

EIT Higher Education Initiative

Call for Proposals 2025 Info Session:

FAQs



Funded by the
European Union

EIT Higher Education Initiative

Frequent eligibility questions

Q: Can one organisation participate in more than one proposal?

A: As a funded partner (beneficiary), an organisation may participate in only one proposal under this Call. Organisations are welcome to participate as an associated partner as many applications as they wish (associated partners are not mandatory). This rule on individual organisation participation applies to all organisation types, not just HEIs.

Q: Can organisations that participated in previous EIT Higher Education Initiative Calls apply again?

A: Yes. Organisations that participated in previous Calls and current Cohorts may apply again, as Innovation and Entrepreneurship Pioneers. Where previous beneficiaries are involved, proposals are expected to build on prior experience and demonstrate how results or good practices will be transferred to 'novice' partners and further developed, expanded and scaled.

Q: How many 'novice' HEIs (never previously participated in an EIT HEI funded project) must I include in my consortium?

A: For Topic 1: minimum 2, for Topic 2: no requirement.

Q: Can a previous EIT HEI partner act as Lead Partner/Project Coordinator in Call 2025?

A: Yes, the only rule regarding the Lead Partner/Project Coordinator is that they must be an HEI.

Frequent eligibility questions

Q: How does country eligibility work for this Call for Proposals?

A: Participation is limited to organisations established in Horizon Europe - eligible or associated countries. Applicants are responsible for verifying eligibility based on the official Horizon Europe country list and the Call text.

Q: Can a European Universities alliance apply to Topic 1 (STEM Capacity Building)?

A: European Universities alliances are welcome to apply to either Topic, though they are recommended to apply for Topic 2 as it was designed for them and it directly targets their long-term strategic cooperation with the EIT ecosystem.

Q: Does the full European Universities alliance need to participate? Can a EUA split up and submit multiple applications?

A: EUA member organisations must follow consortium composition criteria for Topic 2 (this means minimum 3 HEI members from the same alliance is the minimum requirement). Therefore, technically they can submit multiple applications if the same member organisations do not participate in more than one application. However, applications from the same alliance must be complementary and must clearly demonstrate alliance-wide relevance, including governance structures and roll-out mechanisms that extend beyond the consortium partners.

Q: How many faculties and/or departments must participate per HEI partner?

A: A minimum of 2. There is no maximum number.

Frequent supporting documents questions

Q: Do all partners have to submit a proof of accreditation, a top management Commitment Letter and HEInnovate results?

A: No, these three supporting documents are required from HEI project beneficiaries only.

Q: Must all HEI partners complete the HEInnovate self-assessment?

A: Yes, all HEI partners in the consortium must participate. This can be done at the individual HEI level or as a 'group.' The results must be uploaded per HEI partner in the Applicant Information tab in Seedbook (if completed as a group, upload the group results).

Q: Do the faculties and departments participating per HEI beneficiary need to submit separate commitment letters?

A: No, for Call 2025 there is only one Commitment Letter per HEI required, from the Top Management. HEIs must use the template provided in the Seedbook platform and the top management representative will need to list and confirm the commitment of the faculties and departments participating from their specific HEI.

Q: What do Associated Partners need to submit?

A: Only the Associated Partner Letter of Commitment, using the template available in the Seedbook platform. In this letter the partner will need to outline the nature of their individual contribution to the Project, i.e. in-kind contribution or funded contribution via an alternative funding source to the EIT.

Frequent KPI questions

Q: Are KPI targets defined per partner or per consortium?

A: KPI targets are defined per consortium, and if selected, projects will report KPI results per consortium. However, you should outline in Part B of your proposal how each consortium partner will contribute to the delivery of KPIs.

Q: Are annual KPI targets required?

A: There are no per-year minimum targets set by the EIT HEI in its Call 2025, only minimum targets per KPI for the full funding period. However, you will be required to set annual targets (2026, 2027 and 2028) as a consortium and commit to these targets within your applications, in the KPI tab in the Seedbook platform.

Q: How does the EIT Label KPI work for Topic 2?

A: Topic 2 proposals must outline their plan to either:

a) first pursue one of the EIT KICs' EIT Label lifelong learning course certifications, and then generate the required KPI and core KPI results from that EIT Labelled course, or

b) if they already have an EIT Labelled course within their consortium, generate the required KPI and core KPI results from that EIT Labelled course.

Frequent KPI questions

Q: Is the Topic 2 training KPI also limited to participants from STEM disciplines?

A: No. I+E training under Topic 2 is not restricted to participants from STEM disciplines, however it is encouraged that the alliances include the targeting of participants from those STEM fields named under the Union of Skills and its STEM Education Strategic Plan.

Q: How many Core KPIs should we choose and when should we plan their achievement?

A: This is up to the consortium to decide based on their capacity and ambition – though consortia should strike a balance between ambition and realism. Core KPIs take longer to achieve due to their nature (innovation output-focused), so it would be logical to plan their delivery in the latter stage of the funding period.

Q: Will there be a STOP-GO decision based on KPI achievement for Call 2025?

A: No, simplification measures for this Call mean that the Phase 1 Review and the associated STOP-GO decision does not feature in Call 2025. Funded projects will be expected to meet the annual KPI targets set by the project at the application stage.

Frequent KIC-alignment questions

Q: Can EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs) be consortium partners?

A: No. EIT KICs cannot participate as beneficiaries or Associated partners. Selected projects are assigned to a KIC for project management. Proposals are expected to align with 2–3 selected KICs through thematic or methodological linkage, and to pursue collaboration with those KICs (or all, if desired!) during project implementation, but never as project partners.

Q: Do applicants need to contact EIT KICs before submitting a proposal?

A: Pre-contact is not mandatory. However, especially for Topic 2, proposals should demonstrate a credible and realistic plan for alignment and connection with the selected KICs, so beyond reading the KIC synergies documents available on the Call 2025 webpage, consider reaching out to the listed KIC contact person with any specific questions for a KIC.

Q: What does it mean to select 2–3 KICs in the proposal?

A: Applicants must identify 2–3 KICs to align with that best fit their project objectives and then describe concrete activities to nurture collaboration. Selection should be based on strategic relevance for project scope and feasibility.

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Live Q&A

