

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR TRAVEL AND LIVING COSTS FOR STUDIES AND PLACEMENTS ABROAD IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025–2026

This notice concerns students of LUT University (LUT) and is valid for studies and placements abroad for the academic year 2025–2026. It includes information about:

1. Financial support for long-term study exchanges
2. Financial support for long-term placements abroad
3. Financial support for Erasmus+ blended short mobilities
4. Erasmus+ travel grant
5. Additional Erasmus+ grants
6. Special conditions regarding Erasmus+ grants
7. Application for the financial support

1. Financial support for long-term study exchanges and the maximum grant amount

Erasmus+ grant to Erasmus+ partner institutions	
Group 1 countries with higher living costs Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and partner countries not associated to the Erasmus+ programme: Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City, Faroe Islands, Switzerland, United Kingdom	540 € / month + travel grant
Group 2 countries Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Türkiye	490 € / month + travel grant
Group 3: third countries not associated to the Erasmus+ programme Other partner countries outside Europe with Erasmus+ agreement with LUT	700 € / month + travel grant
Bilateral grant to other LUT partner institutions	
Other countries with a bilateral agreement with LUT	One-time payment: 1 500 € total.
NOREK Network grant	
Universities belonging to the NOREK Network • Norwegian School of Economics (NHH) 1 505 € for 2025 autumn semester, 1 755 € for 2026 spring • Norwegian Business School (BI) 1 330 € for 2025 autumn semester, 1 580 € for 2026 spring	One-time payment: 1 330 – 1 755 € total, depending on destination and timing (spring semester is longer, therefore the grant is higher).

General conditions for awarding financial support for studies abroad

Financial support can be awarded for student exchanges to partner institutions of LUT for one or two semesters depending on the grant programme. Exchanges to institutions which do not have a bilateral agreement with LUT (e.g. freemover exchanges) are not financially supported.

Erasmus+ grant will not be awarded for studies that take place at the student's actual country of residence.

The student can get financial support from only one source of funding (Erasmus+ grant, NOREK Network grant, or LUT grant for exchanges based on bilateral agreements). It is not possible to overlap financial support from different programmes. It is possible to get the bilateral grant only once and for one semester (max. 5 months) for studies abroad. However, in double degree exchanges the maximum length for the grant is one academic year. Erasmus+ grants are calculated based on the length of the mobility period. Bilateral and Norek Network grants have a fixed amount regardless of the length of the exchange.

To qualify for the bilateral grant, the student is required to participate in the receiving university's entire semester with the minimum length of the uninterrupted study period being three months. The uninterrupted bilateral exchange period may be less than three months only in predetermined cases where the receiving university offers only programs that are under three months in length: in the academic year 2025-2026 these exceptions are the JLSP program at Nihon University and a semester at University of California, Davis.

Erasmus+ grants to partner countries are awarded within the limits of the availability of Erasmus+ funds, as a maximum of 20 % of the total grants can be awarded for mobility outside the Erasmus+ programme countries. Grants to partner countries are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

To be eligible for the financial support, the studies abroad should be recognised as a part of the student's degree in the home institution (LUT University). Studies abroad must be full-time and aim to yield 30 ECTS per semester. The student must be physically present at the host country, online studies are not supported. If the student unable to fulfil the minimum requirement of 20 ECTS per semester at the host institution, the student needs to pay the grant back according to the following scale:

- 0–5 ECTS: 100 % reimbursement
- 6–9 ECTS: 75 % reimbursement
- 10–14 ECTS: 50 % reimbursement
- 15–19 ECTS: 20 % reimbursement

Home university (LUT) online courses taken during the exchange period are not taken into consideration when calculating the total amount of the exchange period credits.

When making the decision on grant reimbursement, participant's illness or difficult circumstances are taken into consideration. The consideration shall be based on the supporting documents provided by the participant.

2. Financial support for placements abroad / The maximum grant amount

Erasmus+ traineeship grant	
Group 1 countries with higher living costs: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden + partner countries not associated to the Erasmus+ programme: Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City State and Faroe Islands, Switzerland, United Kingdom	690 € / month + travel grant
Group 2 countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Türkiye	640 € / month + travel grant
Group 3 - third countries not associated to the Erasmus+ programme: Other partner countries outside Europe with individual Erasmus+ traineeship agreement	700 € / month + travel grant

Conditions for awarding financial support for placements abroad

Placements abroad are financially supported through the Erasmus+ programme, given that they meet the following criteria. The required documents are provided by the student in the LUT Mobility-Online system.

