EIT Master Thesis Pilot Scheme

Open Call for Applications

Write your Master Thesis with us - We are interested in supporting you in your master thesis about topics related to the EIT’s mission!

Eligibility and Selection

- In order to be eligible for this scheme you must be currently enrolled in a Masters Programme offered by one of the universities or Higher Education institutes that is a partner of one of the EIT’s KICs. See the list of partner universities.

- Your thesis should be drafted in English language (EIT’s official working language) or translated into English from your original language. The EIT can not cover the translation costs.

What topics we are generally interested in

We are very open to your own ideas and suggestions, as long as they fall within the broad remit of the EIT’s activities, i.e. innovation and entrepreneurship, or any of the KIC-subject matters: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Future Information and Communication society and Sustainable Energy (if your thesis approach relates in some way to the specificities of the EIT-KIC model).

Thesis proposals are welcome from students in any relevant discipline including economics, law, public policy, European studies, and relevant sciences and technology,

By way of example, the EIT has identified certain topics which it would be particularly interested in:

- The link between education, research and business (knowledge triangle)
- The EIT’s positioning within the European innovation landscape
- The EIT’s contribution to European Cohesion
- Comparative studies (e.g. between the EIT and EUREKA, the ERC, other existing clusters, networks and innovation nodes...)
- Proximity and mobility in the innovation context, with particular reference to the EIT’s Co-location model
- Students and Entrepreneurship (e.g. comparative study between Member States/ the EU and the US, the role of universities in encouraging entrepreneurship...)
- Development possibilities for KICs
- The use and combination of public and private money in the innovation funding environment (with reference to the KIC model and the EIT Foundation)

What we can offer

- Contact to key people at the EIT and KIC partners for interviews and supplementary data
- Attendance of relevant events and meetings (organised by the EIT and KICs), if directly related to your topic of research
- Dedicated office space at our Headquarters in Budapest, Hungary
- Compensation of travel expenses directly related to your research up to a maximum of €1,000 per student (no provision for accommodation can be offered)
- After successful completion you will of course be credited with the findings if they are further cited, used or developed by the EIT

How to apply?

For application, please send a copy of your preliminary thesis proposal no later than EOB 1 July 2012 to: student-thesis-scheme@eit.europa.eu

We will carry out our assessment and inform all applicants of the outcome by 31 August 2012.

We expect:

- High-quality Master thesis papers relevant to the EIT
- Acknowledgement of EIT support in your thesis
- Being able to make use of your thesis by quoting, applying and/or implementing your findings, and publishing on the EIT website where appropriate

The proposal should include:
Your CV and a short letter of intent.
A compact and concise outline of your thesis idea (approx. 1000 words).
Data & empirical methods (which data would you use/need, how do you intend to collect missing data).
Expectations for EIT input (whether you require office space and for how long, which interviews, on-site visits and data would be useful, an indicative estimate of travel etc.).
Indicative thesis writing time-table.
Possible outcomes.
An explanation of other sources of funding for your Master studies, in particular any funding received by the EIT’s Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KICs).
Evidence by your academic supervisor for the thesis that he/she endorses your proposal.

Selection Criteria:

- Originality and appropriateness of the topic (in particular relevance to the EIT’s mission).
- Proposed methodology and outcome of research.
- Topics that are inter-disciplinary and comparative in approach are particularly encouraged.

The final decision on whether or not your thesis is selected lies fully within the discretion of the EIT. During the first Pilot Year of this scheme, the total number of successful thesis proposals will be limited to a maximum of 10.

Questions?

For any questions regarding your ideas or the application process, don’t hesitate to contact us:

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