



FAQS & ANSWERS

1) In the acceptance letter it says "You will be considered fully enrolled as a ECT MSc student once you complete the procedure as required. Please, go to the on-line Application procedure for further details and to proceed into the next steps (registration, fellowship applications, payment, etc.)" What exactly is "the procedure as required"? So I can check I have done everything necessary. I have applied to all the MCG and UPV/EHU grants. I haven't paid yet. What is registration? It was also mentioned that after confirmation is received by ECT Secretariat, I will receive within a few days the Student Agreement and additional documents needed to proceed with administrative procedures.

This is a general text. Some applicants need to complete missing documents for registration, etc. Every applicant has this individual information clearly indicated on his/her corresponding entry and have received emails (registered in the message lists of the online application) with details.

Also, the Student Agreement Draft is available on line for each applicant. This will be the basis to agree a final Student agreement of which two originals will be produced and signed once the student has started the semester.

Full enrolment is only considered once the registration fees have been paid as declared in the SAD document and the bank transfer proof has been uploaded to the online registration system (or emailed to ect@ectconsortium.eu). This must be achieved before the given deadline.

2) About the ECG waiver, will I find out if I have received it before the deadline to pay the registration fees on the 20th June? Will I then need to pay less or do I have to pay the full amount and then get refunded? I still don't know how much I need to pay on the last step as I don't know if any of the grants and fellowships that I asked for were successfully subscribed.

As indicated in the documents and letters provided beforehand, waivers are decided in parallel with the final admission procedure but you must apply for them using the same online application system you used as ECT+ EMJMD applicant. As a general rule, waivers are automatically allocated to those who apply for them, so that your annual registration fee would be reduced as follows:

APPLICANT	OFFICIAL ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE	WAIVER	ANNUAL REGISTRATION FEE (to be paid)	TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE (2 years)
THIRD COUNTRY STUDENT	9000 €	5400 € (Smooth Fee 3C Grant)*	3600 €	7200 €
EU STUDENT	4500 €	900 € (Waiver Minus Grant)**	3600 €	7200 €
EU STUDENT	4500 €	2700 € (Waiver Plus Grant)***	1800 €	3600 €

* ONLY APPLICABLE TO THIRD COUNTRY STUDENTS FOLLOWING PATHWAY A2

** APPLICABLE TO ANY EU STUDENT FOLLOWING ANY PATHWAY, PROVIDED THE STUDENT HAS DULY APPLIED FOR FOR THIS WAIVER

*** ONLY APPLICABLE TO EU STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND FOLLOWING PATHWAY A2, UPON APPROVAL BY THE ECT JPB

If you indicated in the Self-Funded Student declaration that payments would be done in two installments, then you must pay 50% of the annual registration fee (1800 €) before June 20th and the remainder 50% before December 15th. The same schedule applies for Year 2.



3) I'm still a little unclear about the costs the Erasmus Mundus scholarship will cover. Will I have to pay for the housing on my own or will that be included in the tuition fee? Will the scholarship cover everything from tuition, housing, and general living expenses or is there anything I will have to pay for now or later on my own? Will I receive part of the Mundus Travel Grant while I'm still in my home (Partner) country in order to buy the flight ticket to Bilbao?

All the students pay for the housing on their own (except for the Induction Week in Semester 1 and the Integration week of Semester 3 in Bilbao, maybe some field courses, and the vivas).

Erasmus Mundus Scholarship holders receive a monthly allowance to cope with these expenses. They do not have to pay anything to the universities because the participation costs cover tuition fees, field courses, language training, some accommodation and displacements (aforementioned) but the payment of travel and accommodation is responsibility of the students.

