



# **Information Sheet on "Green" Travel**

"Green" travel is being rewarded financially in the latest generation of the Erasmus Programme (2021–2027).

# What counts as "green" travel?

If you use "green" means of transport (such as trains, buses and carsharing) for over 50% of the total distance you travel (outward and return journeys added together), you are eligible for a one-off "green travel top-up" of €50. The parts of your journey taken by plane, motorbike, ferry or car (if traveling alone) are considered "non-green."

The distance between your home and your destination is irrelevant as far as obtaining the top-up is concerned. You will receive your one-off payment of €50 if you opt for lower-emission means of transport for over 50% of the total distance that you travel.

# Update your Mobility-Online account no later than one month before you travel

We will need details of your travel in order to issue your Erasmus Grant Agreement. You should therefore provide these as soon as we have unlocked the step "Means of travel" for you.

All participants are required to enter relevant information in their account regardless of whether or not they are planning any "green" travel. Either way, you will need to indicate the means of transport that you expect to take for the longest distance on your journey.

### 1. "Green" travel: yes/no

If you are planning a predominantly "green" journey, please check the box "Green Travel" in your Mobility-Online account "Yes", else check "No".

You should check "Yes" even if you are not yet 100% sure that you will be able to go through with your plans. You will be able to amend your details after your stay if you ultimately did not undertake any "green" travel. Your €50 lump sum will be paid out together with the second installment of your Erasmus grant after the end of your stay.

If you state that you will not be undertaking any "green" travel before you set off , however, you will not be able to change this answer—including after the end of your stay—even if you end up doing so after all.

# 2. Selection of means of travel

Please select from the dropdown menu the means of travel that you will be taking for the longest distance overall. Unfortunately, you cannot make multiple selections.

# "Green" travel: yes

You can choose bike, bus, carpool (two or more people in the car), train or "other sustainable transportation.

# "Green" travel: no

You can choose car - motorbike, plane or ship.





### 3. Calculating additional days' travel

Funding is available for up to four additional days' travel. The number of days' travel that you will be allowed to claim for depends on the distance to your host institution and is calculated automatically using the <u>Erasmus+ Distance</u> <u>Calculator</u>. To ensure equal treatment, the distance to your destination will always be calculated from Bonn, even if you will actually be setting off from elsewhere.

The following rule applies:

| 0–500 km       | 0 days' travel |
|----------------|----------------|
| 501–750 km     | 1 day's travel |
| 751–1,000 km   | 2 days' travel |
| 1,001–1,250 km | 3 days' travel |
| Over 1,250 km  | 4 days' travel |

## 4. Proof of "green" travel

You will receive a sworn statement to download together with the Grant Agreement. You will need to sign this in order to confirm that you are planning "green" travel for over 50% of your total journey.

You will not need to show us proof of your journey(s) immediately (tickets or, if you are carpooling, gas station receipts, with photos if required) or upload it to your account.

However, you must retain these records of your journey for five years. Our funding authority will be asking us to request individual pieces of evidence from you by way of spot checks.

If you are then unable to supply any proof, you will be denied your Green Travel top-up.

# 5. Did your "green" travel fall through?

Travel plans can change at short notice, of course, so you will be required to reconfirm your "green" travel statements after your stay has come to an end.

This means that, if you ultimately did not undertake any "green" travel, you should check "No" here. The €50 lump sum and any additional days' travel for which you claimed funding will then be deducted from your total funding amount and offset against the second payment of your Erasmus grant.

# 6. Tips for your journey and more:

Useful websites for international travel include <u>The Train Line Trenhotel and The Trainline Night Trains</u>. The <u>erasmusbytrain</u> initiative provides tips for actually planning your journey and also campaigns for a free Erasmus+ ticket. An <u>Interrail ticket</u> especially for trips to the respective Erasmus destination was introduced. It is a good choice if you are also keen to explore other places en route.

However, sustainable travel is just one of the many ways you can reduce your environmental footprint. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) runs the <u>studieren weltweit – ERLEBE ES!</u> ("study worldwide – LIVE IT!" – only available in German) portal, where you can get inspiration from other students' experiences. The <u>Green Erasmus</u> project provides tips on achieving great things with modest means.

Want to get involved in climate action together with other young people in Europe? Then take a look at <u>Generation</u> <u>Climate Europe</u>.