



Phortify Internship Grants - Pilot Call

Eligibility & Evaluation

Nationality eligibility

Applicants must be nationals of an EU Member State, an associated country, or a country with which the European Union has an ongoing cooperation agreement under the Digital Europe Programme.

Eligible countries include, inter alia, countries participating in Digital Partnerships, Trade and Technology Councils, digital dialogues, or other forms of ongoing international cooperation with the European Commission in the field of digital technologies.

Authoritative list of eligible countries:

Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea (South Korea), Kosovo, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Moldova (Republic of), Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States (US), Libya.

Eligibility

Under this call, Phortify Internship Grants may be awarded to students belonging to one of the following categories:

Category A – Phortify master degree-seeking students

Students who are enrolled in one of the Phortify Master's Degree Programmes offered by the consortium universities and who undertake a Phortify-related internship during their period of study.

Category B – Phortify non-degree seeking students participating in Phortify student activities

Students who are not enrolled in a Phortify Master's Degree Programme but who participate in a Phortify-labelled internship, as foreseen under the Phortify Grant Agreement and implemented under the responsibility of a Phortify partner institution.

In all cases, eligible applicants must be students at the time of the internship, and the internship must:

- be directly related to the thematic areas and objectives of the Phortify project;
- contribute to the academic and professional development of the student;
- be carried out during the student's period of study;
- be implemented under the responsibility of a Phortify partner institution.

Required documents

- **Latest official academic BSc and MSc (if applicable) transcripts**
- **A Phortify-specific motivation letter**, describing the applicant's motivation for applying for Phortify funding and their alignment with the objectives of the Phortify project
- **A curriculum vitae (CV)**

Evaluation and selection

The predefined evaluation framework applicable to this call is published on the Phortify website as a dedicated evaluation framework document and applies to all partner institutions.

1. Purpose and Scope

This description defines the evaluation framework applied to applications submitted under the Phortify Internship Grants – Pilot Call. The framework ensures transparency, equal treatment of applicants, consistency across partner institutions, and alignment with the objectives of the Phortify project, including its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) principles.

2. Evaluation Principles

The evaluation process is based on the following principles:

- Transparency and traceability of decisions
- Equal and fair treatment of all applicants
- Merit-based selection
- Consideration of DEI objectives in line with EU guidance

3. Evaluation Process Overview

The evaluation consists of two sequential stages:

- Eligibility verification (pass/fail)
- Comparative assessment and ranking

4. Stage 1 – Eligibility Verification

Applications are checked for compliance with all eligibility requirements defined in the call text. Applicants must submit all required supporting documentation, including academic transcripts, a Phortify-specific motivation letter, and a curriculum vitae (CV).

Applications that fail to meet the eligibility requirements or that do not include the required documentation are declared ineligible and are not further evaluated.

5. Stage 2 – Comparative Assessment

Eligible applications are assessed comparatively using the criteria below. Each criterion is scored independently on a scale from 0 to 5 points.

Evaluation Criteria

- **Academic Excellence (0/5):** Academic performance, relevance of previous studies, and preparedness for the selected Master's programme.
- **Motivation and Alignment with Phortify Objectives (0/5):** Quality, coherence, and relevance of the motivation letter, including alignment with Phortify's educational and societal objectives.
- **Overall Applicant Profile (0/5):** Skills, experience, background, and potential contribution to the Phortify community, as reflected in the CV.

Maximum total score: 15 points.

Ranking and Allocation of Funding

Funding under this call is awarded following a **rolling call** procedure. Applications may be submitted at any time while the call is open. Applications are **evaluated at regular intervals, typically every 2 to 3 months**, or earlier if the number of submitted applications or budget availability so requires.

Following each evaluation round, eligible applications are ranked in order of merit, and funding is allocated until the available budget under this call is exhausted. **In cases of oversubscription**, priority is given to higher-ranked applications. Where applications receive identical or comparable evaluation results, tie-break rules promoting underrepresented groups, including women and students from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, will be applied in line with Phortify DEI objectives.

Selection Committees

Applications are evaluated by local selection committees established by the Phortify partner institutions. Committees apply this evaluation framework consistently and impartially. Members must declare any conflicts of interest and ensure appropriate mitigation measures.

Documentation and transparency

Evaluation outcomes and funding decisions are documented by the partner institutions. Awarded scholarships are communicated to the Phortify Coordinator. Aggregate data will be reported in accordance with the project's reporting obligations.

Contact

For more information on the Phortify project, the Pilot Call funding or the participating programmes, please contact Phortify at: info@phortify.eu.

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