

# Researchers Mobility Fund

## UAB Call Guidelines 2026

### Objectives

To promote international collaboration among research staff from all member institutions of **ECIU University**. The aim is to facilitate the exchange of research ideas that may lead to joint applications for EU, national, or international funding programmes, thereby expanding the consortium's global impact.

This year, two different types of actions are open:

- **RMF1 – General:** for research stays at any of the member universities of ECIU University, in line with the objectives indicated above.
- **RMF2 – ECIU Research Labs:** this option promotes the creation of joint EU-funded projects as a result of collaboration among ECIU research staff.

**Important:** Priority will be given to applications from researchers who have not previously been awarded an ECIU RMF.

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### RMF1 – General

#### Who can apply?

This call is aimed at doctoral teaching and research staff (PDI) with assigned research duties.

#### Available funding

Up to €4,000 per application, depending on the duration of the stay. Each member institution of ECIU University allocates €20,000 annually (from 2024 to 2028) to the RMF.

#### Supported research fields

Open to all disciplines.

### Where can I carry out the stay?

At any of the universities that are part of the ECIU University alliance:

- Dublin City University (Ireland)
- Hamburg University of Technology (Germany)
- Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (France)
- Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania)
- Linköping University (Sweden)
- Lodz University of Technology (Poland)
- Tampere University (Finland)
- Universidade de Aveiro (Portugal)
- University of Stavanger (Norway)
- Università di Trento (Italy)
- University of Twente (Netherlands)
- Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)

### What can the funding be used for?

The ECIU RMF is intended for travel and subsistence expenses related to visiting ECIU University institutions.

The applicant remains affiliated with their home institution, which is responsible for awarding grants and paying regular salaries in accordance with its regulations.

The funding generally covers the following categories of expenses:

- Travel expenses (bus, train, flights, etc.)
- Related subsistence expenses (accommodation and other travel costs)
- Conference or workshop attendance fees if organised by ECIU

If experiments are planned, the coverage of laboratory costs (including access) must be agreed between the participating institutions before the mobility takes place.

The funding does **not** cover the following categories of expenses:

- Conference participation fees for events not organised by ECIU

- Consultancy costs for research project proposals
- Bank fees charged by the host institution
- Personal expenses of participants

### **Duration**

A minimum stay of 5 days is recommended (excluding travel days). However, a different duration may be considered and individually negotiated with the host institution. There is no maximum duration.

### **Insurance**

It is the responsibility of the beneficiary to ensure they have medical coverage during their stay (European Health Insurance Card, private insurance, etc.).

### **Evaluation of applications**

The member institution to which the applicant belongs is responsible for deciding whether to award an ECIU RMF grant.

The criteria used to assess and select applications are as follows:

- **Relevance (30%):** The suitability of the aims and objectives set out in the proposal, as well as alignment with the objectives of the call
- **Work plan (20%):** Activities must be clearly defined and realistic within the available timeframe and resources
- **Impact (30%):** Consideration will be given to the potential impact of the mobility at research level, institutional level, and across ECIU University as a whole. Long-term mechanisms to support collaboration beyond the funding period will also be valued
- **Budget suitability (20%):** The appropriateness of the budget in relation to the planned activities and established timeframe

**Period during which the stay must take place:** the stay must take place between 22/06/2026 and 31/12/2026.

**Final report:** A final report must be submitted within 30 calendar days after the stay. A reporting template will be provided.

**How to apply for an ECIU RMF1 grant at UAB**

It is necessary to complete [this form](#) before 13/05/2026. A letter of acceptance from the host university must be attached to the application.

The UAB Research, Transfer and Innovation Committee will analyse the applications and select the participants.

If budget remains after the first round of selection, a **second application period** will open from 17/06/2026 to 20/07/2026. Stays funded under this second call must take place between 15/09/2026 and 31/12/2026.

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## **RMF2 – ECIU Research Labs**

The objectives of RMF2 – ECIU Research Labs are:

- To develop new exchanges within ECIU and foster EU-funded projects in the key areas of:
  - Energy and Sustainability
  - Transport and Mobility
  - Health and Well-being
  - Digital Transformation
- To strengthen networking among ECIU research staff (with particular attention to early-career researchers – R2)
- To identify funding opportunities and submit project proposals during 2027

The programme includes both virtual collaboration and an in-person stay in Łódź, Poland.

The expected outcomes of this initiative are:

- Joint collaborative research projects
- Networking projects (e.g. COST)
- Collaboration in doctoral training

## **Who can apply?**

This call is aimed at doctoral teaching and research staff (PDI), mainly early-career researchers (R2).

## **Available funding**

For travel to the in-person workshop in Lodz, Poland, on 4–5/11/2026, provided that the submitted proposal has been selected by the ECIU University Research Committee:

- €300 travel + €450 stay (accommodation and subsistence). Total: €750
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The phases of this programme are:

### **STEP 1: 09/04/2026 (11:00–13:00 CET) – Online networking meeting**

- **Before the meeting:** researchers prepare a draft project to share in the R&I Hub
- **Main session + thematic sessions:** participants present their research idea and the competencies needed for collaborative research projects

### **STEP 2: Preparation and selection of project proposals for the in-person workshop**

- April–May 2026: ECIU research staff work remotely to prepare a one-page description of their project idea
- 05/06/2026: submission of one-page proposals to ECIU (submission details will be provided)
- 25/06/2026: project selection by the Group of Vice-Rectors for Research
- July–October 2026: researchers from the selected projects continue working remotely

### **STEP 3: 4–5/11/2026 – In-person workshop at Łódź University of Technology (TUL), Poland**

- Researchers from the selected projects structure their project proposals
- The ECIU R&D expert group works jointly with the research teams to identify funding opportunities and support the initial drafting of proposals

### **Preparation of proposals after the in-person workshop**

- Researchers will prepare their proposals for 2027 EU calls or other calls
- The ECIU R&D expert group and local research support offices will assist researchers in preparing proposals

The ECIU Office at UAB will support participants throughout the entire process.

### **Insurance**

It is the responsibility of the beneficiary to ensure medical coverage during their stay (European Health Insurance Card or private insurance).

### **Evaluation of applications**

The ECIU University Research Committee will select the proposals on 25/06/2026.

### **Final report**

Selected participants must submit a final report within 30 calendar days after the stay. A reporting template will be provided.

### **How to apply for the grant at UAB**

Once the Group of Vice-Rectors for Research of ECIU will have selected the proposals on 25/06/2026, the ECIU Office at UAB will directly contact the UAB research staff involved in them, to coordinate funding for the trip to Lodz.

For more information, contact: [eciu.coordinacio@uab.cat](mailto:eciu.coordinacio@uab.cat)