

Call for UIB collaborating centres for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes

Third call 2022-2026

1. Reason for the call

This call has a dual objective. On the one hand, renew accreditation as collaborating centre for those school centres who were awarded this status in the first call for **UIB collaborating centres for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes (2018-2022)** that wish to continue collaborating with the Faculty of Education. On the other, widen the number of early childhood and primary education centres that form part of the UIB collaborating centre network. In accordance with the guidelines for previous calls, this situation is based on the need to foster relations, collaboration and shared work of early childhood and primary education centres supported by public funding in the Balearic Islands and their teaching professionals, with lecturers on the teacher training programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education. The purpose underlying this joint coordinated work is to improve basic training for teachers.

The University of the Balearic Islands (UIB) is responsible for the academic training leading to the necessary qualifications to become an early childhood/primary teacher. This task remains incomplete if the education centres and teachers do not play a role.

Practising teachers, as education professionals on their teaching teams, undertake an ethical commitment to training future teachers through different types of collaboration with the university (welcoming students on observation visits, producing joint projects, placement periods, etc.). Thanks to this commitment, future teachers are able to benefit from enriching experiences that both stimulate and lay the groundwork for their future profession.

2. Aims of the Call

The aims of the present call are to:

- Involve early childhood and primary education in the Balearic Islands in basic teacher training from an holistic approach that is not limited to placement periods for UIB students
- Foster outreach amongst the lecturers on the teacher training programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education, and early childhood and primary education centres in the Balearic Islands
- Improve coordination, collaboration and shared work amongst education centres and the early childhood and primary education programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education
- Establish UIB collaborating centre status for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes
- Generate collaborative work synergies between teaching centres and the lecturers on the teacher training programme at the UIB Faculty of Education, with a view to undertaking mutually beneficial joint projects.

3. Recipients

The present call is aimed at early childhood and primary education centres in the Balearic Islands supported with public funding. Given the dual objective of the call, there are two application methods:

- a) An application to renew collaborating centre accreditation. Education centres that were selected in the first call and have held collaborating centre status during the 2018-2022 period may use this application
- b) An accreditation application aimed at education centres that wish to take part in the programme and were not accredited in either of the two previous calls.

4. Requirements and Merits to Assess Applicant Centres

APPLICATION METHOD A: collaborating education centres that wish to renew their accreditation and take part in the programme over the coming four years (2022-2026) must comply with the following requirements:

- a) The school board at the centre must have approved participation in the call and, therefore, submission as a candidate for UIB collaborating centre status for the 2022-2026 period
- b) The school board at the centre must have ratified signing the 'Cooperation Agreement between the Collaborating Centres in Basic Training for Early Childhood and Primary Teacher Training Programmes and the University of the Balearic Islands to Provide Realistic Learning and Constructive Partnerships for UIB Students' document (see Appendix I).

In turn, the education centres must submit proof of the following merits to be considered by the assessment commission:

- A review of the provision and welcome programme for students on placements (the Faculty of Education must assess this) for the 2018-22 period
- **b)** Accredit the percentage of teaching staff that have taken the Constructive Accompaniment Programme for Placements
- c) Welcome plan for placement students
- **d)** Submission of a short video (max. 4 to 5 minutes in mp4 format) setting out the centre's inherent methodological and organisational approaches.

APPLICATION METHOD B: education centres interested in taking part in this call to obtain UIB collaborating centre status must comply with the following requirements:

- a) The school board at the centre must have approved participation in the call and, therefore, submission as a candidate for UIB collaborating centre status for the 2022-2026 period
- b) The school board at the centre must have ratified signing the 'Cooperation Agreement between the Collaborating Centres in Basic Training for Early Childhood and Primary Teacher Training Programmes and the University of the Balearic Islands to Provide Realistic Learning and Constructive Partnerships for UIB Students' document¹.

