Internationalisation of Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS) “UAS.International” (Modules A and B)

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has developed a comprehensive funding programme to promote the internationalisation of universities of applied sciences (UAS) in Germany. The programme “UAS.International” consists of funding measures for students, pilot projects that promote internationalisation at German universities, and information, advice and support measures for universities of applied sciences.

“UAS.International” is comprised of several modules which can be applied individually or in combination by universities and students.

Students are encouraged to share their experiences gained during individually funded study visits and internships abroad with peers at their home universities and put this experience to use for international university-based and practical collaborations.

Universities are encouraged to actively use all the offered modules to advance their internationalisation efforts in order to increase their educative, research-oriented and innovative potential.

The following call for applications should be regarded as part of this comprehensive “UAS.International” programme which will achieve its optimal impact once all the modules are fully implemented.

**Goal and purpose**

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) finances the programme “UAS.International” with funding provided by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The DAAD has established this funding programme to support a broad range of internationalisation measures at universities of applied sciences (UAS). Furthermore, the DAAD aims to strategically anchor and sustainably implement this internationalisation process at all university levels and among all university groups – students, instructors, researchers and administrative personnel.

The goal of the programme is to prepare students even better for the globalised labour market of the future. In close cooperation with business and industry, universities of applied sciences can increase their competitive edge and internationally position themselves and their praxis-oriented academic model in the long term.

With this call for applications, universities can obtain funding through two modules: **Module A** to fund exploratory or preparatory projects and/or **Module B** to carry out pilot and joint projects with international partners.

The programme is open to all partner countries. The network of cooperation partners can be expanded throughout the funding period.

**Module A** supports the applying UAS to develop and implement an internationalisation strategy which includes all university groups, i.e. students, instructors and administrative staff. The UAS should use this module to build and expand sustainable networks promoting study, teaching, research and practical application with German and international partners in business, science and politics through international partnerships. Furthermore, this module provides financing to establish and implement preparatory and support measures for study and internships in Germany and abroad at the applying university.

**Module B** enables the applying UAS to develop and expand international- and practice-oriented double or dual degree programmes with integrated digital formats in close collaboration with (local, regional and international) professional partners. Practice-oriented degree programmes should be expanded and/or newly developed to include mobility windows (for study, research and internship visits abroad). Module B is targeted at universities which are already actively involved in international collaborations and wish to intensify or expand their international partnerships.
Module A (exploratory and preparatory measures):

- **(Further) development of a strategy** to establish and implement an internationalisation process

- **Events** on strategy development and networking with partners in industry, science and politics in Germany and abroad which serve to prepare for, implement and accompany the planned internationalisation projects

- **Preparatory and support measures** for study and internships in Germany and abroad with the express inclusion of digital components such as:
  - creation and expansion of (digital) information and advice services as well as internship-finding measures for foreign and German students (incoming/outgoing)
  - supervision and integration measures at the university location
  - creation and expansion of subject-specific and language preparatory courses (also digital)

- **Mobility measures and visits** in Germany and the country of the partner university to prepare international collaborations for:
  - students, doctoral candidates (e.g. summer schools, study trips)
  - instructors (e.g. exploratory and delegation trips; teaching assignments)
  - business experts (e.g. short-term visits to hold lectures, provide advice, network)
  - administrative staff (e.g. competence building through work-shadowing at foreign partner universities)

- **Scholarships** for foreign and German students and doctoral candidates for study visits and internships as part of the planned collaboration

Module B (development and expansion of international cooperation projects):

- **Development and expansion of international cooperation projects**

- **Events** (also digital) on subject-specific advising, preparatory and follow-up measures to promote exchange of students and instructors, on intensifying cooperation with academic and professional partners, as well as joint training of academic and administrative university staff

- **Mobility measures and visits** in Germany and the country of the partner university for study visits, internships and/or research visits as part of international cooperation projects for:
  - students, doctoral candidates (e.g. study and internship visits, participation at summer schools, study trips)
  - instructors (e.g. teaching assignments, initiating research collaborations)
  - business experts (e.g. short-term visits to hold lectures and to network)
  - administrative staff (e.g. competence building through work-shadowing at foreign partner universities)

- **Scholarships** for foreign and German students and doctoral candidates for study visits and internships as part of the planned collaboration

All expenditures are fundable, provided they are necessary and appropriate for carrying out the respective project (for further details, see attachment 1: fundable expenditures)

This programme allocates funding as full-financing measures.

