

# The Scheme for Norwegian Studies Abroad

## Call for applications for Norwegian Visiting Lecturship Scheme – Cooperation Agreements 2025-2030

Through the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship Scheme the Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills (HK-dir) assists higher education institutions outside of Norway to recruit qualified Norwegian language and literature lecturers for temporary positions.

**Please note** that all institutions must reapply even if they currently have a visiting lecturer through the scheme. New applicants are welcome!

Application deadline: 24 October at 12.00 ([CET](#)).

### Who can apply?

Higher education institutions outside of Norway that offer full-time studies in Norwegian language and literature at minimum bachelors' level may apply.

The institution must be located in Europe (defined by the [Council of Europe member states](#)) or in one of the countries identified in the [Panorama Strategy](#) for collaboration in education and research (Brazil, Canada, China, India, Japan, South Africa, South-Korea and USA). Currently the Scheme for Norwegian Studies Abroad does not support new collaborations with Russia.

Institutions in the same country/area may choose to apply together for a shared visiting lecturer. The collaboration must be initiated and embedded at both institutions, however only one of the institutions can be listed as coordinator of the application.

It is not a requirement that the institution have a Norwegian visiting lecturer at the time of application.

### What is the objective of the call?

It is a priority for the Norwegian government to promote, support and strengthen the quality of Norwegian language and literature studies outside of Norway. Through the Scheme for Norwegian Studies Abroad support is provided to the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship Scheme at selected higher education institutions.

The objective of this call is to select the institutions that HK-dir will enter into cooperation agreement with. Through the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship Scheme HK-dir provide the participating institutions with assistance in the recruitment process of qualified Norwegian language lecturers, and award a personal grant to the visiting lecturer.

The scheme is particularly targeted towards institutions that find it difficult to recruit highly qualified candidates due to the differences in salary levels between the host institution and Norway. The current grant rates and conditions for visiting lecturers are listed on [HK-dir's webpage](#) (Norwegian language link only). Grant rates and conditions are subject to period and discretionary revision by HK-dir.

## How to apply

Below, information is provided about the minimum requirements that apply to this call, and which criteria will be used to assess the applications.

Applications must be submitted through HK-dir's electronic application portal, [Espresso](#). You may log in to Espresso using your username (e-mail) and your password. If you have not used Espresso before, you must register as a new user.

The application form in Espresso includes guidance on what kind of information is requested in the different fields.

## Application requirements

All applications must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered:

- The application must be submitted online in Espresso.
- The application must be submitted by the application deadline.
- The application must be written in English.
- The application must be submitted on behalf of an institution that qualify as an applicant under this call.
- The application must include a letter of support on the institution's official letterhead and be signed by the director/manager of the relevant faculty.

Applications that do not meet these requirements may be rejected or considered incomplete. Applications with errors may be given a short additional deadline to correct the errors.

The content of attachments/links that are not a requirement will not be included in the assessment of the application.

## What will be emphasised in the assessment?

All applications that meet the requirements will be assessed on the following criteria:

### Relevance and alignment

Under this criterion the following factors will be considered:

- To what extent does the institution align with the goals of the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship Scheme.
- To what extent does will a Norwegian visiting lecturer contribute to the institutions long-term education strategy.
- The extent to which a Norwegian visiting lecturer will have a wider effect and enhance Norwegian language education beyond the grant period.

### Capacity and need

Under this criterion the following factors will be considered:

- To what extent is there an identified need for a Norwegian visiting lecturer, including salary gap between the host institution and Norway.
- To what extent will the Norwegian visiting lecturer complement existing staff.

- The division of tasks/responsibilities between participating institutions, if two or more institutions apply together.

### Norwegian language studies at the institution

Under this criterion, the following factors will be considered:

- The scope of the offered courses, research activity, dissemination and/or translation work within the field of Norwegian language and literature.
- The level of engagement in regional and international collaboration related to Norwegian language studies.
- The level sustainability and ambition to strengthen Norwegian language studies.

### How will applications be processed?

All applications that meet the applicable requirements will be assessed by the Programme Board for the Scheme for Norwegian Studies Abroad. The final selection will be made by HK-dir, based on the board's recommendations. In the final selection, HK-dir may apply priorities in order to ensure an optimal geographical distribution of lecturers and comply with other applicable political and/or financial stipulations.

All applicants will be informed of the outcome of the application process. We estimate that the selection process will be completed in November 2024.

### Entering into cooperation agreements with selected institutions

Institutions selected under the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship Scheme will be given an opportunity to enter into a five-year cooperation agreement with HK-dir. Under the cooperation agreement, HK-dir will undertake to assist the institution with the recruitment of a visiting lecturer and provide such lecturers with a grant designed to minimize gaps in salary levels between the host institution and Norway. The institutions will conversely be expected to assure that the visiting lecturers will be provided with a 100 %, full year position at the institution, with rights to salary, health insurance, pension, office facilities etc. comparable and equal to those offered local lecturers in similar positions.

Entering into cooperation contracts is subject to HK-dir receiving sufficient funding from the Norwegian parliament. Further details on the cooperation agreements will be provided to those institutions that are selected.

For institutions who are invited to enter into a cooperation agreement with HK-dir a joint recruitment process of new lecturers will be carried out in between February and May 2025. If the institution already has a visiting lecture through the current lectureship scheme, there might be provisions that allow the current visiting lecturer to continue in the position.

### Contact

Do you need guidance during the application process?

HK-dir may answer questions about the call but cannot read through or comment on specific application drafts. Guidance can be given by email, over the phone or in a video meeting or face-to-face. Feel free to contact us at [norgeskunnskap@hkdir.no](mailto:norgeskunnskap@hkdir.no)

## About the Scheme for Norwegian Studies Abroad

The Scheme for Norwegian Studies Abroad supports Norwegian language education abroad through several grant schemes. The overall purpose of the scheme is to contribute to the dissemination of and education in the Norwegian language, literature and culture at higher education institutions abroad. Furthermore, it is a goal to contribute to internationalisation of higher education in Norway by attracting students for study and research stays in Norway. The scheme is financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research.

[Read more about the scheme on our webpage](#) (only available in Norwegian).