In turn, the education centres must submit proof of the following merits to be considered by the assessment commission:

- A letter of motivation from the centre to take part in the call for collaborating centres
- **b)** Accredit the percentage of teaching staff that have taken the Constructive Accompaniment Programme for Placements
- c) Welcome plan for placement students
- **d)** Submission of a short video (max. 4 to 5 minutes in mp4 format) setting out the centre's inherent methodological and organisational approaches. The project must ensure inclusive education is covered
- e) Demonstrate the centre's training ability for UIB students.

In order to verify the suitability of applicant centres, and after having confirmed the requirements have been met, the submitted merits will be assessed on a scale of 1 to 10, in accordance with the following criteria:

METHOD B:

- a) A review of the provision and welcome programme for students on placements (the Faculty of Education must assess this) for the 2018-22 period (max. 2 points)
- b) Accredit the percentage of teaching staff that have taken the Constructive Accompaniment Programme for Placements (max. 2 points)
- c) Relevancy and clarity of the welcome plan for placement students (max. 2 points)

d) Relevancy, innovation and coherence of the centre's methodological and organisational strategies (max. 4 points).

METHOD B:

- a) Letter of motivation (max. 2 points)
- b) Accredit the percentage of teaching staff that have taken the Constructive Accompaniment Programme for Placements (max. 2 points)
- c) Relevancy and clarity of the welcome plan for placement students (max. 2 points)
- d) Relevancy, innovation and coherence of the centre's methodological and organisational strategies (max. 3 points)
- e) Number of places (max. 1 point).

In order for a centre to be put forward to renew (method A) or obtain (method B) collaborating centre status, it must attain at least six points.

Centres with at least six points may be awarded UIB collaborating centre status, in strict order of their score. Up to a total of 35 education centres in Majorca, seven in Ibiza, seven in Minorca and one in Formentera will be selected in this third call.

With a view to ensuring the quality and suitability of collaborating centres, as well as objective assessment enabling full evaluation of the applications, an assessment commission shall be established comprising professionals linked to teaching for basic training who have a particular and significant connection to the education system. The assessment commission shall comprise:

- a) On behalf of the UIB, the First Deputy Dean for Innovation and the Improvement Programme for Basic Training on Teacher Training Programmes at the Faculty of Education (who shall chair the commission) or the person delegated by the latter; the Deputy Dean for Placements in the Faculty of Education or the person delegated by the latter; a Head of Studies and/or Placement Coordinator for the Degree in Primary Education, appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Education; and a Head of Studies and/or Placement Coordinator for the Degree in Early Childhood Education, appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Education
- b) On behalf of the Regional Department of Education and Vocational Training, the Head of the Language Standardisation and Training Service or the person delegated by the latter; the Head of the Educational Innovation Service or the person delegated by the latter; and the Director of the Improvement and Transformation Programme or the person delegated by the latter
- c) As experts who are external to the UIB, two teachers from collaborating centres from the last call, appointed by the Dean of the UIB Faculty of Education.

5. Decision Notification

Once the final list of collaborating centres is approved, applicants will be notified of their status. Applicants will have a maximum of ten days to accept the status, starting from the date of notification. Failure to do so will be understood as the applicant refusing said status and the next applicant on the list shall be awarded said status.

All data relating to accepted and refused applications, as well as those put forward to be awarded collaborating centre status, the set order and the final results will be published on the Faculty of Education website.

6. Participation Commitments and Rewards

The commitments and rewards shall be governed by the following document: 'Cooperation Agreement between the Collaborating Centres in Basic Training for Early Childhood and Primary Teacher Training Programmes and the University of the Balearic Islands to Provide Realistic Learning and Constructive Partnerships for UIB Students.'

