

ENLIGHT+

Application Guidelines

Objectives

In order to support joint activities between the ten ENLIGHT universities (University of the Basque Country, Universities of Bern and Bordeaux, Comenius University Bratislava, Universities of Galway, Gent, Göttingen, Groningen, Uppsala and Tartu), the ENLIGHT+ programme offers funding to support small-scale (student) initiatives, aiming to foster the development of various bottom-up projects, including but not limited to those focusing on green and inclusive campus initiatives.

The overarching objective of this call for proposals is to cultivate a vibrant academic community within the ENLIGHT universities by offering financial support to teaching staff, academic and non-academic staff, PhD candidates, and students. This support is specifically intended to foster new bottom-up initiatives that have not previously received funding, facilitating the organisation of joint small-scale projects, collaborative events, or workshops. The call supports the following types of initiatives:

Community building: Initiatives that foster new partnerships and collaborative efforts to address transformative challenges, such as driving research-led educational transformation and promoting innovation in education.

Inclusive campus initiatives: Initiatives aimed at enhancing social inclusion, accessibility, and diversity on ENLIGHT campuses.

Green campus initiatives: Initiatives focused on environmental sustainability, climate action, and sustainable practices that make ENLIGHT campuses more environmentally responsible.

Student initiatives for change: Student-led initiatives that raise awareness of sustainability and inclusivity, encourage creativity, and drive action within the ENLIGHT student community.

ENLIGHT acknowledges the necessity of providing an environment where faculty, staff, and students are respected and valued for their contributions to be able to work and study effectively. This commitment extends to all individuals, ensuring equal treatment irrespective of social status, ethnicity, (dis)ability, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, ethnic origin, religion, and belief, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other distinguishing factors. Furthermore, ENLIGHT is committed to helping faculty, staff, and students to balance the multiple responsibilities associated with work, academic, and personal life.

As part of our commitment to sustainability, we emphasise that all proposed initiatives, including mobility projects, should align with environmentally friendly practices. ENLIGHT encourages applicants to adopt, if possible, green mobility solutions, aiming to mitigate the immediate climate impacts associated with increased mobility levels. We seek proposals that not only address short-term challenges but also serve as exemplars for significantly reducing emissions in both mobility and daily living.

Funding

Please note that only members of ENLIGHT universities are eligible to apply. This includes teaching staff, academic and non-academic staff, doctoral candidates, and students. Before applying, please

consult your home university to confirm your eligibility as it may vary depending on your home university. At least three ENLIGHT partners must be involved in the proposed initiative or two ENLIGHT partners in case of virtual exchange. Applications should be submitted on behalf of the entire project team, with the budget plan clearly outlining the funding requested by each partner. It is also possible to participate as a project partner without applying for funding—e.g., if funding is unnecessary, in-kind support is sufficient, or other funding sources are available.

Outputs (courses, events) should be open to the targeted staff and students of all ENLIGHT partners. In addition, students are encouraged to submit proposals seeking funding for a diverse range of initiatives, standalone or integrated into research or art projects (e.g., with potential bachelor/master thesis outcomes).

Costs eligible for funding may include:

- Organisational support *includes funding for small events, conferences, outreach programmes, campaigns, or workshops held at applicant's university and aimed at enhancing collaboration within the ENLIGHT community. This may cover costs related to catering, venue, communication, or other associated expenses incurred by the applicant.*
- Mobility funding *is available for joint activities and should be used for mobility costs not covered by other mobility schemes. This may include travel expenses, accommodation, and other related costs incurred by the applicant.*

Applicants are encouraged to ensure that the proposed costs align with the objectives of ENLIGHT+. Eligible costs and available budgets may vary between universities. For details, consult Annex 1. For further clarification or assistance regarding eligible costs at your institution, please contact the ENLIGHT offices.

Participating universities can support their own academics, staff, and students. However, since (internal) funding conditions for ENLIGHT differ considerably per university and per application round, ENLIGHT partner universities will never be obliged to provide financial support because one of the other partners does. This is at the discretion of each university.

Deadlines

31 October 2026, 31 January 2027

Selection criteria

Formal criteria. At least three ENLIGHT partners are involved in the proposed initiative or two ENLIGHT partners in case of virtual exchange. Applicants must have institutional affiliation with one of the ENLIGHT universities. The application represents a new initiative that has not previously received ENLIGHT funding. The format of the proposed activities adheres to the guidelines outlined in the ENLIGHT+ call.

Quality. Applications are assessed on the feasibility of proposed initiatives. The anticipated output must be accessible to the targeted groups (students, staff, academics) of the ENLIGHT partner universities. Applications are evaluated based on their contribution to the objectives of ENLIGHT+.

Specific criteria. The budget and implementation timeline of the proposal must correspond to the criteria set by each applicant's home university.

How to apply?

