



## ***ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME ERASMUS MUNDUS JOINT MASTER DEGREES JOINT CALL EU-JAPAN 2019 (EAC/A03/2018)***

### ***Partnership between Erasmus Mundus and the Inter-University Exchange Project (IUEP) of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)***

#### ***Frequently Asked Questions***

(Latest update: December 2018)

The following "questions and answers" on aspects related to the action "*Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees Joint Call EU Japan*" (EMJMD-IUEP) are published as a source of information for applicants intending to submit a project proposal.

Please note that the primary sources of information remain the [call for proposals 2019 \(EAC/A03/2018\)](#), the [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#) (especially Part B, Key Action 1: "*Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees*", including the Annex I on EMJMD). These information sources constitute your first reference to guide you through your EMJMD-IUEP application; they can be consulted along with further instructions for completing the Application Package in the EMJMD call section at the Agency website: [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding\\_en](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding_en)

The Erasmus+ Programme Guide specifies key terms, explains the nature and functioning of EMJMD-IUEP, presents the funding scheme, and outlines the application/selection procedures in the context of this action. Most of the answers to questions which may arise for EMJMD-IUEP applicants can be obtained from a close reading of the Programme Guide, for instance:

- the eligibility criteria (e.g. is my organisation eligible, what is the minimum consortium size, etc.);
- the Award Criteria that applicants need to address in their proposal;
- the way EMJMD-IUEP scholarships are allocated.

If you have specific queries where you consider that further explanations and/or clarifications by the Agency are needed for a more complete understanding of the EMJMD-IUEP rules, then you can send an email to the following mailbox and you will receive an answer as soon as possible from our staff:

[EACEA-EPLUS-EMJMD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EACEA-EPLUS-EMJMD@ec.europa.eu)



## **A) Questions on general and institutional matters**

**Q1 : The successful completion of the joint master programme must lead to the award of either a joint or multiple degrees. Does this condition apply also to programmes co-funded by the EU-MEXT?**

**Q2 : Is it compulsory to deliver joint degrees?**

Answer:

According to the Erasmus+ Programme Guide, the successful completion of the joint master programme must lead to the award of either a joint or multiple degrees. For consortia co-funded by the EU and MEXT, the joint or multiple degree(s) must be issued by at least two degree-awarding HEIs, one from a Programme Country and one from Japan. Further information and clarifications on this point will be provided in the dedicated funding section of the EACEA website.

**Q3 : Will consortia applying for the EU-MEXT funding be able to benefit from a preparatory year?**

Answer:

Yes, the possibility to undertake a preparatory year is also available for the EU-MEXT partnerships.

**Q4 : How will the mobility of an EU-MEXT partnership be structured? Must all the scholarship holders be hosted by the Japanese partner HEI?**

Answer:

In the framework of an EU-MEXT partnership one of the two mandatory student mobility periods must take place in Japan while the other in a Programme Country HEI represented in the consortium.

**Q5 : What is the amount that the Japanese partner should apply for? What is the total sum of EMJMD scholarships funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)?**

**Q6 : Is there balance between the EU and JP scholarships?**

Answer:

In line with the Erasmus+ Programme Guide provisions, MEXT will match both the number of EU-funded scholarships (maximum 32) and the project funding (50%). For proposals to be co-funded under the EU-MEXT partnership, the detailed budget allocation at project level including the amount of scholarship and consortium management fee, will differ according to the co-funding source (EU or MEXT).

**Q7 : Will the application have to be submitted in EN and JP? Both times, or only when submitting in Japan?**

Answer:

The application submitted to the Executive Agency for the EU-funding must be submitted in one of the three EU working languages (EN, FR, DE). As per the application submitted for the MEXT funding, further clarifications will be provided by the Japanese competent authorities in due time.

**Q8 : Can one of the degree-awarding partners offer only credits?**

Answer:

At least three HEIs established in a Programme Country and at least one HEI established in Japan must be involved as partners in the EMJMD consortia co-funded by the EU and MEXT and must be Master degree-awarding institutions. The successful completion of the joint Master programme must lead to the award of either a joint degree or multiple degree(s) issued by at least two of the Master degree-awarding HEIs involved as partners, one from a Programme Country and one from Japan. Depending on the mobility path of a student any HEI involved as partner



must be able to deliver the degree corresponding to the study period carried out in their institutions. Other HEIs in addition to the minimum required for an EU-MEXT consortium specified above may also participate as associated partners by providing only credits. The study period(s) spent in these HEIs must be recognised by the consortium Master degree-awarding HEIs involved as partners. The participation of associated partners is optional and they will not be recipients of MEXT funding.

