

OFFICIAL RULES ON THE ALLOCATION OF THE UNITED IN BIODIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

ARTICLE I - DESIGNATION

The United in Biodiversity research scholarship and job shadowing for future STEAM teachers is part of the scope of the Erasmus+ project called United in Biodiversity: A STEAM Approach to Biodiversity Education in European School,2022-1-EL01-KA220-SCH-000086967.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE OF THE COMPETITION

The primary goal of the “United in Biodiversity - Scholarship Competition” is to promote academic research focusing on future-oriented curricula and the role of schools in developing environmentally conscious citizens.

The competition aims to provide professional development opportunities for teachers in training by job shadowing professionals in their field of work across Europe, through the means of a scholarship.

The culmination of the competition will result in the publication of three research essay papers, which will become integral resources for the United in Biodiversity project, and serve as support research to broaden the scope of biodiversity education in schools. The publication will be made in the form of a book and available to the public.

ARTICLE III - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Applicants shall be at least 18 years old at the date of submission of the application.
2. Applicants shall be students enrolled in third-level education in an establishment based in a EU Member State at the date of submission of the application.
3. Applicants shall be enrolled in a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) subject and/or an education masters degree program.

ARTICLE IV - SCHOLARSHIP REWARD

1. 3 participants will be selected and awarded a scholarship for a 3-months job shadowing experience, in the primary school “Szkoła Podstawowa w Mrokowie” in Mroków, Poland.
2. They will have their initial travel expenses covered by the scholarship, and accommodation paid for during the entire duration of the job shadowing and pocket money for daily allowance will also be provided.
3. During this time, they will gather relevant data to inform their research on one of the topics related to the United in Biodiversity initiative, and take part in daily activities with pupils and teaching professionals in the school.
4. Within one month after their experience abroad, participants will be required to submit a 10 to 20 pages research essay paper in the English language on their selected topic. The three essays and their findings will be compiled into a single book publication, which will be incorporated into the resources of the United in Biodiversity project and shared to the public.

ARTICLE V - SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

1. To apply for the scholarship, applicants shall write a proposal for a research essay paper with an educational dimension, and focused on one of the following United in Biodiversity topics:
 - Wildlife Trafficking
 - Climate Change
 - Habitat Fragmentation
 - Invasive Species
 - Pollution
2. The proposal should not exceed 2 pages. It should outline the objectives, methodology, and the anticipated benefits of their research to the overall project. It may include the following:

- Title page (name, institution, project title)
 - Background for the research (personal reasons and purpose for the research + motivation to pursue a career in teaching STEAM)
 - Literature review
 - State the problem and the goals of the research
 - Methodology expected to be used
 - Timeline
 - References
3. The research proposal should be submitted in English through this [FORM](#).
 4. Eligible and winning participants will be contacted via email within one month after the end of the application deadline.

ARTICLE VI - SELECTION PROCESS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

A committee composed by, ArtéTeka, Renctas, and Casa do Professor, 3 member organisations of the United in Biodiversity project, will select 3 eligible students based on:

1. Their motivation to become a STEAM teacher:

Participants will be evaluated based on their demonstrated passion for pursuing a career in teaching and their commitment to making a positive impact on education, and more specifically on environmental education.

2. Their essay idea and research objectives:

The clarity, creativity, and feasibility of the proposed essay idea will be assessed. The research objectives should be aligned with the goals of the United in Biodiversity project and contribute valuable insights to the field of education.

You may find detailed information of the United in biodiversity Erasmus+ project at the following [LINK](#).

3. The benefits to the project:

Judges will consider how each research proposal contributes to the overall objectives of the United in Biodiversity initiative. The potential impact of the research on future-oriented curricula and the development of environmentally conscious citizens will be a key criteria.

ARTICLE VII - CALENDAR AND CONTACT INFO

Important Dates:

- Proposal Application Deadline: 30th of June 2024
- Job Shadowing Period: September-November 2024
- Research Essay Submission Deadline: end of December 2024
- Publication Release: January/February 2025

These rules and guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the United in Biodiversity Scholarship Competition organisers. Participants are encouraged to regularly check the official channels of the project for updates and announcements. (Facebook: United in Biodiversity <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092670996447>)

CONTACTS

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