

European Solidarity Corps

Traineeships and Jobs

What are they?

As defined in the specific context of the European Solidarity Corps, traineeships and Jobs provide young people with opportunities for work practice or employment, helping them to enhance their skills and experience thus facilitating their employability and transition into the labour market.

Such traineeships and Jobs projects can combine one or more of the following main activities:

Jobs

Full-time work practice of between 3 to 12 months remunerated by the organisation employing the Corps participant. Jobs shall include a learning and training component and be based on a written employment contract, which respects all the terms and conditions of employment as defined in national law or applicable collective agreements, or both, of the country in which the job is being carried out. Jobs can take place in a country other than the country of residence of the participant (cross-border).

Traineeships

Full-time work practice of between 2 to 6 months remunerated by the organisation responsible for the traineeship of the Corps participant. Traineeships shall include a learning and training component, to help the participant gain relevant experience with a view to developing competences useful for the personal, educational, social, civic and professional development. It should be based on a written traineeship agreement concluded at the beginning of the traineeship in accordance with the applicable regulatory framework of the country where the traineeship takes place. Traineeships must not substitute jobs and should be clearly separated from voluntary activities, both from a financial and organisational point of view. Traineeships can take place in a country other than the country of residence of the participant (cross-border).

For Whom?

Organisations

Any public or private organisation from an EU Member State can participate and submit applications.

Individuals

Young people aged 18-30 from an EU Member State. Young people must be registered in the European Solidarity Corps to participate in projects.

What is supported?

Travel costs, organisational support (support to participants, management costs), relocation allowance for the participants, linguistic support, inclusion support, insurance, exceptional costs.

How does it work?

Projects will typically consist of the following stages:

- Preparation (including practical arrangements, selection of participants, set up of agreements with partners and participants, linguistic/intercultural/task-related preparation of participants before departure);
- Implementation of activities;
- Follow-up (including the evaluation of the activities, the formal recognition of the learning outcomes of participants during the activity, issue of the certificate of participation as well as the dissemination and use of the project's outcomes).

There is no minimum requirement regarding the number of organisations involved in a project. A single organisation holding a Quality Label can submit an application.

The applicant organisation can deliver the project by itself or in cooperation with associated partners, which are not required to have a Quality Label. The applicant is accountable for the entire project but can delegate responsibilities to associated partners. The applicant will have to demonstrate its capacity to prepare participants in the country of departure and provide support upon return.

The applicant will ensure that the following tasks are accomplished:

- reaching out to employers in order to identify traineeships/vacancies and to encourage their involvement;
- selecting and matching of candidates registered in the European Solidarity Corps with suitable vacancies;
- preparing and/or training participants before departure;

- ensuring that the participants attend the full Training and Evaluation Cycle;
- providing support for the learning process and for the identification and documentation of learning outcomes, through EU or national validation tools;
- ensuring that the trainee or the job holder is paid based on the written traineeship agreement or employment contract and in accordance with applicable national regulatory frameworks;
- ensuring the fairness of working conditions;
- providing guidance and support to the participant during all the phases of the activity as appropriate;
- drafting and implementing of a on-the-job and continuous training programme; designing tasks and activities for the participants in line with the qualitative principles of the European Solidarity Corps and the Quality Framework for Traineeships (if applicable);
- offering support to participants upon return from their activity, by assisting them with job search further training etc.

The list of tasks is not comprehensive and will depend on the specificities of each project. Young people express their willingness to participate in the European Solidarity Corps by registering on the European Solidarity Corps portal. Organisations have to select the participants through the database of young people registered.

How to take part?

Organisations from an EU Member State and holding a Quality Label for the occupational strand can apply to the National Agency of their country. For 2018, transitional measures will be applied, whereby the organisations will not be required to hold a Quality Label when they submit the grant application. At that stage, they will be only required to have applied for the relevant Quality Label. However, all organisations have to hold a Quality label before the grant award decision.

Project Start dates: from 1 January 2019 to 31 May 2019

Projects duration: from 6 to 24 months

Deadline for applications: 16 October 2018 – 12:00 (midday Brussels time)

Quality label

In order to participate in the European Solidarity Corps activities, organisations are required to have a Quality Label. The Quality Label is required in order to ensure compliance of the participating organisations with the principles and objectives of the European Solidarity Corps, as regards their responsibilities during all stages of solidarity activities. In general, obtaining a Quality Label will be a prerequisite for an organisation's participation in any activities supported by the European Solidarity Corps. Any quality labelled organisation automatically gets access to the European Solidarity Corps database.

Having a quality label shall not automatically imply funding.

Organisations from an EU Member State apply for Quality Label to the National Agency of their country. There is no deadline to apply for Quality Label.