



CUOS Scheme

Establishment Grant for International Student Organizations

General

Article 1. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in these Regulations:

- a. The University, the UG: the University of Groningen.
- b. The Board of the University, the Board: The Board of the University of Groningen
- c. The CUOS: The Central Executive Board for Student Organizations.
- d. The Regulations: the CUOS Regulations.
- e. Grant: financial support provided by the CUOS or the University of Groningen to a student organization for conducting specific activities, and not intended as a payment for any goods or services provided to the CUOS.
- f. Establishment Grant for International Student Organizations: the financial contribution awarded by CUOS, provided with the aim of supporting the establishment of a new international student organization.
- g. Awarding a grant: the decision taken by the CUOS to award a grant, subject to conditions.
- h. Organization: a student organization that focuses on the UG's student community, works in the interests of UG students, is generally open to all UG students, and whose executive board consists of students;
- i. Grant approval: the definitive decision taken by the CUOS to award a grant.
- j. Financial year: the CUOS's financial year, being the period from 1 January to 31 December.
- k. Student: a person enrolled as such at the University of Groningen or a person affiliated with the University of Groningen as a PhD candidate. For the purposes of these regulations, individuals who are graduating as a student or PhD candidate during the current academic year shall be considered to be students.

Article 2. Organizations eligible for the Establishment Grant for International Student Organizations

Organizations shall meet all of the following conditions in order to be eligible for the Establishment Grant for International Student Organizations:

1. The Articles of Association (if these have already been established) must state at least the following:
 - a. The organization is a foundation or association;
 - b. The organization operates on a non-profit basis;
 - c. According to its statutes the organization is open to all UG students and is not restricted to a specific UG degree programme or Faculty;
 - d. Its board comprises only students;
2. The organization has a legal personality and is registered with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce, or intends to be established as a foundation or society or association and register itself as such at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce;
3. The organization's primary focus is the UG's international student community or students of a particular nationality, rather than solely on specific religious or political beliefs;
4. The aim of the organization is to encourage international students to participate in student life in Groningen, encouraging social interaction and interdisciplinary contact;



5. The organization is generally open to all UG students and those of the Hanze UAS;
6. The organization prepares a budget, annual report, and annual accounts every year;
7. The organization has an current administrative system for recording membership or student information, in which at least full names and student numbers are recorded;
8. The organization engages in a broad range of activities intended to facilitate the social integration of international students, requiring the Board's engagement throughout the year;
9. In the case of an association: the association has at least 25 full members who pay membership fees and are enrolled at the UG or Hanze UAS Groningen;
10. The organization plays a role in promoting reputation of the UG or of Groningen as a university city;
11. The organization has received a positive assessment from the support staff of the Strategy Department of Education & Research and the Department of General Administrative and Legal Affairs (SES/ABJZ) at the UG.

Article 3. Financial need

Financial support shall only be granted if there is a demonstrated financial need for it. Whether or not financial support is necessary is determined retrospectively.

Article 4. Grant ceiling

A maximum amount of €1,000 may be awarded to an organization per year. The grant is paid out once the decision to award the grant has been made.

Article 5. Application procedure

An organization may submit an application for a grant at any time throughout the year to cuos.aanvraag@rug.nl. Applications for Establishment Grants for International Student Organizations shall only be processed by the CUOS if the organizations provide the following information:

1. A complete 'Establishment Grant for International Student Organizations' application form;
2. A draft budget and a draft activity plan;
3. A list of at least 25 student members or students who support the establishment of the organization, using Form L

Article 6. Additional information

The CUOS reserves the right to request additional information in order to conduct an accurate assessment.

Article 7. Substantive assessment criteria

The CUOS will first assess the application on the basis of the conditions set out in Article 2. Submitted applications will then be assessed by the CUOS on the following points:

1. Content (quality and substantiation);
2. Objectives and desired result;
3. Target group and scope (size, need, and additional range of activities);
4. Organizational approach (professionalism, feasibility, and timeline);
5. Communication plan;
6. Level and reasonableness of income and expenditure;
7. the capability and dedication the organization needs to generate its own income;
8. the ratio between the grant requested and the organization's own income and expenditure.

Article 8. Weighting factors

When assessing an application and determining the grant amount to be awarded, the CUOS shall take the following weighting factors into account:

1. Do the organization's activities contribute to the diversity of the range of student activities?
2. Is there support for the activities?
3. Do the activities fit the University of Groningen's policies?
4. Do the activities contribute to the broad academic development of the participants?

Decision making

Article 9. Provisional decision

1. The CUOS will provisionally decide and inform the applicant thereof within six weeks of receipt of an application.
2. A provisional decision shall include:
 - a. The amount of the grant to be awarded;
 - b. Further information that the organization must provide and the conditions under which the grant will be definitively awarded.
3. Once the provisional decision to grant financial support has been communicated, the grant will be paid out.
4. The applicants may submit their views on the provisional decision to the CUOS within ten working days of the date of the decision being sent.

Article 10. Justification

1. The organization must send an activity report and a financial statement to the CUOS no later than eight weeks after the end of the activity for which a grant has been awarded. The substantive report and financial statement shall in any case include:
 - a. Justification for the use of the funding received;
 - b. If applicable, an overview of the activities undertaken, including explanatory notes and stating the number of participants;
2. If a project has already been carried out when the decision to award a grant is taken, the activity report and financial statement shall be submitted no later than three weeks after the date on which the decision was made.

Article 11. Reduction of the grant

The CUOS is authorized to reduce a grant or set it to €0 if:

1. In its opinion, the activities fail sufficiently to meet the organization's objectives;
2. The activities for which the grant was awarded were not carried out or were not carried out completely;
3. The organization has not properly accounted for or justified the activities undertaken and the associated income and expenditure;
4. The organization provided incorrect or incomplete information and the provision of correct or complete information would have led to a different decision with regard to the award of the grant;
5. The organization was aware, or should have been aware, that the grant award was otherwise incorrectly decided;
6. The activities do not meet the obligations attached to the grant.

Article 12. Definitive decision

On the basis of the documents submitted pursuant to Article 10 and subject to Article 11, the CUOS shall decide definitively regarding the grant amount to be awarded.

Article 13. Objection

1. The CUOS's decisions regarding the allocation of the Internationalization Grant are deemed to have been taken on behalf of the Board.
2. In accordance with the General Administrative Law Act (Awb), an objection can be lodged with the Board against a decision based on these Regulations within six weeks of the decision being announced.

Article 14. Unforeseen circumstances

All matters not provided for by these Regulations will be decided by the CUOS.

Article 15. Citation

These Regulations may be cited as: the CUOS Regulations governing Establishment Grants for International Student Organizations.

Article 16. Language

The English version of these Regulations is a translation from the original Dutch. If there is a potential discrepancy in interpretation between the Dutch and English texts, the Dutch text shall take precedence.

Article 17. Entry into force

These Regulations shall enter into force on 1 September 2022.