

NOTED

Call for applications 2019

1. Invitation

Diku is pleased to issue this call for applications for funding of four-year projects under the Norwegian Partnership Programme for International Teacher Education (NOTED).

NOTED was established in 2017 as part of the implementation of the Norwegian Government's strategy "[Promotion of the status and quality of teachers – joint effort for a modern school of knowledge](#)" (*Lærerløftet – på lag for kunnskapsskolen*) and in connection with the introduction of five-year master's degree programmes for teachers in primary and lower secondary school (*grunnskolelærerutdanning, GLU*).

The programme supports higher education institutions in Norway that offer five-year GLU study programmes to establish and develop partnerships with relevant higher education institutions and schools abroad. Other teacher education programmes may be included in projects if they contribute to improving the quality of the study programmes for teachers in primary and lower secondary school.

Student mobility through strategic partnerships is a core element in the programme. All projects must include plans to increase mobility of students between partner institutions, including mobility in connection with teaching practice. Projects should be designed to increase student mobility not only within the project period, but also in the longer term.

This call for applications is open to **four-year project cooperation**, with a project period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2023.

Projects that include schools in Norway and/or abroad as partners may apply for up to **NOK 2 500 000**. Projects without school partners may apply for up to **NOK 2 000 000**.

The total funds made available in this call are approximately NOK 15 million.

The final deadline for submitting applications is **29 April 2019, at 12:00 Norwegian time**.

The programme is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and

Research and is administered by Diku.

Below you will find more information on the objectives and funding framework of the programme, eligibility and selection criteria, and an outline of the administrative process of project selection under the programme.

2. Objectives and funding framework of the call

2.1 Objectives

The **overall aim** of the programme is to improve the quality of Norwegian teacher education and schools in Norway. The programme seeks to achieve this through supporting projects that lead to:

- Increased quality and internationalisation of teacher education programmes in Norway
- Increased student mobility within the framework of strategic partnerships between Norwegian teacher education institutions and partners abroad, including mobility in connection with teaching practice
- Increased staff mobility within the framework of strategic partnerships between Norwegian teacher education institutions and partners abroad

2.2 Expected project results

Diku will monitor project results and the degree to which project activities contribute to achieve the objectives of the programme. Applicants are requested to describe the expected results of the project as specifically as possible. Project results that may contribute to achieve the objectives of the programme include, but are not limited to:

OBJECTIVE	EXPECTED PROJECT RESULTS
<i>Increased quality and internationalisation of teacher education programmes in Norway:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New or improved curriculum, tools or methods developed through international cooperation and integrated into Norwegian teacher education programmes • International joint courses that are integrated into teacher education programmes in Norway • New or improved international semesters and mobility windows in Norwegian teacher education programmes

- Co-publications between teacher education institutions in Norway and abroad
- Improved frameworks for international teaching practice and supervision of teaching practice
- New or improved courses, curriculum, tools or methods dealing with interdisciplinary topics such as democracy and citizenship, sustainable development and public health and wellbeing

Increased student mobility within the framework of strategic partnerships, including mobility in connection with teaching practice:

- New or improved exchange agreements between teacher education institutions in Norway and abroad
- Increased number of exchange stays abroad for teacher students from Norway that are recognised at the home institution
- Increased number of international teacher students completing courses in Norway

Increased staff mobility within the framework of strategic partnerships:

- Increased number of academic and administrative staff from Norwegian teacher education institutions undertaking staff mobility to partners abroad for teaching or training
- Increased number of international academic and administrative staff undertaking staff mobility to Norwegian teacher education institutions for teaching or training

2.3 Project funding and activities

Projects that include schools in Norway and/or abroad as partners may be awarded up to NOK 2 500 000. Projects without such partners may be awarded up to NOK 2 000 000. Diku may reduce the amount awarded based on an assessment of the merits of the individual applications.

The project budget included in the application form shall only include funds applied for through this call.

Support may be granted to activities that contribute to achieve the objectives of the programme. Applicants should design their projects in the way they consider best suited to achieve the objectives of the programme.

