

# EuroApprentices

EuroApprentices is a European Network of Erasmus+ funded apprentices selected by National Agencies for Key Action 1 Vocational Education and Training (VET) in Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom (UK).

## Background of the Network

The Network was formed following [NetWBL](#) results, the [Skills Agenda for Europe](#), the success of [EuroPeers](#) in the Youth sector and the individual success stories of mobile apprentices in each of the participating countries.

The Network supports apprentices who have taken part in an Erasmus+ stay abroad to work together nationally and internationally to share their experiences with peers and encourage others to take up the opportunities of Erasmus+ for VET learners and apprentices.

Each year, the EuroApprentices Network brings together Erasmus+ funded apprentices at an annual EuroApprentices Network Meeting, held in various European locations and with attendance funded through Erasmus+ Transnational Cooperation Activities (TCA). The meeting is a chance for EuroApprentices to share their individual success stories of learning mobility abroad, meet with other apprentices from across Europe and strengthen their identity as a European Network of peers.

The first EuroApprentices Network Meeting was held in Germany in June 2017 and the second will be held in Austria in May 2018, for which **there is an opportunity for UK beneficiary organisations to apply and enable a participant(s) from their project(s) to take on this opportunity, becoming one of the first UK EuroApprentices.**

## Aims of the Network

The EuroApprentices Network;

1. **Gives** apprenticeships an individual face and a personal story

2. **Enhances** the visibility of the Erasmus+ programme at regional or local level within the UK, and motivates other apprentices to participate in mobility schemes
3. **Helps** to increase mobility of apprentices and the attractiveness of VET

## Role of a EuroApprentice

The role of a EuroApprentice is to **enhance the visibility of the Erasmus+ programme in their home country**, and **motivate other apprentices, enterprises and VET providers to participate** in the programme by illustrating their own experience of learning abroad and its benefit for personal and professional development. This is done with support and training provided by the UK National Agency (UK NA).

The EuroApprentice will:

1. Be given a National Level Preparation Training (May 2018), hosted by the UK NA in The Midlands.
  - The purpose of this Training is for selected EuroApprentices in the UK to be introduced to the EuroApprentices scheme and Erasmus+ Key Action 1 VET, be supported in understanding their roles and responsibilities and introduced to their UK EuroApprentice peers.
2. Be funded to attend the EuroApprentices Network Meeting (May 2018), hosted by the Austrian National Agency in Vienna.
  - The purpose of this meeting is to bring together the selected EuroApprentices from all National Agencies in the Network and offer opportunities for teambuilding strengthen common identity within the Network and undertake training on how to communicate and disseminate experiences to different target groups. The acquired competences will be certified.
3. Complete the following engagement activities (over the course of 1 year):
  - A minimum of 1 and a maximum of 4 Social Media Engagement Activities i.e. using

- social media such as Facebook, Blogs to share their Erasmus+ experience
- A minimum of 1 and a maximum of 2 Presentation/ Event Engagement Activities i.e. present at relevant events in the UK about their Erasmus+ experience, with support from the UK NA

## Contract

If successful, a contract will be issued by the UK NA to the applicant (EuroApprentice), and signed by the applicant and UK NA. It is important that no bookings or costs are incurred as part of your role as a UK EuroApprentice until this contract has been signed by the UK NA.

The contract will be issued with a start date of May 2018 and an end date of June 2019. All activities in relation to EuroApprentices, requiring reimbursement, must be completed within these dates.

This will confirm the individual as one of the first Erasmus+ UK EuroApprentices.

## Budget

If successful, the UK NA will reimburse travel and accommodation as outlined below on a quarterly basis and following submission of a brief reimbursement template and evidence. Templates and details of the process of which will be sent to the applicant.