Erasmus Mundus Student Scholarship holders receive travel allowance to cover main mobility (e.g., from/to home; between partners; semester 4 abroad; visa expenses and permit procedures; etc.) and monthly allowance to cover accommodation and maintenance. Travel allowance will be paid once the scholarship holder opens a bank account (see below), along September Year 1 (50%) and before mid July Year 2 (50%). If, only in some special well justified cases, a payment in advance is needed the ECT Secretariat could make a transfer to the home bank of the student (costs are deducted from the scholarship budget) but the promptness of this transfer cannot be secured since it depends on when the budget is received by the ECT Secretariat from the Mundus Agency*. Our experience is that often the money arrives after the student is travelling to Europe and therefore our advice is to pay in advance and get refunded once the EU bank account is open.

* For instance, if you have economic difficulties to pay in advance your first travel to the Induction week, the ECT Secretariat can manage your travel reservations if you send us the detail of your travel preferences.

4) Can we stay hosted at the university residence when in Bilbao at the first days? During the stay in the UPV/EHU, will we live in Bilbao or Plentzia?

Students coming to Plentzia the first week of September will go directly to the camping nearby the Plentzia Marine Station (PiE-UPV/EHU). Information on other accommodations can be found here: <http://www.ehu.es/en/web/nazioarteko-harremanak/en-your-first-nights>. You can take advantage to visit some apartments and maybe fix a contract to stay in Plentzia between February and June (Semester 2) or in Semester 3, or look for accommodation in nearby town.

5) When in Bilbao, who should I look in order to help with the procedures?

The ECT Secretariat officers (PiE-UPV/EHU) will explain you the details upon your arrival. They and the ECT-EHU buddies will assist you during this week and accompany to the Police Office and the Bank, to avoid language problems.



6) Can you tell me the exact date I need to be in Bordeaux, Anglet or Liège to start with my first ECT courses in September Semester 1? I am a European student and not funded by Erasmus Mundus, so I do not have to go to Bilbao for my visa.

You do not need to come to Plentzia in early September for administrative tasks; however, you might benefit from meeting your future classmates and preparing your stay (e.g. accommodation) for Semester 3 or 2. Transport by bus from Plentzia to Anglet and Bordeaux, with connection with high speed train to Liège will be organised by the ECT Secretariat and is included in the Participation Costs you paid.

7) I am a European student and not funded by Erasmus Mundus. On the ECT Consortium page on the funding label I read some fellowships that I may be able to subscribe. How can I apply to STUDENT MOBILITY (POSTGRADUATES) Erasmus - Socrates Programmes?

You can ask the International Offices of UBx, UPPA, ULiège, UPO and NTNU. However, by now ECT EMJMD students do not seem to be eligible for these specific fellowships if they include UPV/EHU as a part of the exchange agreement; we are working to change it. As soon as there is an opportunity for you to apply to grants or fellowships we let you know and we provide you with technical and logistic assistance according to our possibilities. We recommend you to use the Funding entry of the ECT consortium website.

8) Would it be possible to know if I have a chance to be selected with my grade or is it useless to ask for it? I really need this scholarship and I am not sure to be eligible.

The Erasmus Mundus Student Scholarships are selected by a sovereign Selection Board nominated ad hoc. The ECT Secretariat and the ECT JPB do not decide on scholarships other than ECG grants; we usually inform you about public calls and the conditions for eligibility but then the selection is done by the corresponding committees and institutions, external to the ECT Consortium.

9) Which documents are needed to bring to open bank account to receive Scholarship?

IMPORTANT: if you can from outside EU by plane ask the customs police for an entry stamp in your passport. If you come by another way you have 72 h to get it in any police station and therefore you can do it directly in the Foreigners' Police Office at Bilbao on early September, before proceeding with permits.

Appointment in the Foreigners' Police Office at Bilbao is expected for early September. You need one passport photo, an "entry stamp" on your passport and some cash (~20 €) to pay for the procedure. In parallel, you will be able to open a bank account in Bilbao.

10) I am an EM Scholarship holder and I would like to receive the travel expenses only after opening a Spanish bank account, do I need to send you a copy of the Financial Identification Form?

No, you only must send us a copy of the Financial Identification Form if you want to get travel expenses paid at your home bank account before you come. Nevertheless, payments in advance are not ensured as this is only an exceptional procedure.