**Q9 : Are other Partner Country HEIs eligible? (e.g. from Brazil)**

Answer:

Yes. As outlined in the Programme Guide, a participating organisation can be any public or private organisation, with its affiliated entities (if any), established in a Programme Country or in a Partner Country that contributes directly and actively to the delivery of the EMJMD. The minimum partnership composition should consist of at least 3 HEIs from Erasmus+ Programme Countries and at least 1 HEI from Japan. Partner Country HEIs other than Japanese HEIs may take part and will be funded by the EU.

**Q10 : How will JP partners be able to ensure continuity during the last year without MEXT funding?**

**Q11 : Will different funding periods for JP (5 years) and EU (maximum 6 years) affect running of projects?**

Answer:

The arrangements for the MEXT financing will be clarified by the Japanese authorities in due time.

**Q12 : Are there any plans to develop this type of joint activities with other countries?**

Answer:

The EU-MEXT partnership is an experimental action in the framework of the 2019 EMJMD call for proposals. Any further development will be decided in due time, building on its results.

**Q13 : Beside joint master, will co-funding made available also for joint doctorate?**

Answer:

Regarding the funding at Doctoral level, the opportunities available at the moment are those offered in the framework of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, part of the EU's Horizon 2020 programme for research and innovation. Since 2014 new Doctoral programmes and additional Doctoral fellowships have been available under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions. For more information please visit their [website](#).

**Q14 : Beside the minimum consortium composition, what is the expected average consortium size?**

Answer:

There is not an expected average size of the consortium beyond the minimum required (three HEIs from Programme Countries and one HEI from Japan). The consortium composition should be designed in such a way to guarantee the highest quality of the proposed joint master in all its elements.

**Q15 : Should the joint project be developed on the basis of an existing activity or could it be a completely new master programme? What about accreditation in this case?**

Answer:

An EU-MEXT funded EMJMD can be built on an existing activity or be a completely new programme. The accreditation/evaluation rules are those specified in the Annex to the Erasmus+ Programme Guide on Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, Chapter 1 'Conditions relating to the design of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees'

**Q16 : Will the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) requirement apply also to JP?**

Answer:



No, only HEIs established in a Programme Country must hold a valid ECHE. An ECHE is not required for participating Partner Country HEIs.

## ***B) Questions related to student mobility, scholarships, and EMJMD implementing rules***

***Q17: Are there differences in the numbers of scholarships available for the EMJMD grant and for the EU-MEXT partnerships and are additional scholarships for targeted regions available for EU-MEXT programmes?***

***Q18: How does division of the 64 scholarships over 4 intakes per project work?***

Answer:

The maximum number of scholarships that will be attributed to the *EMJMD* consortia (EU funding) and to the *EMJMD-Partnership with Japan* consortia (EU-MEXT funding) are not the same. A maximum of 32 scholarships will be funded by the EU and 32 by MEXT (i.e. a maximum of 64 in total for four intakes, half funded from the EU budget and half from the Japanese budget). There is no specific methodology to be followed concerning the distribution of the EU-MEXT funded scholarships over the four intakes. As mentioned in the Programme Guide, the consortia that will be co-funded by the EU and MEXT are not eligible to apply for additional scholarships for targeted regions/countries of the world.

***Q19: Is the 3-month rule applicable for the students attending a joint programme funded by the EU-MEXT partnership?***

Answer:

The 3-month rule does not apply to the partner country scholarship holders of the EMJMDs co-funded by the EU and MEXT.

***Q20: Will I have to split the scholarships evenly between EU and JP students each year? Even if there is only one Japanese HEI? What about third country students? Will they be covered by the EU scholarships?***

Answer:

The distribution of EU-MEXT funded scholarships among the partners will depend on internal consortium arrangements established between the partners. The EU-funded scholarships can be awarded to both Programme and Partner Country students.

***Q21: Is the geographical criterion (no more than 3 candidates from the same country/with the same nationality should be awarded an EMJMD scholarship during the same intake) applicable for the students attending a joint programme funded by the EU-MEXT partnership?***

Answer:

This condition does not apply to Japanese students within the consortia co-funded by the EU and MEXT.