To apply, please submit the completed application form and any necessary supporting documents as a single PDF through the application portal. Applications must be submitted on behalf of the entire project team, with the budget plan clearly outlining the funding requested by each partner.

Evaluation process

The evaluation process is coordinated by all partner universities, with budget decisions made individually by each applicant's home university. Decisions are communicated no later than six weeks after the application deadline.

Reporting

Successful applicants will be required to submit a short report within four weeks after the project's completion.

Questions

The ENLIGHT team is committed to providing a dedicated platform for public relations matters, facilitating seamless communication between ENLIGHT partners. Leveraging the strength of our already established community of practice, we stand ready to offer valuable assistance throughout your project. This encompasses facilitating seamless communication with ENLIGHT partners, orchestrating matchmaking for potential collaborators, and providing an array of public relations services tailored to amplifying the visibility of your project through ENLIGHT.

University	Contact details
University of the Basque Country	enlight@ehu.eus
University of Bern	enlight@unibe.ch
University of Bordeaux	enlight@u-bordeaux.fr
Comenius University Bratislava	enlight@uniba.sk
University of Galway	enlight@universityofgalway.ie
Ghent University	enlight@ugent.be
University of Göttingen	enlight@uni-goettingen.de
University of Groningen	enlight@rug.nl
University of Tartu	enlight@ut.ee
Uppsala University	enlight@uu.se

Annex 1

Please note that the maximum funding amount and deadlines for implementing the proposed measures may differ depending on your university. Please refer to the table below for details regarding the budget limits and implementation deadlines specific to your university. Applicants requesting budget should review the requirements of their respective home university.

University	Specific requirements: budget limit, implementation deadlines etc.
University of the Basque Country	Please contact the ENLIGHT office prior to submission for information on procedure, budget, and eligibility: enlight.deialdiak@ehu.eus The maximum requested budget per proposal cannot exceed €6.000, with a limit of €1.000 for student initiatives. Projects will be funded by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities and subject to EHU's call rules. Accommodation and catering: in compliance with EHU per diem rates. This call will fund mobilities not eligible for other calls (Erasmus+ staff or others).
University of Bern	The maximum requested budget per application is CHF 5,000. Student initiatives are strongly encouraged. Small-scale projects and initiatives are prioritized. For mobility costs outside such projects or initiatives, please direct your enquiries toward enlight@unibe.ch for alternative funding options.
University of Bordeaux	Please contact the ENLIGHT office prior to submission for information on budget, eligibility, and alternative funding options: enlight@u-bordeaux.fr The financial contribution will be a minimum of €1,500 and a maximum of €5,000. While some ENLIGHT universities extend their ENLIGHT+ funding to further activities outside the ENLIGHT+ call, only applications falling into one of the 4 call categories are eligible for UBx. Projects that intend to develop another application for one of the other ENLIGHT calls (Incubator Grant or ETN) are not eligible. Projects will be funded through the UBx IdEx and will be subject to the regular IdEx rules. The awarded project funding will be sub-granted to the department to which the UBx project team belongs. All activities must be completed within 12 months of the acceptance of the proposal.
Comenius University Bratislava	The maximum requested budget per application €3,500. A limited number of projects can be funded.

	All measures must be completed within 12 months following the acceptance of the proposal. Deadline for the final report (measures realised in Slovakia) submission is one month after the last activity. For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact enlight@uniba.sk
University of Galway	The maximum amount for University of Galway led projects is €5,000 (including all hosting and travel costs). All projects must be completed within 12 months of being awarded. A final report is required to comply with national funding guidelines. <i>The maximum available to travel to an ENLIGHT partner event is €1,000 - Local Travel policies must be adhered to.</i> Student initiatives are capped at €1,000. For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact enlight@universityofgalway.ie
Ghent University	For outgoing mobility for staff: max. €1,000 (travel and subsistence) For activities at Ghent University: max. €2,500 organizational costs (venue, catering...) For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact enlight@ugent.be
University of Göttingen	The maximum budget per initiative is €2,000, with a limit of €1,000 for student initiatives. All measures must be completed within 12 months following the acceptance of the proposal. For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact enlight@uni-goettingen.de
University of Groningen	For outbound travel/subsistence costs the E+ 131 tariffs apply with a max of 10 days. For events in Groningen max contribution is €1,500. For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact enlight@rug.nl
University of Tartu	The maximum budget per initiative is €2,000. For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact: enlight@ut.ee
Uppsala University	The maximum budget per initiative is €2,000.

	Applicants from Uppsala University must provide approval from the head of the department, or equivalent, as the funds cannot cover indirect costs. This can be done in the form of an attached e-mail from the head of department. Funds will be paid out to the organisational unit of the main applicant at UU.
--	--

For further inquiries regarding cost eligibility, please contact enlight@uu.se