Module A:
The funding period begins on 1 October 2019 and ends on 30 September 2021.
Module B:
The funding period begins on 1 October 2019 and ends on 30 September 2023.

Module A:
The maximum amount of DAAD funding may not exceed 500,000 euros.

Module B:
The maximum amount of DAAD funding may not exceed 1,000,000 euros.

A substantial share of the awarded funding must be used to finance personnel resources.

The programme is open to all disciplines and subject areas.

University instructors, university staff, doctoral candidates, bachelors and/or master's students from Germany and abroad

Public and state-accredited German universities of applied sciences, the Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University (DHBW) and the Duale Hochschule Gera-Eisenach may apply for funding through this programme.

The university executive board and the International Office of the applying university must be involved in the application process. Project funding applications must be submitted in full and on time via the DAAD online portal (https://portal.daad.de/irj/portal).

Project management requirements:
Management of the project should be supervised by a university instructor or team of no more than four university instructors employed at the applying university. The teaching load of the project manager(s) should be reduced accordingly. Reductions in the teaching loads of the project manager(s) can be covered by teaching substitutes or visiting academics.

Selection-relevant application documents
- project application (on DAAD portal)
- financing plan (on DAAD portal)
- project description (see attachment 2, type: project description)
- brief description of the tasks of the project manager (or project management team) upon which the project's strategic implementation is based (attachment type: programme-specific attachment)
- endorsement by the university executive board (see attachment 3, type: programme-specific attachments)
- The following additional documents are required for Module B:
  - jointly signed cooperation agreement between the German university and the foreign partner university for existing partnerships (signed by both project partners, faculty level or higher), or
  - jointly signed letter of intent between the German university and the foreign partner university for new partnerships (signed by both partners, faculty level or higher)
  (attachment type: contracts/agreements)

The documents listed above are relevant for the selection process (i.e. required) and therefore must be submitted before the application deadline. Please name and number the required documents as indicated on the form.

The DAAD can only accept one application per module per university during the pilot phase.

Following the application deadline, the DAAD will neither request missing documents nor consider documents submitted or changes made at a later
time, including revisions to the financing plan. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection process.

**The application deadline is 31 May 2019.**

**Selection of project applications**
Project applications are selected and recommended for funding by a DAAD-appointed selection committee.

**Selection criteria for Module A:**
- existing level of internationalisation and internationalisation activities at the applying university
- structural integration of the project at the university and designation of a project manager/project management team
- involvement of all university groups, from the executive board to the professorial staff, students and administrative personnel
- involvement of professional partners
- feasibility of the project
- sustainability of the measures with respect to the university’s internationalisation efforts

**Selection criteria for Module B:**
- structural integration of the project at the German university as part of the internationalisation strategy and within the faculty (in terms of personnel, scientific-didactic integration and administrative oversight)
- quality of the curriculum and added academic, interdisciplinary and intercultural benefit of the degree programme and its professionally qualifying orientation
- demonstration of commitment to the joint degree programme by both universities and professional partners
- academic quality and reputation of the foreign partner university
- programme’s contribution toward establishing and promoting international structures at the university
- feasibility of the project
- sustainability of the measures with respect to the university’s internationalisation efforts

**Scholarship selection process (as part of the planned cooperation projects)**
The scholarship recipients are selected by a selection committee appointed by the funding beneficiary.

The selection process must be described in detail in the project description.

The following information should be included:
- public announcement of the offered scholarship
- membership of the selection committee (e.g. DAAD, funding beneficiary, number of committee members)
- selection criteria (e.g. selection of best applicants, academic or personal aptitude, etc.)
- scholarship award procedure
  - by scholarship agreement (e.g. “notification of award” and “confirmation of acceptance”)
  - issue of a scholarship certificate (in this case: mention of the DAAD and funding provider and concrete designation of the scholarship benefits and their corresponding amounts (e.g. subsistence and mobility allowances, tuition fees, etc.))

**Contact partner**
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Attachments:
1. Fundable expenditures
2. Project description form
3. Endorsement by the university executive board
4. DAAD funding rates

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