

ERASMUS+ INTERNATIONAL CREDIT MOBILITY PROGRAMME CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR STAFF MOBILITY FROM A4U UNIVERSITIES TO SOUTH AFRICA DURING 2024-2025 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 non-European countries.

A4U has been awarded funds under Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme, which enables staff from A4U universities and its partner universities to undertake a mobility stay.

The main objectives of the mobilities are:

- To offer training and research opportunities to staff at participating universities.
- To help mobility participants improve their professional, social and inter-cultural skills, as well as employability, and to promote cross-cultural exchange and dialogue.
- To forge and deepen lasting links between A4U universities and its partner universities, enhancing their transnational academic cooperation.

Mobilities announced in this call should be carried out during 2024-2025 academic year.

2. Available grants and content of mobility

ERASMUS ACTIVITY ON GLOBAL HEALTH

4 grants for staff mobility from Spain to South Africa are available for this activity, aimed at the promotion of Spain-South Africa scientific cooperation in Global Health.

From	To	Level	Number of grants	Duration of stay	Grant amount		
					Subsistence	Travel	Total grant
Spain	South Africa	Staff	4	5 days	€180/day	€1.500	€2.760

Partner university:

Mobilities will take place at the Faculty of Health Science of the University of Pretoria, South Africa during the week of 7-11 October 2024.

Type of mobility: the mobility agreement should be for teaching and training that includes the following activities:

- 4 hours of teaching of which 3 hours are for teaching or tutoring Bachelor, Master or PhD students at the University of Pretoria, and 1 hour for delivering a presentation during the seminar “Global health at a crossroads” that will take place on 10 October at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pretoria.

- training activities that include attendance of the seminar, and other activities as defined together with the host at the University of Pretoria, which can be in form of meetings, visits to labs and facilities, job shadowing, observation periods, etc.

Content of mobility:

The content of mobility is to be proposed by the applicant and agreed with the host.

One day of the mobility will be dedicated to participating in a seminar “Global health at a crossroads”, in which 4 staff selected under this call, one from each A4U university, will take part along with interested teaching and research staff from the University of Pretoria.

Theme of “Global health at a crossroads” seminar:

Holistic strategies for addressing global health encompass a comprehensive approach that considers the interconnectedness of factors impacting health. These strategies aim to promote sustainable and enduring well-being at individual, community, and global levels by addressing not only the immediate health challenges but also their underlying determinants.

The seminar is an invitation to discuss such strategies from an multi-disciplinary perspective, and applicants are welcome to propose a presentation/talk on the following:

1. **One Health Approach** can cover a wide range of topics related to the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health. It is commonly defined as the collaborative efforts of multiple disciplines, medical, veterinary and research professionals, working locally, nationally and globally, to attain optimal health for people, animals and our environment. It involves collaboration across disciplines to address zoonotic diseases, antimicrobial resistance, and environmental health hazards, and integrates sustainable practices in agriculture, urban planning, etc. to mitigate environmental health risks.
2. **Preventive Healthcare** focuses on preventive measures such as vaccination, screening, and health education tailored to local needs and cultures to reduce the burden of infectious and non-communicable diseases. It encourages healthy lifestyles, including balanced nutrition, regular physical activity, stress management, healthy pregnancy and maternity, while recognizing the importance of mental health and well-being in overall health outcomes.
3. **Research on Communicable and Non-communicable diseases** promotes investigation and implementation of new approaches and methodologies to and improve understanding and targeting of disease causality, diagnosis, progression and treatment. Appreciate population diversity as a critical factor.
4. **Health System Strengthening** focuses on building resilient health systems capable of providing quality services and responding to emergencies. This involves governance, health policies, investing in infrastructure, training healthcare workers, and ensuring the availability of essential medicines and supplies. It also recognizes community engagement, health equity, and global collaboration to coordinate responses, mobilize resources and improve global health outcomes.

How to proceed:

Applicants should fill in the mobility agreement for teaching and training, and include a proposal of teaching and training activities during the week and a proposal of a presentation for the seminar “Global health at a crossroads”.

They should send their mobility agreement to Prof. Tivani Mashamba-Thompson, Dean of Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pretoria on email: Tivani.Mashamba-Thompson@up.ac.za who will act as a host, for review and acceptance. The mobility agreement will eventually need to be signed by their home institution (Head of Department, Dean of Faculty or International Office). In their communication with the host, applicants should copy in Erasmus contact person at the International Office of their home institution who will provide necessary support and guidance in relation to the call:

Mobility Office at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB):
Mònica Mateu erasmus.ka171@uab.cat / +34 93 5868 256

Mobility Office at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM):
Belén Casas erasmus.staff.mobility@uam.es / +34 91 497 6098

Mobility Office at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M):
erasmuska171@uc3m.es / +34 91 6249596

International Relations Office at Universidad Pompeu Fabra (UPF):
Silvia Vilanova silvia.vilanova@upf.edu / +34 935 42 2063

3. General conditions

The mobility grant consists of a travel allowance and a daily subsistence allowance according to the flat rates determined by the Erasmus+ Programme. The grant is a **contribution** towards the costs of the planned Erasmus+ mobility period and is not meant to cover 100% of expenses.

