

## Centres of Vocational Excellence 2025

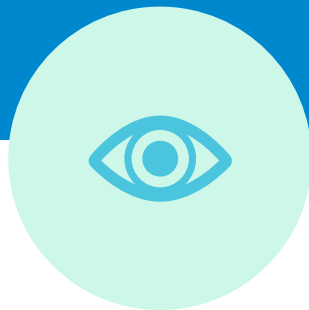
# Admissibility, eligibility and award criteria

Preparing  
a good application

# *In this presentation*



**TIMETABLE**



**AT A GLANCE**

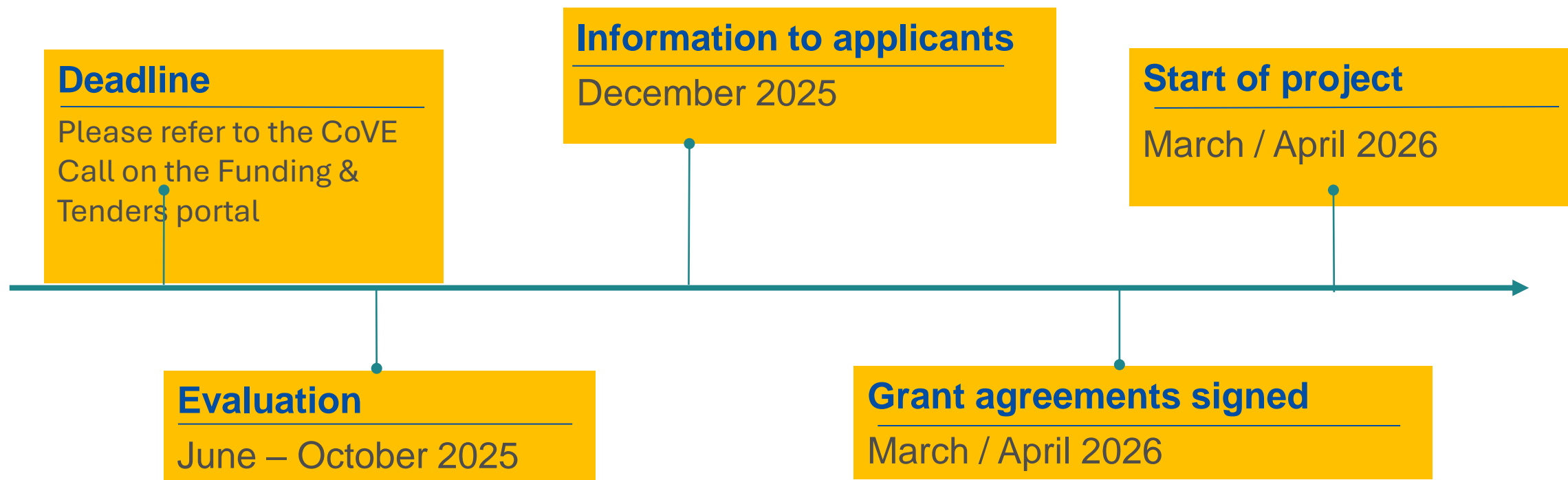


**EVALUATION  
CRITERIA**



**TIPS FOR  
APPLICANTS**

# Timetable



# The 2025 Call for Proposals at a glance

**Scope:** to support the gradual establishment and development of international collaborative networks of **Vocational Excellence – EQF levels: Can be at any EQF level but must include levels 3, 4 or 5**

- ☐ **Duration of projects:** 48 months
- ☐ **Total budget 2025:** EUR 60 million
- ☐ **Total budget 2021-2027:** EUR 400 million
- ☐ **Maximum grant per project:** EUR 4 million
- ☐ **Type of grants:** Lump Sum Type II (payment of fixed amounts linked to the delivery of work packages)
- ☐ **Seal of excellence** for proposals scored as high quality ( $\geq 75/100$  points) but cannot be funded due to insufficient funds




# A few novelties



- ❑ Minimum score to be considered for funding : **75/100** (previously 70/100).  
Thresholds per individual criterion do not change.
- ❑ The rules on participation of third countries not associated to the Programme have changed: :
  - **Organisations from third countries not associated to the Programme from **Regions 1 to 3** may participate as beneficiary, affiliated entity or associated partner. Organisations from other third countries not associated to the Programme may only participate as associated partners.**
- ❑ **Key Performance Indicators** to be completed in the application form