The placement must be full-time (approximately 35–40 hours per week). The minimum duration for a long-term traineeship mobility is 2 months (60 days) spent physically in the host country. The placement must be recognised as a part of the student's degree and the placement must yield 5 ECTS per month on average in order to get the financial support. However, within the availability of Erasmus+ funds, it is possible to get a grant for the whole duration of the traineeship also in cases where the duration of the placement exceeds the normal time frame in proportion to the ECTS (5 ECTS/month).

Full-time status is determined based on the duration of the placement in months, the number of ECTS awarded, and weekly working hours. A grant can only be awarded if the minimum requirement of 2 months of full-time placement is met. International Mobility Services will make the decision for this, and additional information is available from internships@lut.fi.

For short-term blended traineeship mobility, the grant is awarded for a maximum of 14 days spent physically in the host country (+ 0-6 travel days, see section 4. Erasmus+ travel grant). The placement must be full-time (approximately 7–8 hours per day), and the student must earn a minimum of 3 ECTS. In short-term blended mobility, a virtual component completed remotely is a compulsory part of the placement. This virtual component may be carried out, for example, by working remotely from the student's home country.

If the placement is longer than 14 days but shorter than 2 months, it is not eligible for the Erasmus+ traineeship grant.

A thesis can be completed during the internship. In this case, the internship must be included in the student's degree, and ECTS credits must also be awarded for the internship itself. The ECTS credits awarded for the internship must not be included as part of the thesis credits.

Erasmus+ grants to partner countries are awarded within the limits of the availability of Erasmus+ funds, as a maximum of 20% of the total grants can be awarded for mobility outside the Erasmus+ programme countries. Grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Erasmus+ grant will not be awarded for a placement that takes place at the student's actual country of residence at the time of the placement.

The student can get financial support only from one source of funding (home institution, Erasmus+, EDUFI etc.). It is not possible to get overlapping financial support from different programmes.

LUT University offers placement grants also for recent graduates. In that case the student must have been accepted to the internship before graduation and the internship must start and end within one year of student's graduation. The internship must also be realized during one Erasmus+ agreement period.

3. Financial support for Erasmus+ blended short mobilities

Erasmus+ blended short mobilities	
Up to the 14th day of activity (days 1 – 14, min 5 days)	79 € / day

General conditions for awarding financial support for blended short mobilities

Financial support can be awarded for blended short mobilities from 5 to 20 days. Financial support can be awarded only to the physical part of the mobility, lasting 5 - 14 days, but travel days can be added before and after the physical mobility. Short mobilities are supported to LUT priority partners, double degree partners and EULiST alliance partners. Agreement with the placement organisation must be signed by all parties before the mobility starts.

In order to get the support, the studies or the placement abroad has to be recognised as a part of the student's degree in the home institution LUT University. The mobility must have a mandatory virtual part. However, a virtual part is optional for doctoral students. The studies/placement abroad must be minimum of 3 ECTS including both the physical and virtual parts.

4. Erasmus+ travel grant

On top of the basic Erasmus+ grant described above, an additional travel grant is awarded for all Erasmus+ students. The travel grant distance category is calculated as the one-way straight-line distance between LUT University Lappeenranta campus and the main campus of the host university. If the student is attending their studies online and does not live in Finland, the departure location is their home address abroad. The table below presents the total travel grant for the round-trip. If the student travels by green means, the green travel grant is awarded instead of the travel grant. If the straight-line distance is less than 10 km, the travel grant is not awarded.

Straight-line one-way distance	Travel grant (non-green)	Travel grant (green)
10–99 km	28 €	56 €
100–499 km	211 €	285 €
500–1999 km	309 €	417 €
2000–2999 km	395 €	535 €

3000–3999 km	580 €	785 €
4000–7999 km	1188 €	1188 €
8000 km or more	1735 €	1735 €

Erasmus+ distance calculator can be found at <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>

Green travel is travel by low-emission vehicles (such as a bus, train, or carpooling – avoiding travel by air or sea) with the aim of minimising emissions. The student is entitled to a green travel grant when at least 50 % of the total distance (round-trip) is travelled green. To apply for the green travel grant, the student is required to provide the full round-trip travel plan.

In addition to the above, also travel days may be covered with the same amount of grant as the study days. For non-green travel, one travel day before and after the study period can be covered. For green travel mobilities, a total of up to six travel days can be covered.