### 1. National Level Preparation Meeting (May 2018)

The UK NA will contribute to actual travel costs and accommodation costs. Travel is defined as the cost of the entire journey (including airport transfers) from the applicant's home to the specific venue of activity.

| <b>National Preparation Meeting</b> | <b>Per participant</b> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Travel                              | Up to €150             |
| Accommodation                       | Up to €100             |

## 2. EuroApprentices Network Meeting (May 2018)

The UK NA will contribute to travel costs, delegate fees, accommodation and subsistence costs during the event (if applicable). Travel is defined as the cost of the entire journey (including airport transfers) from the applicant's home to the specific venue of activity and would be reimbursed following attendance at the activity. It is anticipated that the National Agencies would pre-finance and arrange Accommodation and Subsistence during the activity without need for further reimbursement. This will be confirmed nearer to the event date.

| <b>EuroApprentices Network Meeting</b> | <b>Per participant</b> |
|--|------------------------|
| Travel                                 | Up to €500             |
| Accommodation & Subsistence            | TBC                    |

## 3. Presentations/ Event Engagement Activities

The UK NA will contribute to Travel costs, subject to the EuroApprentice written approval from the UK NA that the event, role and content covered by the EuroApprentice is suitable. Travel is defined as the cost of the entire journey (including airport transfers) from the applicant's home to the specific venue of activity.

| <b>Presentation/ Event Engagement Activities</b> | <b>Per participant, per activity</b> |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Travel   | Up to €200                           |

## How to apply

The UK NA would welcome applications from current or former Key Action 1 VET UK beneficiary organisations who would like to put forward one or more of their current or former apprentice participants to take on the role of a EuroApprentice for the UK.

This is a unique opportunity for you to recognise and support those apprentice learners that you believe would seize the opportunity to continue their European experiences, and who could proudly share them with others, representing your organisation and the UK NA.

### 1. Application Process

Interested UK beneficiary organisations who have identified a current or former apprentice(s) who meets the role, eligibility and quality criteria to become a EuroApprentice should speak with the apprentice(s) to establish if they will commit and apply to become a EuroApprentice. You may want to use this EuroApprentices Information Sheet (or our 'EuroApprentice Factsheet' which will be available on our website shortly) to discuss the opportunity.

Organisations should then support and review the apprentice's application as well as providing a supporting statement and confirming that they act as a sponsoring institution who recommend the apprentice.

The EUROAPPRENTICE application form found [here](#) > Upcoming Opportunities > Education and Training TCA. Please note that by 'applicant', we refer to the EuroApprentice candidate, and by 'applicant organisation' we refer to the UK organisation submitting the application form and applying for funding on behalf of the EuroApprentice candidate.

Completed applications should be sent to [erasmusplus@ecorys.com](mailto:erasmusplus@ecorys.com) by the deadline of Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 5pm.

### 2. Eligibility Criteria

Application forms must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Applicant organisation is registered in the UK
- Applicant has participated in a Key Action 1 VET project
- Applicant is, or has been, enrolled on an apprenticeship in the UK
- Applicant is not a current EVS Volunteer
- Applicant has not attended two TCA projects in current calendar year
- Applicant is over 18
- Applicant is a UK resident
- Applicant has a valid passport (at least up to the end of May 2018)

### 3. Quality Criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed using the following quality criteria:

- It is clear **why** the applicant is being put forward as a EuroApprentice
- It is clear **what** the applicant gained from their mobility placement (i.e. learning outcomes, soft skill development, employment)
- The applicant has the relevant **skills/ characteristics** needed for the role of a EuroApprentice (i.e. motivated, communication skills) and, with their positive mobility experience, will motivate other apprentices to participate in the programme
- The applicant has a realistic plan of what **engagement activities** they envisage to carry out to disseminate their mobility experience and outcomes gained on a local or regional level
- The applicant demonstrates a **long term commitment** to the role of a EuroApprentice (i.e. over 1 year, up to 2020)

### Application and Main Activities Timeline

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Application Deadline                             | 23 April 2018 |
| Notification of Results                          | 27 April 2018 |
| Contract with Successful Applicant Organisations | May 2018      |

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| National Level Preparation Meeting - The Midlands | 10 May 2018    |
| EuroApprentices Network Meeting - Austria         | 28-30 May 2018 |
| Final Report Submission                           | June 2018      |

## Contact Us

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact us on:

- Tel: 0121 212 8947 and ask to speak to a colleague on the Key Action 1 VET team. Phone lines are open Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5.30pm (UK time) and 9am to 5pm (UK time) on Fridays)
- Email: [erasmusplustca@ecorys.com](mailto:erasmusplustca@ecorys.com) with the subject 'TCA - EuroApprentices'