# Evaluation Criteria

- 
- ✓ **Admissibility criteria**
  - ✓ **Eligibility criteria**
  - ✓ **Award criteria**

# Admissibility Criteria



**Submission deadline:** Please refer to the CoVE Call on the Funding & Tenders portal



**Applications must be readable and accessible**



**Applications must be complete and contain all the required annexes using the correct templates**

# Eligibility Criteria (1)



## Duration

4 Years



## Where to apply

[Funding and  
Tenders  
opportunities portal](#)

Call ID: ERASMUS-  
EDU-2025-PEX-  
COVE



# Eligibility Criteria (2)

*Who can participate?*

- ✓ *Legal entities (public or private bodies)*
- ✓ *Established in an **EU Member State or a third country associated to the Programme.***
- ✓ *Organisations **from third countries not associated to the Programme:***
  - ***from Region 1 to 3 :** can also participate but not as coordinators.*
  - ***from other Regions:** can only participate as associated partner (with their own funds)*



# Eligibility Criteria (3)

*What types of organisation can participate?*

- *Any public or private organisation active in **VET** or in the **world of work** can be involved as **beneficiary, affiliated entity or associated partner***

## Non-exhaustive list

- VET Providers
- Companies, industry or sector representative organisations
- National/regional qualification authorities
- Research institutes
- Innovation agencies
- Regional development authorities

# Eligibility Criteria (4)

*Which countries can participate as full beneficiaries?*



**27 EU  
Member  
States**

*Iceland,  
Liechtenstein,  
Norway, Republic of  
North Macedonia,  
Serbia, Turkey*

**Third countries  
associated to the  
Programme**

*Western Balkans  
Neighbourhood East  
South-Mediterranean  
countries*

**Third countries  
not associated to  
the Programme –  
from regions 1 to  
3**

# Eligibility Criteria (5)

*Which countries can participate as “associated” partners ? (with own funds)*

Added value  
to the CoVE

**EU Member States**  
**Third countries associated to the Programme**  
**Third countries not associated to the Programme**

# Eligibility Criteria (6)

*What should be the consortium composition?*



**Minimum 8 full partners** from minimum **4 EU Member States** or **third countries associated to the Programme**

***Each EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme must involve:***

at least 1 enterprise, industry, other employers or sector representative organisation



at least 1 VET provider at secondary and/or tertiary level)

The partnership can also include any other organisation active in VET and the world of work

*The **coordinator** must be from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme*

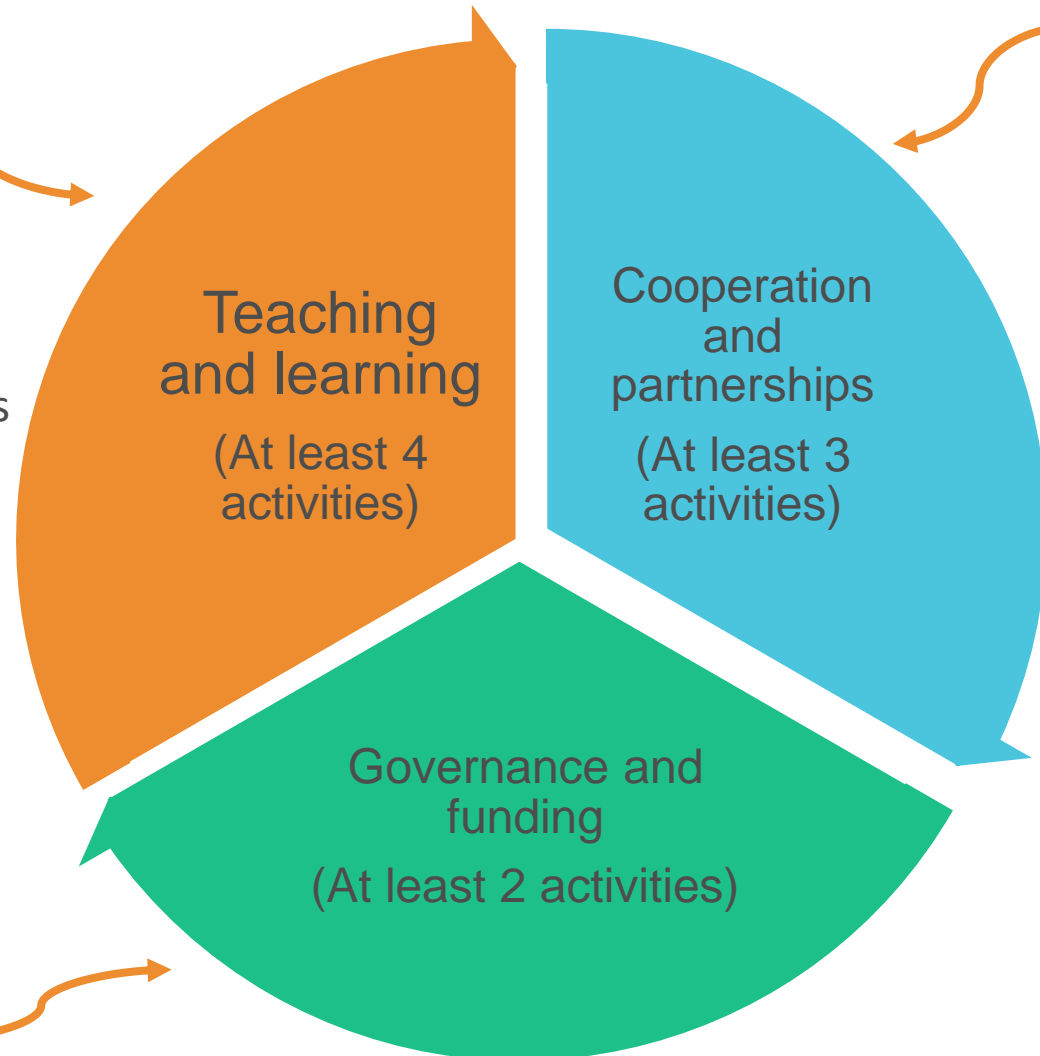
# Eligibility Criteria - Activities (7)