7. Application Documentation, Formalisation and Deadline

- 1. The application submission period runs from 23rd May to 18th June 2022.
- 2. Document submission and application formalisation must be performed with the following online form:

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(METHOD A)
http://irie.uib.cat/limesurvey/index.php/961361/lang-ca
(METHOD B)
http://irie.uib.cat/limesurvey/index.php/835832/lang-ca
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- 3. Once the online form has been submitted, the application should be printed, signed and sent to the Faculty of Education (University of the Balearic Islands, Faculty of Education, Guillem Cifre de Colonya Building, Ctra. de Valldemossa, km 7.5, 07122 Palma, by e-mail or in a sealed envelope at any UIB building or at the Minorca and Ibiza campuses). The date of submission of the electronic form will count as the application date. Nonetheless, the signed document must be submitted for acceptance.
- 4. Submission of the application means the application centre accepts liability for the truthfulness of the information and documentation included therein. Nevertheless, the Faculty of Education reserves the right to require applicants submit the original form and supporting documentation, as well as verify the truthfulness of the information or more detailed supplementary information with the Regional Department of Education and Vocational Training.

5. The following documentation must be submitted:

METHOD A:

- a) Application form (online submission and copy signed by the director)
- b) A certificate signed by the centre management to accredit that the school board has approved participation in the call
- c) A certificate signed by the centre management to accredit that the school board has approved signing the 'Cooperation Agreement between the Collaborating Centres in Basic Training for Early Childhood Teacher Training Programmes and the University of the Balearic Islands to Provide Realistic Learning and Constructive Partnerships for UIB Students' document
- d) A list of teaching staff who have taken the Constructive Accompaniment Programme for Placements
- e) Welcome plan for placement students
- f) Link to YouTube video submission by the centre.

METHOD B:

- a) Application form (online submission and copy signed by the director)
- b) A certificate signed by the centre management to accredit that the school board has approved participation in the call
- c) A certificate signed by the centre management to accredit that the school board has approved signing the 'Cooperation Agreement between the Collaborating Centres in Basic Training for Early Childhood Teacher Training Programmes and the University of the Balearic Islands to Provide Realistic Learning and Constructive Partnerships for UIB Students' document
- d) A list of teaching staff who have taken the Constructive Accompaniment Programme for Placements
- e) Welcome plan for placement students
- f) Letter of motivation
- g) Link to YouTube video submission by the centre.

8. Validity

Status as a collaborating centre for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes is valid for four years. Notwithstanding the above, the UIB reserves the right to withdraw this status where the centre fails to uphold the criteria set out for the call over the four years.

After the four-year term, centres who wish to continue to be accredited must apply for renewal for a new four-year period. In this sense, when the four-year period ends, they will need to apply to a new call and accredit the status of their innovation project and development process during this period.

Palma, Alaior and Ibiza, 18th May 2022

APPENDIX I



Cooperation Agreement between the Collaborating Centres in Basic Training for Early Childhood and Primary Teacher Training Programmes and the University of the Balearic Islands to Provide Realistic Learning and Constructive Partnerships for UIB Students¹

Whereas

Teacher training is one of the factors with the greatest impact on the quality of school education and is an essential element for the proper operation of educational centres.

The University of the Balearic Islands (UIB) is responsible for the academic training leading to the necessary qualifications to become an early childhood/primary teacher. This task remains incomplete if the education centres and teachers themselves do not play a role.

Practising teachers, as education professionals on their teaching teams, undertake an ethical commitment to training future teachers through different types of collaboration with the university (welcoming students on observation visits, producing joint projects, placement periods, etc.). Thanks to this commitment, future teachers are able to benefit from enriching experiences that both stimulate and lay the groundwork for their future profession.

This situation means it is necessary to foster relations, collaboration and shared work of early childhood and primary education centres supported by public funding in the Balearic Islands and their teaching professionals, with lecturers on the teacher training programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education. The purpose underlying this joint coordinated work is to improve basic training for teachers.

