

Erasmus Student (SMS) Widening Participation Policy 2018/19

Institutions are asked to encourage students from disadvantaged groups to participate in Erasmus. To facilitate this, a supplementary grant of €120 per month is available to those RCS students participating in Erasmus Mobility for Study (SMS) who come from low-income backgrounds. Eligible students are defined as disadvantaged by the relevant authorities and are eligible for statutory grants, bursaries and loans.

Erasmus participants who are ordinarily resident in the UK and have an annual household income of £25,000 or less should provide their SAAS/Student Finance England/Student Finance Wales/Student Finance NI documentation to Sarah Ward or Pauline McCluskey in the AAS office. If the documentation clearly shows that the student is entitled to a bursary and the amount correlates to an annual household income of £25,000 or less, the participant will be paid the supplementary grant as part of their first Erasmus grant instalment.

For students from outside the UK, decisions on entitlement to this grant are made on the same principles as the £25,000 threshold stated above. That is, if the student is entitled to receive extra payments based on national or regional criteria for disadvantage, and can provide evidence of this. If the student is from a country where there exists no statutory support for low-income families, the Conservatoire may consider the submission of official evidence to show an annual household income of £25,000 or less in local currency. Non-UK students should make themselves known to Sarah or Pauline as meeting the criteria for this supplementary payment. Evidence should be in the format of official documents in English and are to be provided by the student.

All students will be given until December of the academic year of their exchange to provide this documentation. If they meet the criteria but their first grant instalment has already been paid to them, the supplementary grant will be paid as a lump sum as soon as the documentation is received and verified. This will enable Sarah Ward to accurately submit the interim report via the Mobility Tool.

Sarah Ward
November 2018