

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

Daugavpils University Agency “Daugavpils Medical College of Daugavpils University” (College) is a state-funded educational institution that was founded in 1945. College is the only institution of professional education that is located in the cross-border area and ensures the demand of Latgale region for medical specialist in the field of health care.

We enhance the modernisation of the curriculum, involving the international dimension, adapting study programs to be taught for local and foreign students, activities that help students develop their intercultural abilities and internationality awareness, research and development activities.

The College constantly introduces innovations, updates the content of the study programs, searches for new forms of teaching and learning, applies innovative study methods and means to attract local and foreign students. We cooperate with partner institutions participating in Erasmus+ programme, following the recommendations of the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia and national priorities.

The development strategy of the College is aimed to raise teaching and learning standards based on the latest developments in European higher education. Its target is to promote international cooperation to ensure the improvement of the study process and the development of research in the college.

The main objectives of the international strategy are:

1. To increase the number of incoming and outgoing students for studying/training (including blended mobility) from all study programmes which are implemented in the College and to develop professional and generic competences, e-skills, creativity and flexibility and a solid understanding of their chosen field, by encouraging the participation of individuals with fewer opportunities;
2. To support and increase the numbers of incoming and outgoing staff exchanges;
3. To include the international dimension into all study programs and adapt them for the local and foreign students to be taught in a foreign language, assuring quality and relevance;
4. To promote visibility and attractiveness of the institution worldwide;
5. To increase students' professional, social and intercultural skills and foster their employability through mobility;
6. To improve teaching and learning experiences, facilitate access through distance learning and virtual mobility and streamline administration;
7. To promote environmentally friendly practices in all activities and develop new forms of cross-border cooperation;
8. To ensure measures to implement the minimum requirements for digital mobility management.

International cooperation projects will be aimed to establish international cooperation with partner countries with the aim of building capacity of institutions and modernising higher education institutions from EU and non-EU countries that are part of Bologna zone. The modern curricula with related component of student, staff mobility will be activities of such cooperation as well as modernisation of education.

In the Strategy of the college development, the following priorities are included:

- 1) the mobility of students, teaching and administrative staff is highly valued, recognized and supported, thus receiving a higher assessment;
- 2) students, teaching and administrative staff mobility planning and promotion, providing language learning opportunities;
- 3) to promote the understanding of target groups about the activities of the Erasmus + program in an understandable way;
- 4) to provide support for Erasmus activities in the College by providing human resources and information, necessary equipment, materials for efficient implementing of the programme activities.
- 5) international cooperation promotion.

The College confirms that its participation in the Programme is part of its own strategy for modernisation and internationalisation. This strategy acknowledges the key contribution of mobile staff and students, and of participation in European and international cooperation projects, to the quality of its higher education programmes and students' experience, Institution undertakes to contribute to the European Union's modernisation and internationalisation agenda in higher education.

The objective of the College is to continue its work started in the previous period and to choose the best practices and conclusions for further work in 2021-2027. The regular long-term planning and coordination of Erasmus activities is a significant task for administration.

International cooperation, based on long-term experience, sets the aim of the college to continue further development as a high-quality higher education institution focused on international cooperation to ensure and improve the study process (including mobility), and to promote research in the College to gain international experience in the future profession. It also points to the need to develop study programmes in cooperation with both local and international experts and to promote the internationalisation of study programmes. In accordance with the set goal, the College plans to continue the activities of the Erasmus + programme by implementing both student mobility (studies and internships) and staff mobility.

The College will continue its activities within the framework of the Erasmus + programme, increasing its professionalism in both the profession and pedagogy. Each international exchange has contributed to the development of the college as a higher education institution. Students, participating in the international mobility, have received recognition from partner organizations for their professional skills, which encourage the college staff to get involved in the internationalisation of its curricula.

The benefit of participating in the Programme through international cooperation is highly appreciated in the College. The College welcomes and will welcome mobility opportunities that improve person's professional, social and cultural skills, which contribute to the expansion of employment opportunities. The College aims to promote students' learning mobility. The College plans to disseminate information more widely to foreign students and staff, to promote links between higher education, research and employers, ensuring excellence and development of the region as a whole