120.000 EUR, 250.000 EUR or 400.000 EUR	Lump sum	100%	-	12-36 months
European Universities	Up to 14,40 million EUR depending on the number of consortium partners	Lump sum	80%	20%	48 months
Erasmus+ Teacher Academies	Up to 1,5 million EUR	Actual costs	80%	20%	36 months
Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters	Up to 5,484 million EUR	Unit costs	100%	-	74 months
Erasmus Mundus Design Measures	55.000 EUR	Lump sum	100%	-	15 months
Alliances for Innovation	Lot 1: 1 million EUR for 24 months or 1,5 million EUR for 36 months Lot 2: 4 million EUR	Lump sum	80%	20%	Lot 1: 24 or 36 months Lot 2: 48 months
Forward-Looking Projects	Lot 1: up to 800.000 EUR Lot 2: up to 700.000 EUR Lot 3: up to 1 million EUR	Lump sum	80%	20%	Lot 1: 24-48 months Lots 2 and 3: 24 months
Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education	Strand 1: 200.000-400.000 EUR Strand 2: 400.000-800.000 EUR Strand 3: 800.000-1 million EUR	Lump sum	90%	10%	Strand 1: 24 or 36 months Strand 2: 24 or 36 months Strand 3: 36 or 48 months
Capacity Building in the Field of Sport	100.000-200.000 EUR	Lump sum	80%	20%	12, 24 or 36 months

Source: own elaboration based on the information published in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide.

The lump sum funding model

Erasmus+ grants in form of a lump sum are awarded on the condition that the project tasks are successfully completed. At application stage, the project costs are calculated on a budget-based approach, i.e. an estimation of the costs of staff, travel, equipment, etc. is made. These costs are organized in work packages (e.g., WP1 Management, WP2 Dissemination, WP3 Quality Assurance, etc.), giving a total amount for each work package. The EU contribution to each work package usually goes from 80 to 100% of the budget depending on the action (see table 1). If the project is selected for funding, the EU contribution per work package is transformed into a lump sum that is granted provided that the work package is successfully completed. The grant agreement specifies the financial conditions, including if there are any pre-financing payments envisaged.

The actual costs funding model

In this funding model, a prevision of costs is made at the application stage. If the project is selected, the EU grant covers the eligible costs actually incurred by the project. The maximum grant and other financial conditions are established in the grant agreement.

The unit costs funding model

In the unit costs contribution model, the budget is calculated taking the amount of units used or produced into consideration. Units can be, for example, number of students enrolled or number of scholarships awarded. A fixed financial contribution per unit is set in the call text. At the application stage, applicants must plan the number of unit contributions they will use in the project. Funded projects must regularly report the number of units used. These must be identifiable and verifiable (e.g., through student enrolment documents, proofs of payment of scholarships, etc.).

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Relevant Sources

- Erasmus+ Website of the European Commission:
https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en
- Erasmus+ Programme Guide:
https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/programme-guide_en
- Website of the German National Agency for EU Higher Education Cooperation (NA DAAD):
<https://eu.daad.de/de/>

Note: Most of the information provided in this fact sheet has been gathered from the Erasmus+ Programme Guide specifying the details of the 2022 calls for proposals. Funding conditions might change in future calls.