In this context, the first call for UIB collaborating centres for basic training on the

¹ This cooperation agreement was approved by the UIB Faculty of Education Board on 4th April 2020.

early childhood and primary education teacher training programmes was organised in March 2018² and completed on 26th June 2018 with collaborating centre status accreditation for the 2018-2022 period as per what is set out in Appendix I herein.

Status as a collaborating centre for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes is valid for four years. Notwithstanding the above, the UIB reserves the right to withdraw this status where the centre fails to uphold the criteria set out in the call and collaboration agreement over the four years. In the same vein, the centres may notify, stating their reasons, their withdrawal as collaborating centres.

After the four-year term, centres who wish to continue to be accredited must apply for renewal for a new four-year period. In this sense, when the four-year period ends, they will need to apply to a new call and accredit the status of their innovation project and development process during this period.

The main collaboration aims are to:

- Involve education centres offering early childhood and primary education in the Balearic Islands in basic teacher training from an holistic approach that is not limited to placement periods for UIB students
- Foster outreach amongst the lecturers on the teacher training programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education, and early childhood and primary education centres in the Balearic Islands
- Improve coordination, collaboration and shared work amongst education centres and the early childhood and primary education programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education
- Establish UIB collaborating centre status for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes
- Generate collaborative work synergies between teaching centres and the lecturing team on the teacher training programme at the UIB Faculty of Education, with a view to undertaking mutually beneficial joint projects.

The UIB Faculty of Education undertakes to:

- Establish collaboration ties with the teaching centre through research, advice, placement processes, etc.
- Give priority to collaborating centres in the student allocation process at education centres for educational placement procedures
- Provide all compensation set out in the annual resolution calling on education centres in the Balearic Islands to host students on placements from official programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education to the collaborating centres
- Accompany students and centre tutors in the placement process at the education centre. Thus, mechanisms must be established so that the UIB tutor

² Call approved by the Basic Training Improvement Commission for primary and secondary teacher training programmes at the UIB on 12th March 2018.

is able to perform constructive accompaniment processes alongside the centre tutor, based on observing the centre tutor, peer observation, feedback and educational interventions

- Attend coordination meetings called by the education centres
- Promote training activities and monitor the UIB tutor-teacher accompaniment process
- Strive to be coherent when assigning specialisation coordinators, ensuring they have knowledge of the specialisation and are thus able to suitably monitor the placement.

UIB collaborating centres for basic training on the early childhood and primary education programmes undertake to:

- Attend coordination meetings and seminars organised by the UIB Faculty of Education
- Take part in the training that the UIB and the Regional Department of Education, Universities and Research organise within the framework of this cooperation programme. The teachers involved in cooperation must participate and do so progressively so that all tutor-teachers have received training
- Take part in student training activities in different years on the early childhood and primary education teacher training programmes by hosting students in realistic learning environments (observation visits and learning at the education centres)
- Welcome students in each of the placement periods (I, II and III). With regard to Placement III or Specialisation Placement, hosting will include as many specialisations as possible
- Support and accompany students in their learning process as future teachers within the framework of placements at the centres. In this sense, mechanisms must be established for students to undertake observation processes, peer observation and educational interventions, and receive feedback. The aim is to provide students on placements with the chance to experience peer observation whilst teaching and take part in teaching activity organised in pairs or groups of three students in order to undertake peer observation
- Appoint a placement coordinator at the centre who shall be the permanent contact person for the UIB Faculty of Education in order to organise the realistic learning processes and placements.

Jointly, both parties undertake to:

- Strive to streamline student visits outside placement periods
- Implement strategies to improve coordination, collaboration and shared work amongst education centres and the early childhood and primary education programmes at the UIB Faculty of Education
- Generate collaborative work synergies between teaching centres and the lecturing team on the UIB teacher training programme, with a view to undertaking mutually beneficial joint projects.

* Centres will have the option of hosting students on placements in alternating years so as to not overload teachers or the centres with this process every year.

Palma, Alaior and Ibiza, 4th May 2020