11) Which are the administrative procedures (administrative -police permits and bank account- issues) required to be done in early September in Bilbao? Are they compulsory at these dates or can them be done through a different way or in a different time?

11.1. ECT students with EM Scholarship:

Option A:

You can open a bank account in any Programme Country. You will receive the monthly allowance and travel expenses there with a cost by the bank transfer (expected 3-5 €per transfer). Then for Semester 2 you have to open a bank account in Spain for which you would also have to follow the procedure explained in Option B (without group procedure arrangement).

Option B*:

You can come to Bilbao between 3-6 September (tentative dates) to proceed with the needed permits to open a bank account and the monthly allowance and travel expenses will be paid there without bank transfer costs.

It is recommended for Partner Country students need to obtain a NIE (fiscal identification number for foreigners) at the police in Bilbao; a visa is not a requirement and indeed it is not sufficient. EU students are advised to obtain a Registration Certificate (Certificado de registro) at the Police in Bilbao. http://ECTconsortium.eu/services/visas_spain.html

11.2. ECT students without EM Scholarship:

Third Country Students:

You do not need to open a bank account in Spain now; but if you obtain the EHU Mobility grant you would also have to follow the procedure explained in Option B above (without group procedure arrangement) in order to open a Spanish bank account.

EU students*:

You can come to Bilbao between 3-6 September (tentative dates) to proceed with the Registration Certificate (Certificado de registro) needed to open a bank account and needed to apply for Spanish Education Ministry grants.

<https://sede.educacion.gob.es/catalogo-tramites/becas-ayudas-subsenciones/para-estudiar/master.html>

* For this purpose, the ECT Secretariat would arrange a group procedure at the Police offices one day 4-6 September depending on how many of you will follow this procedure and the officers' availability during these dates.

11.3. Accommodation in Bilbao during early September:

Accommodation costs during those days are covered by registration fees. The ECT Secretariat will assist you in booking accommodation at a camping bungalow (Camping Arrien; Gorliz) nearby the Plentzia Marine Station, in a group room.

<http://www.campinggorliz.com/en/home.html>



11.4. For ECT students with or without EM scholarship following travel schedule is organised to start Semester 1 after the Induction week

Transport by bus from Plentzia to Anglet and Bordeaux , with connection with high speed train to Liège will be organised by the ECT Secretariat and is included in the Participation Costs you paid. Let us know whether you are willing to use this bus service and if you need to make reservations for accommodation in early September.

12) Are the REVISED STUDY PLAN accepted on line and the STUDENT AGREEMENT DRAFT definitive documents or can some changes be made later on? Are the MSc THESIS RESEARCH SUBJECT and CENTER definitive before enrolling or can they be decided later on?

Changes in the revised study plan might be possible even along September Semester 1 but the ECT Secretariat will try to keep them at a minimum. Overall, the revised study plan recommended by the ECT JPB is aimed at merging as much as possible (there might be mistakes, misunderstanding and biases; obviously) each student's profile and background with the MSc thesis research field; though seldom might also occur that there are limited seats for certain courses or that a course is not a part of the offer in a given academic year. On the other hand, the MSc Thesis subject, lab and supervisor will be only definitive by the beginning of Semester 3.

13) Will you publish an official list of who has been accepted onto the course?

The ECT EMJMD JPB wish to encourage you to self-organise as ECT EMJMD students. For this reason a preliminary student list with indication of pathways and emails is provided to the students starting each year.