5. Additional Erasmus+ grants

Additional Erasmus+ grant	Amount
Inclusion grant, in long-term (2–12 months) exchanges	250 € / month
Inclusion grant, in short-term blended mobilities	100 € / 5–14 days exchange
Special needs grant	according to actual costs

Erasmus+ programme supports students that have fewer opportunities than others (**inclusion grant**) with a higher grant. The inclusion grant can be awarded based on social or health obstacles, disabilities or migrant background. The inclusion grant is added on top of the basic Erasmus+ grant. To receive the inclusion grant, the student is required to apply for it via the LUT Mobility-Online grant application form. The student is required to present related additional documentation according to the instructions on LUT Mobility-Online.

The special needs grant is intended to enable international exchange and internship in circumstances when a special need causes additional costs that are not covered by other sources. Special need can be an injury, impairment, physical or psychological illness or a learning difficulty. The additional support will be added to the basic Erasmus+ grant. The grant will be awarded by the Finnish National Agency for Education based on the application from LUT International Mobility Services, and the special needs grant amount will be decided on a case-by-case basis, based on the student's needs.

6. Erasmus+ grant terms

The basic Erasmus+ grant is calculated according to the exact number of **actual study days**, using the following method: full months (from day N of the starting month to day N-1 of the ending month) plus additional days.

For example, if the mobility period is 9 March - May 10, there are 2 full months (9 March - May 8) and 2 additional days (May 9-10). Thus, if the monthly grant is 540 €, the basic Erasmus+ grant is $2 \times 540 + 2 \times 18$ €.

It is the responsibility of the student to find out the start and end dates for their exchange period, and to enter the correct information on their grant application. In student exchanges, the first day is the start of the orientation period or the first lecture. The end date is the last date when the student is required to be present at the host organisation (the last exam or the last placement day).

The Erasmus+ mobility periods abroad (as a student and/or as a trainee) cannot exceed 12 months (360 days) within one cycle of study. The maximum length of 12 months can include several exchange periods.

If the student does not have at least two months left of the maximum of 12 months, the student is not eligible for the Erasmus+ grant. However, the student is still eligible to apply for non-Erasmus exchange outside Europe. If the 12 months is exceeded during the Erasmus+ mobility period, the student is eligible for an Erasmus+ grant only until the 12 months are full, and the rest of the mobility period follows the freemover principle with zero-grant. However, such arrangement is subject to the acceptance of the host organisation.

At the end of the mobility period, the student is required to provide a Letter of Confirmation / Certificate of Attendance (for student exchange) signed by the host university or the Traineeship Certificate (for work placements). This document confirms the start and end dates of the mobility.

If, compared to the dates in the grant agreement (based on the information the student provided in their LUT Mobility-Online grant application), the mobility period was extended or shortened by more than five days, the grant amount may be recalculated to match the actual study dates. However, if there are not enough Erasmus+ project funds left in the applicable project after the student has completed their mandatory post-mobility tasks, the extended period will not be funded. The student will be sent a revised grant agreement with the recalculated final grant amount. If the student does not provide the document confirming the dates, the entire Erasmus+ grant will be collected back.

Erasmus+ students must complete their Erasmus Participant Report on the EUSurvey system. The students will receive an email invitation to fill in the report after their mobility period.

7. Application for the financial support

To be eligible for the grant, the student is required to submit the applicable documents and to follow the instructions on LUT Mobility-Online. All fully completed documents for the financial support must be submitted and the online grant application terms must be accepted on LUT Mobility-Online by the first day of the month to receive the financial support on the last day of the same month. Applications for financial support are not processed in July and August, hence the student is advised to submit their grant application in time. All financial support should be applied for not later than one month prior the start of the exchange period abroad. The financial support must in all cases be applied for before going abroad. In case of difficulties with the required documents or LUT Mobility-Online, the student is advised to contact International Mobility Services (outgoing@LUT.fi / internships@LUT.fi) / shortmobility@LUT.fi) as soon as possible. The grant is paid in one instalment.

Within one month after completing the studies/placement abroad, the student needs to submit the both exchange reports, Letter of Confirmation, and the Transcript of Records/Traineeship certificate on LUT Mobility-Online, and the Learning Agreement needs to be up-to-date and approved by all parties.

After the student has completed all the mandatory post-mobility tasks on the LUT Mobility-Online and EUSurvey systems, LUT International Mobility Services checks them by the end of the next semester. If there are major changes in the exchange duration, the grant can be checked earlier by request.

Negligence in fulfilling the reporting requirements, or lack of study performance can lead to reimbursement of the financial support. The final grant amount confirmation and the possible recalculation is made after the student has completed the required tasks on the LUT Mobility-Online and EUSurvey systems. If the student fails to do so within the time limit, the entire grant may be collected back.

Mari Tuukkanen
Service Manager (International Mobility Services)