The beneficiaries will need to advance their own funds when organizing their stay, such as visa, insurance, flights and accommodation, since the mobility grant will be paid only upon arrival to the host university (see procedures for grant payment in section 9). It is highly advisable to make bookings (flights, accommodation etc.) on conditions that allow full reimbursement in case of cancellation of travel.

The mobility period for staff is 5 days with 2 days for travel, covering 7 in total.

4. Eligibility requisites

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

- To have a contractual relationship with their home institution at the time of application and during the mobility.
- Associate members of staff (professor asociado) and staff working for affiliated schools (escuelas adscritas) are not eligible to apply.
- To have at least B2 level in the language in which planned mobility activities will be conducted.
- To take responsibility for performing the mobility during the specified dates: 7-11 October 2024.
- To submit an online application form by the application deadline, and a signed mobility agreement and CV during the cure period the latest.

5. Application process

The call will be published A4U website <http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/>.

Applicants must complete an online application form on https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdKKe5Ilt1fmiLMdigEZolpe0Xz6W6kMKbsK_eGlijX7t8VFGw/viewform (also available on the above mentioned A4U website) and send the following documentation to the contact person at their sending institution (see section 12 “Information” for contact details):

- Abridged CV
- Mobility Agreement, signed by the applicant, and the responsible academic at home (Head of Department, Dean of Faculty or International Office) and host institutions. Scanned signatures are accepted.

Lists of provisionally and definitely admitted applications and selection results will be announced through A4U website <http://alliance4universities.eu/en/mobility-scholarships/>.

6. Timeline

Call opens	Upon publication on A4U website
Call closes	28 June
Publication of provisionally admitted applications	3 July
Cure period: candidates can remedy their applications in case of any clerical errors or incomplete documentation	4-17 July
Publication of final list of admitted applications	22 July
Publication of selection results	30 July 2024

If the mobility agreement is not finalized by 28 June, interested applicants are encouraged to submit their online application anyway by 28 June, and submit the fully signed mobility agreement and CV during the cure period from 4-17 July. Only applications with fully signed mobility agreements will proceed to selection.

7. Evaluation criteria and selection

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, based on the qualitative evaluation of applications by A4U Selection Committee consisting of 4 Vice-rectors for International Relations of A4U universities.

Evaluation criteria:

- Quality of the proposal in the Mobility Agreement, according to methodology, feasibility, teaching and learning innovation and/or curriculum development,

- Academic record of the candidate, including teaching experience, research, publications, etc. according to CV,
- Relevance and expected impact of the proposal for the host institution and added value upon return to the home institution,
- Motivation according to the statement in the mobility agreement.

There is no priority for first-time applicants versus those who already received Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme (KA107 or KA171 grant) in the past. One participant from each A4U university will be selected.

The assessment will follow the standards of the “European Peer Review Guide” by the European Science Foundation:

Qualitative assessment	Numeric score
Excellent	5
Very good	4
Good	3
Fair	2
Poor	1

Reserve candidates will be placed on a waiting list and called upon if a grant becomes available.

8. Inclusion

Participants from disadvantaged backgrounds are welcome to apply if they meet one of the following criteria:

- have a certified disability equal to or greater than 33 per cent, or
- have duly accredited physical, mental or health related conditions, such as serious or chronic illnesses, which prevent participation in mobility.

They can apply for additional funding to cover costs directly related to their participation in the mobility. Such additional costs can be for special accommodation, transportation, preparatory visits and expenses of accompanying persons.

The request for additional funding must be presented by the applicant, and have the support of the sending institution. Additional funding will be subject to approval by the Spanish National Agency.

9. Grant payment procedure

The grant will be paid to the participant’s bank account once the participant has signed the grant agreement, and has completed the online EU survey.

10. Rights of the beneficiary

- To receive the grant according to the rates and conditions set out in the Erasmus+ Programme guidelines.

- 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 teaching or training period abroad recognized by their home university.

11. Obligations of the beneficiary

- To carry out the mobility stay according to the proposal and dates committed, during 2024-2025 academic year.
- To be in possession of adequate insurance throughout the mobility period according to Erasmus+ programme rules. All participants must be insured against the risks linked to their participation in mobility activities.

The insurance must cover:

- travel insurance,
- medical expenses and accidents, including permanent or temporary incapacity,
- death, including repatriation,
- third party liability.

The cost of the insurance will be covered by the participants themselves. A4U recommends [OnCampus](#) insurance but the participant is free to choose a different insurance as long as it meets the above requirements.

- To book flights and accommodation in the country of destination, advancing own funds since the mobility grant will be paid only once their stay begins.
- 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 mobility agreement and grant agreement. After mobility: submission of the certificate of attendance and completion of online EU survey.
- Any other obligation inherent to the Erasmus+ Programme and the internal regulations of the home and host institutions.

12. 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.

International Relations Services at A4U universities will be the main point of contact in providing advice to applicants.

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A4U International Project Manager might be available as an additional point of contact starting from mid-July - September. The contact details are:

coordinacion@a-4u.eu

+34 935 422 079

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

Prof. Helena Ramalhinho Lourenço
Vice-Rector of Internationalisation, Universitat Pompeu Fabra,
on behalf of Alianza 4 Universidades Selection Committee