

## eMOVIES

### VIRTUAL MOBILITY SPACE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

With the evolution of our environment and the integration of technology into our daily lives, the limits between face-to-face and the virtual are fading, and we discover the relevance of virtual academic mobility as a tool and alternative to the traditional processes of internationalization in higher education. This new paradigm is challenging for traditional approaches by offering the opportunity to earn academic credits in other higher education institutions (HEIs) through information and communication technologies (ICT).

Aware of the great opportunity that this represents in the field of internationalization of higher education, the Inter-American Organization for Higher Education (IOHE), supported by a group of Member Institutions from the Colombian Region, is leading the implementation and coordination of the Virtual Mobility Space in Higher Education (eMOVIES) with the objective of offering innovative solutions and diversifying the alternatives of international academic mobility for students, thereby strengthening the Inter-American network of cooperation and academic exchanges between the Organization's Member Institutions.

eMOVIES consists of a consortium of IOHE Members, where each voluntarily makes available to the consortium a number of places in courses or subjects that it offers in virtually, so that each participating institution can define a student exchange plan in accordance with the offer available within the consortium. Each institution sets the conditions or requirements for receiving students from the exchange and undertakes to issue the corresponding certificate or recognition to those who have fulfilled the required academic and/or administrative requirements. The exchange is governed by a principle of collaboration and reciprocity that does not involve any cost to the student enrolled in the exchange.

## PARTICIPATION PROTOCOL

### Program Conditions

1. eMOVIES is open to all IOHE Member Institutions who are up-to-date with their membership obligations and seeking to integrate alternative modalities for the internationalization of their first, second and third cycle students.
2. The invitation to join eMOVIES will be launched periodically. HEIs interested in participating in the program will be required to provide the necessary information, in due time and proper form using the official documents to be formally enrolled in the program. Updating the virtual or distance academic program offerings can be done up to twice a year within the established deadlines.
3. In order to formalise the enrolment and ratification of participation in eMOVIES, it is necessary

to complete the electronic Institutional Information Form and to send to the eMOVIES Coordination the Institutional Commitment Letter, duly completed according to the template defined and according to the deadlines. It is also necessary to provide information on the virtual or distance academic program that each participating institution will make available to the consortium.

4. Student mobility can be implemented between any of the HEI participants. The catalogue of courses or subjects will be available to all institutions that have joined eMOVIES in due time.
5. The courses are taught from the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) of the institution that offers it, according to the pedagogical and technological model that the institution has. Each participating HEI shall identify the courses or subjects it will make available for the exchange, the admission requirements and the number of seats available, as well as how the seats will be equitably allocated according to the applications received. In addition, each participating HEI will have to manage with the destination HEI the demand for seats that they wish to use for their own mobility plan.
6. This program is open to first, second and third cycle students enrolled in a IOHE HEI participating in eMOVIES. Students will be required to receive endorsement of their home HEI and can be pursuing face-to-face, semi-face or distance learning programs or careers at their home institution.
7. A student can register a maximum of two (2) courses or subjects per academic session and can take them in two different HEIs. The Academic Session refers to the study period of the student's home institution (semester or special periods such as summer).
8. A student can participate in the eMOVIES exchange program for a maximum of two (2) academic sessions, with which a student can take up to four (4) courses in four (4) different HEIs.
9. Each destination institution will have to provide each participating student with an introduction to virtual or distance education, as well as training on the particularities and operation of the virtual platform used for the courses, and the resources available for technical and didactic support.
10. The destination institution will not charge the student participating in eMOVIES any fees related to the recording, registration and mailing of an academic certificate, as the case may be.
11. The student participating in the program must be enrolled in his/her home institution and there must not be any reservations with his/her academic record, both at the time of submitting his/her application for participation in eMOVIES and during the academic period in which he/she will take his/her course(s) at the destination institution.
12. The management and follow-up of virtual academic residencies in connection with eMOVIES will be the responsibility of the International Relations Office or the body designated as

responsible for academic mobility activities in the home HEI. A participating HEI will retain the right to designate another academic body within its institution provided it carries out the activities and assumes the related responsibilities.

13. All activities presented by participating IOHE HEIs and that will integrate eMOVIES academic offer must be 100% virtual or remote and may not involve any face-to-face activities or require the physical presence of students at the destination institution. This condition also includes teaching materials and other resources associated with the courses or subjects offered.

14. The destination institution must inform the student of anything related to the course(s) to which he/she is enrolled, such as, academic calendar, start and end date of the session, date of evaluations, timing of synchronous and asynchronous meetings, program activities, among others.

### **Requirements for Participation**

1. Attending at least the third regular academic session of his/her curriculum (for undergraduate students).
2. Comply with the academic and administrative requirements set by the home institution to permit participation in any international activity.
3. Comply with the specific prerequisites for each course/subject in which one wishes to participate (if applicable).
4. It will not be possible to register or follow as part of the eMOVIES program, a subject that has not been approved by the original institution.
5. Must not be subject to academic and/or disciplinary sanctions at the time of application.

### **Commitments of Participating Institutions**

#### **Responsibilities of the Home HEI**

1. Circulate the invitation to eMOVIES within its institution.
2. Identify and assist students interested in participating in the virtual mobility program.
3. Provide continuous follow-up to students during their participation in eMOVIES.
4. Follow participating students during the reintegration process after completing the virtual mobility program, and ensure that credits are obtained from the course(s) taken.
5. Carry out the necessary internal steps in order to recognize the academic credits obtained by the student during the exchange.

#### **Responsibilities of the Destination HEI**

1. Identify the courses and/or subjects that will be offered at each academic session, as well as the corresponding requirements and the number of places available.



2. Inform the eMOVIES Coordination of the catalogue of courses it makes available for the exchange, the number of places available and the specific requirements that the student must fulfill for each of the courses offered.
3. Allocate available places responsibly and equitably according to requests received.
4. Respond in a timely and consistent manner to students and their home institutions, providing them with all the necessary information.
5. Provide ongoing follow-up to students participating in the program.
6. Issue the certificate or recognition to those who have met the requirements of the program and achieved satisfactory results in their subject(s).
7. Send acknowledgements and/or certificates (as applicable) to students within a reasonable time frame.

### **For more information**

eMOVIES Coordination  
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