



RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences Erasmus+ 2021-2027 Policy Statement

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) University of Medicine and Health Sciences is an independent, not-for-profit, health sciences institution focused on education and research with a unique international perspective. Headquartered in Dublin, RCSI is a recognised University of the National University of Ireland (NUI) and has a strong international presence with four campuses abroad, one School in Dubai, two Schools in Malaysia and a University in Bahrain. The College has a community of 4,437 students in Ireland spanning 96 nationalities and over 26,000 alumni in 94 countries.

RCSI's strategic objectives are to deliver a transformative learning experience, to lead impactful research and to support healthcare and societal well-being in Ireland and internationally. RCSI's education and research mission is an international one, on account of our presence abroad and the diversity of our student body. Internationalisation is at the core of our strategic and modernisation plans and involves the mobility of students and staff in the areas of education and training, as well as the establishment of worldwide partnerships with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The Erasmus+ Programme is instrumental in achieving these objectives by supporting mobility flows for our students, in all cycles, in line with institutional strategic goals to establish, in conjunction with external partners, diverse programmes of academic excellence for students and researchers, career placement opportunities, to build key competences and skills to prepare our students for successful careers internationally and lifelong learning, as well as to celebrate and continually seek to enhance our student body's diversity and cultural competence, in particular European. The mobility flows for staff are part of the activities contributing to their Professional Development Plans (PDPs) and set with partner institutions around areas of internationally recognised institutional strength, including advanced experiential simulation facilities and translational medical research, as well as for the continuous enhancement and modernisation of our operational capacities. The Erasmus+ Programme will also contribute to support the mobility abroad of people with fewer opportunities to engage in international mobility programmes.

RCSI engages with a wide range of HEIs across the globe on matters of healthcare education and research. RCSI seeks to increase the breadth of its partnerships with HEIs and strategic partners, to participate in high quality mobility of staff and students under Key Action 1 and Key Action 2, as well as to engage in cooperation under Key Action 3, to further our participation in the European Education Area. RCSI is interested in developing existing and new partnerships that can lead to the exchange of students undertaking optional or compulsory courses, such as, for example, summer programmes and traineeships, or research-based modules, respectively, undertaken as blended and/or physical mobilities. RCSI is also interested in partnerships that can support staff mobility for teaching and training, to obtain work experience abroad relevant to the internationalisation and modernisation agendas of each partner. These activities aim in particular to sustain and develop joint education and training opportunities, as well as research projects. They will exploit the expertise and resources of each partner in the provision of a high-quality education and research programmes, to deliver a transformative learning experience for RCSI incoming and outgoing students.



RCSI acknowledges that the international mobility of students and staff is an important factor of personal and professional development. As such, RCSI is keen to develop mobility activities for students that can also evidence an enhancement of their transferable, interpersonal and transversal skills, in addition to opportunities for them to discover a new culture that promote a sense of belonging to the European Community. This will enable RCSI to ensure that its students have the requisite knowledge, problem-solving and decision-making skills, capacity to innovate, adapt and meet new challenges, as well as self-confidence, openness to new experiences and other cultures, for them to thrive as individuals and to make a meaningful contribution to healthcare in their community, in Ireland and around the world. RCSI also aims at promoting staff mobility activities with HEIs sharing interests in excellence and scholarship in health education and research, and/or operating on a larger scale than RCSI, to allow their participants to develop collaborations, extend their professional network, grow increased confidence in their competences and satisfaction in their jobs, acquire new skills, benchmark their activities and broaden their knowledge of good practices, as well as enhancing their social and cultural competences.