14) Visa procedures:

QUESTIONS	REPLY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should I have to apply for three different visas (e.g. Spain, France and Portugal) BEFORE leaving my country? Should I ask all three visas to be valid for 6 months each? • My resident permit document will be Spanish? It would be valid for the 2 years? • Thank you very much for this. It is clear that I should apply for VISA at the French Embassy. What kind of VISA will I be applying, Schengen VISA? Also, should I still submit a VISA application at the Spanish Embassy since you have provided me with a letter for the Spanish Consul? • I have just received my long stay French visa . If I reach France first and then Spain on 3rd September by train, is it possible to get that permit to attend the appointment at the police department? • I will apply for Spanish visa at the end of my first semester to start my 2nd semester in Spain. As far as I know, last year some non- EU students followed this procedure and they had only French visa. Do I need a Spanish visa? • This means that I should obtain 2 visas - France visa and Spain visa? My entry or my plane ticket should be to 	<p>All the Partner Country students will follow semester 3 in Bilbao (some also Semester 2); thus, our advice, is entering EU via Bilbao and going by bus to Anglet, Bordeaux or Liège for Semester 1 and departing back home after vivas (Semester 4) from Bilbao.</p> <p>Thus, ONLY ONE SCHENGEN VISA TYPE is needed (Spanish, French, Belgium... depending on where you enter EU); with this you can obtain residence permits in Spain to open the bank account and travel to study.</p> <p>You do not need additional visas to come to Bilbao in early September for a few days to do the police permit and the bank account procedures.</p> <p>Note that you will be fully enrolled in UPV/EHU and another 1 or 2 Partner universities; therefore you will receive original letters and documents from UPV/EHU and either other Partner universities, indicating acceptance and registration in the universities. For the effects of visa you can be considered full student in Spain (registered in UPV/EHU) with a mobility to France or Belgium for Semester 1 or full student in France (registered in UBx or</p>



