

Grants for Educational Collaboration Programmes

The aim of the programme is to internationalise and renew higher education at Swedish higher education institutions primarily on Bachelor and Master's level but also on PhD level. Grants for Educational Collaboration Programmes targets the development of new educational collaborations between Swedish and foreign higher education institutions.

Collaborations shall be balanced and involve physical mobility for students to take mutually accepted credit-giving courses in countries outside EU/EFTA and Sweden.¹ The jointly developed educational component must be of long-term nature, comprising at least 60 ECTS, including elements of physical student mobility. In order to achieve the intended learning outcomes, the joint components may also include joint intensive courses, blended learning, virtual exchange and staff exchange. The jointly developed component shall be repeated periodically with new groups of students. Double, multiple, or joint degree programmes are examples of such collaborations, but a more limited scope is also possible. Independent of the format, the collaboration shall serve as a platform for renewal and change the students' experience of the education, transform the learning in courses/programmes and deepen the networks and relations between Swedish and foreign higher education institutions. They become an integral part of the branding of an institution, with the potential of leading to further collaborations in research, education and outreach as well as attracting international students.

Physical mobility in both directions is required for students as it increases the benefits of the collaboration. The students must stay at least one month at the partner university. Being embedded in another culture and environment increases the understanding of important aspects of internationalisation and contributes to the understanding of the cultural context on each side. However, an extensive use of digital solutions to enhance the educational collaboration and save resources is encouraged.

Applicants must be deans or equivalent with a responsibility for decisions regarding new education programmes at a university in Sweden. Projects may last for up to three years. Funds applied for in a project may not exceed SEK 750,000. The application should clearly state how the project will be co-funded by the university (and any other partners) in a sum at least as great as that being applied for.

Applications will be assessed by experts, focusing on how the proposed international partnership fulfils the following four criteria: A) contribution to higher education on all levels (qualitatively and quantitatively), B) sustainability and growth potential, C) level of renewal regarding internationalisation, and D) the quality of the proposals planning and project setup.

It is important that the collaborating parties agree as to the management of any intellectual property rights in connection to the project and its results. The norm for ethical aspects shall be

¹ The United Kingdom is not accepted as principal partner country



according to the country with the highest standard. Furthermore, the project must be well established with the applicant parties. All applicant parties must have read and approved the final version of the application.

If the collaboration is at an early stage, please consider using the Initiation Grants programme to establish a solid basis for an application within this programme.

If you have questions about the Grants for Educational Collaboration Programmes, please contact Matilda Uhrström at +46 08 20 59 10 or matilda.uhrstrom@stint.se

Applications

Applications are submitted through STINT's application system and include the following sections:

- Grants manager and partners (CV, max. two pages in PDF-format is required for each key person)
- Project title, abstract (200 words), classification and keywords
- Project description, max five pages in PDF-format (minimum font size 10), clearly describing, as a minimum:
 - How the project relates to review criteria A – C (see below)
 - Objectives in relation to research and higher education
 - Contribution to and from each project partner
 - Project plan with milestones and goals
 - Considerations with regards to responsible internationalisation, including ethical and environmental dimensions
 - Risk analysis
 - Available resources.
- Participating persons, stays, events and budget data
- Funds requested or received from other financiers
- For applications concerning collaboration with Iran or North Korea, a support letter from the vice-chancellor at the Swedish university is required.



Review

The selection of projects is guided by the following criteria:

A	The anticipated contribution to higher education at the institutions, departments and students, both in terms of quantity (number of students involved in mobility from respective sides and how extensive the collaboration is) and quality (added value in terms of students' learning outcomes).
B	The sustainability and growth potential of the collaboration, including the overall balance of commitments, investments/stakes and benefits for the institutions. How will the educational collaboration continue after the initial period with STINT co-funding?
C	The level of renewal in regard to internationalisation and potential of the project. New, innovative but still realistic collaborations with high potential are considered positive.
D	The project proposal's planning and approval, such as quality and level of clarification in the project plan, a cost-efficient project design and a minimized negative impact on the environment.

Please note that a clearly specified budget is required to obtain high overall review scores. It is also important that all activities in the project plan have a direct relation to the proposed educational collaboration. It is recommended that the applications explicitly address the following aspects (in line with the review criteria):

- How the proposed collaboration benefits students from each party – which synergies are obtained
- How sustainability of the programme will be ensured (a gradual phasing out of funds for salaries during the project might be relevant to consider)
- How the number of participating students in Sweden and abroad will develop over time

Conditions – checklist

- The applicant is dean or equivalent at a Swedish university and has the responsibility to decide about new education programmes.
- The principal collaborating party is outside the EU/EFTA area and the United Kingdom.
- The proposed project starts no later than August in the same year as the call closes and has a planned duration supported by STINT funding of no more than three years.
- Funds applied for in a project may not exceed SEK 750,000. The application should clearly state how the project will be co-funded by the university (and any other partners) in a sum at least as great as that being applied for.
- For applications concerning collaboration with Iran or North Korea, a support letter from the vice-chancellor at the Swedish university is required.
- The applicants agree to cooperate in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and good research practice. Methods, data and results will be openly accounted for. The proposed project is fulfilling all ethical requirements and it has been approved by relevant entities at the participating organisations.
- The final version of the application has been read and approved by all parties involved



Timetable

December 2021 – Application system opens

15:00, 25 March 2022 – Application deadline

May 2022 – Decisions from STINT (indicative month)

August 2022 – Projects should have commenced.

Reporting

Grants are normally paid once per year (in May-August) provided that contracts/reports have been received and approved beforehand. Annual situation reports will be requested, as well as a final report detailing results and experiences from the entire project is to be received within three months of the end of the project.

Requests for extensions will be viewed restrictively. However, parental leave or long-term sick leave on the part of key persons will constitute grounds for extending the period for which a STINT grant is made available.