## *For example:*

- Labour market relevant skills
- Developing vet curricula and qualifications
- Innovative learner-centred approaches
- Professional development of teachers and trainers
- Quality assurance mechanisms
- Feedback loops and graduate tracking systems
- Guidance services...

## *For example:*

- Vet governance
- Skills development and governance
- Skills ecosystems
- Sustainable financial models
- National and EU financial instruments...



## *For example:*

- Business-education partnerships
- Research and innovation
- Vet internationalisation and mobility
- Vet attractiveness
- Skills competitions...

# Award criteria

[More details on each criteria in Programme Guide Part B](#)

Minimum total score: **75 points**



Relevance (max 35 points)

Quality of project design (25 points)

Quality of partnership (max 20 points)

Impact (max 20 points)

# Relevance

- Link to policy
- EU values →
- Consistency
- Innovation
- Regional dimension
- Cooperation and partnership
- European added value
- Internationalisation
- Digital skills
- Green skills
- Social dimension

*The proposal promotes respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, or fights any sort of discrimination*

**35  
points**



# Quality of project design and implementation

**25  
points**



**Coherence**

**Activities**

**Methodology**

**Management**

**Budget**

**Work Plan**

**Quality control**

**Quality of mobility activities (if any)**

# Award criteria - **Quality of the partnership and the cooperation arrangements**

**20  
points**

- **Configuration**
- **Upward convergence**
- **Geographical dimension**
- **Involvement of third countries not associated to the Programme**
- **Collaboration**



# Award criteria - **Impact**

- **Exploitation**
- **Dissemination**
- **Impact**
- **Sustainability**



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**20  
points**



# 10 Top tips for applicants

1. Express clearly your intention to develop a **network of Centres of Vocational Excellence** and the means to achieve this.
2. Provide a clear description of the **partnership and the complementarity between organisations**. If **associated partners** are listed, explain what is their role in the project.
3. Describe the **specific experience and competences** of staff, in particular those needed for the project.
4. If you include an **organisation from a third country not associated to the Programme from Region 1 to 3** (as a full partner), explain clearly what is the **value added** to the project.



# 10 Top tips for applicants

5. Provide concrete evidence of **innovation** and the **contribution to regional development**.
6. Be **concrete** in the description of your objectives and activities. Make sure that they are closely linked.
7. Include an **independent external assessment** at mid-term and at the end.
8. Define **quality control measures** for all phases.
9. Describe **Impact** in terms of **changes** in knowledge, behaviour or skills, policies, with concrete indicators.
10. For **resubmitted proposals**, improve the proposal according to the comments on the assessment

# Thank you

You can find more information on the conditions for applying in the  
[Programme Guide 2025](#)



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