<p>Bilbao, Spain right? Regarding the Spain visa, what type should I apply for ? Transit, short-term or long term?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If I have French visa only is it possible to get the residence card from Spain? Or do I need to have Spanish visa too? • Since we need to go to Spain first to open the account and register, do you recommend taking the Spanish visa first and then applying for the French one? We always have to hand in our passport when applying for either one, so it is not possible to do so simultaneously. • My first semester is in University of Bordeaux. So I have already applied for French visa. My appointment was on 18th June and my passport is being submitted in French embassy. Without passport in hand, i can't apply for Spanish visa right now. I will be very grateful if you please inform me if there is any other procedure to have residence permit and bank account in Spain after reaching France with French visa only. • I have been selected for Erasmus Mundus Masters Course. I have some confusions regarding visa processing. According to scholarship grant letter, my first semester is in University of Bordeaux, France and starting date is 2nd September. They also mentioned that I need to stay in Spain 3-6 September to open bank account and other procedures. For this purpose do I need residence permit too? • I am currently organizing my documents to take my French visa with a 6-months length. With regards to the Spanish visa, because I first have to open a bank account in Bilbao in early September, do I have to leave Brazil already with a student visa valid from February - July in Spain? Taking a visa in Brazil demands lots of time and I am sure it will be very difficult to leave the country with both visas by August. Hope you can send some information to clarify that. • When applying for visa at the French embassy, this means that I am applying for a Schengen Visa type D? Is it correct that since Spain is a Schengen member country, I no longer have to apply for another visa at the Spanish embassy? I understand that I will have to apply at the French embassy since Bordeaux is my main destination for the semester. It is quite confusing since ECT consortium has also provided a letter addressed to the Spanish Consul. • In what embassy should I submit my application for visa? I understand that since my first semester is at U Bordeaux in France, I should apply at the French embassy in the Manila, Philippines. You have mentioned in the Award and Admission letters that I should stay for 2-3 days at Bilbao at the beginning of the semester to proceed with permits and procedures to open a bank account, and you have also provided a letter for the Spanish Consul. Please clarify where and when will I apply for visa to enter Spain for the purpose of opening a bank account? Should I apply for visa to enter Spain after arriving in France? Is my understanding correct that I will apply for a French visa here in the Philippines 	<p>UPPA) or in Belgium (registered in ULiège) with a mobility to Portugal, Norway or Spain for Semester 2; etc.</p> <p>In addition, you have original acceptance letters and documents (SAD) provided by the ECT Consortium, and additional documents provided by EACEA for those who are holders of an Erasmus Mundus Student Scholarship (Erasmus+ Programme).</p> <p>The same applies for the Year 2 but for this purpose you may have to apply for additional visas (e.g. for Semester 4 mobility to do research at any part of the world) during Semester 2.</p>
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<p>and apply for a Spanish visa upon arriving in France?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Spanish consulate in my city told me it is not possible to get a Spanish visa ("<i>Verificada la documentación nos informan que no es posible realizar un visado en este Consulado General. Los paso que deberá dar es obtener el visado como estudiante para Francia, cuando vaya a estudiar a España acudir a la Delegación de Gobierno con su visado francés para que se le emita una autorización para estudiar en España</i>"). You can read their email down below. Instead they said I should use my French visa to get my documentation in Spain. I kindly assure you that I followed their instructions, with all documents and the letter in Spanish explaining why I would need both visas, and actually paid for the visa fees. Yesterday I applied for the French visa with no problems. Please let me know if holding only the French visa I will be able to register in Bilbao and open the bank account in early September as we are expecting to do. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have sent my signed admission letter last week. As EU Delegation advised me to apply for visa as early as possible, so I applied for appointment in embassy just after receiving the scholarship grant letter. Embassy has fixed my appointment on 18th June at 10.30 A.M.. French Embassy has enlisted admission letter from French university and housing certificate as compulsory documents to submit. I have been chosen for Erasmus Mundus Masters Course and my first semester is in U Bordeaux, France. But I don't have admission letter of University of Bordeaux and housing certificate yet and I need this documents before 18th June. So, I am requesting your kind consideration on this regard. 	<p>Note that you will be fully enrolled in UPV/EHU and another 1 or 2 Partner universities; therefore you will receive original letters and documents from UPV/EHU and either other Partner universities, indicating acceptance and registration in the universities.</p> <p>In addition, you have original acceptance letters and documents (SAD) provided by the ECT Consortium, and additional documents provided by EACEA for those who are holders of an Erasmus Mundus Student Scholarship (Erasmus+ Programme).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will you be mailing the hard copies of the documents you have sent through email, especially the signed documents to mention (1) grant letter; (2) admission letter; (3) acceptance as student in EHU; (4) financial guarantee letters; (5) Letter to the Spanish Consul; and (6) introduction letter to embassy services. I'm afraid the original copies will be asked when applying for visa. Please advise what your previous experience with the letters was, if electronic copies are already acceptable. 	<p>Usually electronic versions are not accepted by the Embassies and Consulates. Thus, the International Offices and the ECT Secretariat will send you originals by courier for these purposes. We try to do this before mid June but the calendar is very compressed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'm an ECT scholarship holder. I'm applying for a pre-visa and visa now. In visa documents list, they said all the candidate need to provide parent's bank prove and an agreement document signed by parents to prove that they are willing to give financial support to candidate. I mean as a full scholarship holder, do I need to provide these documents (these are really troublesome)? I've saw that the scholarship details, which contains our visa fee. Does this mean I don't need to pay for my visa? If so, what do I need to fill in the sponsor's blank? 	<p>Erasmus Mundus scholarship holders are provided with the EACEA Scholarship Selection Document (that is competed with the official export file from the EMTOOL, especially relevant for updates such as promotion from Reserve to Main lists), the Scholarship Award Letter and Financial declaration documents provided by the ECT Secretariat. Other financial sustainability proofs are only needed for those students without a Mundus Scholarship.</p> <p>Each one pays for his/her visa procedures costs and taxes; Erasmus Mundus scholarship holders receive the mobility allowance to cover these expenses.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please, if it is not too much of a burden to you, may I request for a step by step process/procedure, starting from visa processing (what embassy should we apply) to arrival in the country of destination (what country - France or Spain) to the processing of residents permit 	<p>This is not a question of work load. Apart from the above guidelines and comments nothing can be more formally established; procedures and requirements may change substantially depending on each Embassy/Consulate office and a common useful process flow cannot be directly</p>



and the opening of bank account. This process flow will be a great help for us new students.

provided; it will create more confusion and procedural problems.