The project may include funds for salaries and indirect expenses (including administration and overhead), limited to 20 per cent of the total allocation. The funds may be shared between the applicant and the project partners.

Please note that investment in scientific equipment and infrastructure is not an eligible cost and may not be included in the application. The same applies to costs related to research activities not clearly linked to educational activities.

For more information on eligible costs, please see the Appendix (“Budget guidelines”).

Projects selected for support will be expected to participate in workshops during the project period for the purposes of developing and sharing best practice related to international cooperation in teacher education. Diku will cover travel and accommodation costs related to these workshops.

3. Eligibility & selection criteria

3.1 Eligibility criteria

In order to be eligible, applications must meet the following requirements:

- The **applicant** must be an accredited Norwegian higher education institution that offers five-year master’s degree programmes for teachers in primary and lower secondary school (study programmes known as GLU 1-7 and GLU 5-10).
- The application must include at least one **partner** that is an accredited higher education institution outside Norway.
- A **curriculum vitae** (CV) for the project coordinator must be uploaded.
- Applications must be written in English and be submitted fully completed, including attachments, through Diku’s application platform ([Espresso](#)) within the call’s final deadline.

Please note that failure to meet the above requirements will lead to dismissal of the application.

3.2 Selection criteria

The eligible applications’ relative strength will be assessed on the degree to which they are deemed able to meet the following selection criteria:

- The project’s relevance to the overall aim and objectives of the programme.
- The quality of the project design, including:
 - the application’s overall clarity and quality
 - correspondence between project goals, proposed activities, budget allocations and expected project results
 - demonstration of cost-effectiveness
 - the project’s feasibility

- potential for increasing student mobility of minimum 3 months' duration
- The quality of the partnership, including:
 - complementarity, experience and expertise of the project team
 - level and quality of involvement from schools (if relevant)
 - level of formalised commitment
 - potential for long-term collaboration between the partners
- Impact and dissemination
 - expected impact on the participants and participating institutions and schools
 - sustainability of project results
 - quality of the plan for dissemination of project results

Diku presumes that all projects adhere to a high ethical standard in research and higher education. Diku emphasises the importance of gender equality, inclusive practices and anti-corruption measures in all project activities.

Please note that these criteria correspond to various compulsory fields in the online Espresso application form, and that the application's ability to meet these relative criteria will be assessed on the basis of the description provided. In order to ensure coherence and a logical order in the description of your project, please read the relevant help texts in the online application form as well as the Appendix ("Budget guidelines") carefully. Remaining questions may be directed to Diku.

4. Composition of the partnership

The application may include higher education institutions, schools, public or private enterprises, research institutes, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or other organisations in Norway or abroad as partners. At least one partner must be an accredited higher education institution outside Norway (cf. item 3.1 above).

5. Attachments

In addition to a CV for the project coordinator (cf. item 3.1 above), applications should include **Letters of Commitment** from all partners, documenting interest in and commitment to the project by leadership at relevant level. The Letters of Commitment will be assessed as part of the

application. Applications without such letters from partners are at a competitive disadvantage, but are still eligible. Other types of attachments will not be taken into consideration.

6. Administrative process

6.1. Assessment of applications and response to applicants

Each application will be assessed by a panel of reviewers from Diku and at least one external evaluator on the basis of its individual merits with regard to the selection criteria set out above (item 3.2), and its relative standing to other competing applications. Applications will be evaluated on a scale from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest).

The applications and recommendations are submitted to an allocation committee for grant allocation. The allocation committee allocates funds based on the selection criteria set out above. As part of the assessment, the allocation committee may take into consideration the geographic and/or institutional distribution of the projects.

In case the applicant has received a similar grant from Diku in recent years, the allocation committee may also take into consideration past performance, such as quality in the implementation of the previous project(s) and financial management.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the application process, tentatively in September 2019.

6.2 Contract and reporting obligations

The applicant will be required to enter into a contract with Diku. The contract will be subject to Diku's standard terms and conditions, and must be signed by a representative holding the requisite authority to legally bind the applicant. The obligations on part of the applicant include a duty to submit progress reports, project accounts, and a final report upon completion of the project.

