

EUROPE-COLORADO MOBILITY PROGRAM: THE DETAILS

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Qualifications

- The student must be studying engineering or computer science at a European university.
- The student must be in the top 10-20% of their class and have English proficiency sufficient for an academic setting.
- The student must have intention to apply to graduate studies in the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado Boulder (CU), given a positive mobility experience.

Project

- The student will complete their final undergraduate project or master's thesis through a research experience of 4-5 months, under the mentorship of an engineering or computer science faculty member in one of CU's research labs.
- Before the end of the project, the student will complete a report on their research as an oral presentation, poster presentation, and/or written report (depending on the requirements of the host lab and home university).
- The student will not enroll in classes and will be expected to conduct research full time, roughly 40 hours per week.

Finances

- Research supplies and mentorship will be provided free of charge. A student may request up to \$6,000 (\$1,200 a month) from CU to use for partial transportation and living costs. This funding will come from the CU College of Engineering and Applied Science and the student's department of interest. The student will be expected to cover living costs exceeding the amount awarded. Please note that, for visa purposes, the student must demonstrate a total of \$1,845 per month in available funds, including CU support and personal funds, though actual costs may be less.
- Funding will be provided from CU to the student in two equal payments, one soon after arrival and the other halfway into the student's research. Funding will be paid to the student's CU bursar account and linked to a US bank account, which they will set up once they arrive to Boulder. All funding provided by CU is subject to a 14% income tax, and students may consult a tax expert at CU.
- The student will not be charged tuition or fees by the University of Colorado, but is responsible for health insurance.

Acquiring a Visa

- Students must obtain a J-1 visa prior to arrival, and procedures vary for undergraduate and graduate students. The documents necessary for this process are issued by CU's International Student and Scholars Services (ISSS) Office and are express-mailed to the student, who must pay a SEVIS fee and set a visa appointment at a U.S. embassy or consulate in their home country.
- English proficiency is required to obtain a J-1 visa, which may be demonstrated during a Skype interview with the selected host faculty member, or sufficient TOEFL, IELTS, or Cambridge test results dated within the past 24 months.
- The student must show proof of sufficient health insurance coverage upon arrival at CU for the entire duration of their stay.
- Please visit www.colorado.edu/iss/cu-departments/hiringhosting-international-students-scholars/international-scholars-j-h-e-pr for more information regarding this topic.

Application

- Applications are due March 15th to brittany.bergstrom@colorado.edu for participation the following academic year.
- Application materials include: a two-page personal statement (including prior experience, why the program is of interest, intended faculty sponsor and project, approximate dates for when the project will be undertaken, and future plans), copy of the student's undergraduate and graduate transcripts (in English), a copy of the student's resume, a letter of recommendation from the home university, and a short paragraph stating the amount of support you are requesting from CU and the amounts and sources of other support available for your mobility experience. A bank statement is not needed for the Europe-Colorado application.
- The student is responsible for establishing connections with and seeking agreement from the intended CU host faculty member; contact brittany.bergstrom@colorado.edu if help is needed. The faculty host must write a letter of support for the student; the Europe-Colorado program will request this letter directly from the faculty host after the full application has been received.
- Review of the applications and decisions are expected to be complete by April 1st. Selected students will receive an award letter by email. Students not selected will be informed by email.

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UNIVERSITY PARTNERS INFORMATION:

- All European universities with engineering or computer science degree programs are eligible.
- The partner university may request a project report from the student and/or a project grade from the host faculty member, to ensure that the project meets the university's undergraduate project or master's thesis requirements.
- The University of Colorado does not require an agreement or memorandum signed by the two universities. If the European university requires such an agreement, please contact Andrew Wingfield, Director of International Programs (andrew.wingfield@colorado.edu).
- The letter of recommendation from the student's home university (which may come from a faculty or administration staff member) should address the student's qualifications (see list) and any requirements of the home university. This letter should be sent by 15 March to brittany.bergstrom@colorado.edu.

HOST FACULTY MEMBER INFORMATION:

- All engineering and computer science faculty in the College of Engineering and Applied Science are eligible to host students for the Europe-Colorado Program.
- Faculty members with pre-existing connections to European universities are encouraged to solicit high-performing students from those universities.
- A student may contact a faculty member to request that they serve as a host for a research project. If the student's research interests and qualifications appear to be a good fit, the faculty member may agree to host the student. If the faculty member agrees to host the student, they are expected to provide appropriate mentorship, cover research expenses (such as laboratory supplies), and cost-share the CU stipend provided to the students. The stipend of \$6,000 maximum (plus \$250 in related fees) is typically split 50% college, 25% department/program, and 25% host faculty member, but some departments/programs may set a different split with the faculty host for their 50% of the total.
- If the faculty member agrees to host the student, they must write a letter of support for the student, outlining the project the student will undertake and the dollar amounts of financial support the faculty member and department or program will provide. The Europe-Colorado Program will request this letter after they have received the complete application. It is strongly urged that general or gift funds be used, as grant funds are difficult to approve. Additionally, faculty members are responsible for assisting the student in completing the required paperwork for acquiring a visa, including an evaluation of the student's English, if necessary.

RESOURCES AND CONTACTS:

- For questions regarding the program and application submission, please contact Europe-Colorado Program Assistant Britta Bergstrom (brittany.bergstrom@colorado.edu).
- For questions regarding host faculty and European university partners, please contact Europe-Colorado Program Director Robert H. Davis (robert.davis@colorado.edu).
- For questions regarding visa requirements and formal agreements, please contact International Programs Director Andrew Wingfield (andrew.wingfield@colorado.edu).
- For CU Boulder's engineering research and focus areas, please see www.colorado.edu/engineering/.