Until a binding contract has been entered into, Diku reserves the right to at any time revisit any evaluation and decision on the basis of newly discovered facts which may adversely affect the planned implementation of a project.

7. Contact information

Questions regarding the programme or how to apply can be directed to:

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Appendix

Budget guidelines

Project budgets will be assessed on basis of their cost-effectiveness and reasonableness. The official Norwegian travel regulations (*Statens reiseregulativ*) will be used as a starting point in Diku's assessment of the reasonableness of budgeted travel and accommodation costs. Where available, moderately priced alternatives for travel and accommodation must be chosen. Please explain the budgeted amounts as necessary in the *Specification of budget items* field in the application.

Student mobility

The tables below describe eligible costs that may be included in project applications with regard to incoming/outgoing student mobility.

Mobility up to 4 weeks

ELIGIBLE COSTS

Project applications may include accommodation and living costs for students from all countries, related to the planned project activities (e.g. work placements/teaching practice, intensive courses, workshops, supervision, research activities, etc.).

To/from Norway

Costs related to participation in conferences not clearly linked to the planned project activities may not be included.

Mobility exceeding 4 weeks

ELIGIBLE COSTS

Project applications may include scholarships to students from all countries.

As a general rule, scholarships to students from [Erasmus+](#) and/or [Nordplus](#) countries should be covered by funding from these programmes if possible. Costs that constitute an exception to this rule must be clearly justified in the application.

To Norway

The scholarships are meant to cover accommodation and living costs in Norway. The scholarships may not exceed the applicable rate set by the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (*Lånekassen*). In 2018/19, the monthly rate is NOK 10 825.

[Erasmus+](#) and/or [Nordplus](#) funding for student mobility may be supplemented by funds applied for through this call.

Project applications may include scholarships to students from Norway (to any country) to cover costs which are not covered by student funding available from the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (*Lånekassen*).

The scholarships may not exceed **NOK 6 000 per student per month**. These rates also apply to international mobility for teaching practice for students.

From Norway

As a general rule, extra scholarships to students from Norway going to [Erasmus+](#) and/or [Nordplus](#) countries should be covered by funding from these programmes if possible. Costs that constitute an exception to this rule must be clearly justified in the application.

[Erasmus+](#) and/or [Nordplus](#) funding for student mobility may be supplemented by funds applied for through this call.

The rates for student accommodation and living costs are based on rates and net amounts paid out to students from the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (*Lånekassen*). The rates cover the individual student's costs, and additional funding for dependents/family members may

not be included in the budget. As the relevant rates are adjusted annually according to the retail price inflation, the rates may be adjusted accordingly for coming years.

Travel, visa and insurance costs incurred in connection with student mobility may be supported if not covered by funding attainable from the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (*Lånekassen*) or other external funding sources.

Please ensure that the project budget distinguishes between mobility up to 4 weeks and mobility exceeding 4 weeks.

Travel costs for staff (including PhD students)

Projects may include travel costs and expenses for academic and administrative staff related to the project activities. Please note the general guidelines set out above regarding reasonableness and cost levels.

For outgoing staff mobility to countries in Europe, funding from [Erasmus+](#) and [Nordplus](#) must be used and applied for when available. Costs that constitute an exception to this rule must be clearly justified in the application.

[Erasmus+](#) and/or [Nordplus](#) funding for staff mobility may be supplemented by funds applied for through this call.

Costs related to participation in conferences not clearly linked to the planned project activities may not be included.

Infrastructure and scientific equipment

Investments in infrastructure and scientific equipment may not be included in the application.

Project related salary costs

The aggregate cost of salaries, remuneration of consultants, honorariums and indirect costs involved in a project may not exceed **20 per cent** of the total project budget. The amount may be shared among the project partners, based on agreement between the partners. Please specify how these costs have been calculated and how many months of work will be carried out by whom on basis of the costs budgeted.

All such costs must be included under the budget items “Salary, remunerations of consultants and honorariums” and/or “Indirect costs”, not as part of the individual activities.