THE ABC GUIDE TO INCLUSIVE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY FOR ALL

FOR STUDENTS

A. **ASK** about the study abroad opportunities at your higher education institution. An international exchange is a valuable experience and it is possible!

B. **BE** prepared. Organising an international exchange takes time. Start well in advance.

C. **COLLECT** information on all aspects of studying abroad (classes, exams, living accommodation, social activities…) from your home and host education institution and student organisations.

D. Ask for information on the **DISABILITY/**access office at the host university and the support and adjustments they offer. Let them know if you need the information in a specific alternative format.

E. **EXPLAIN** and document your needs if you want support and adjustments to live and learn abroad. Disclosure in time makes sure the host higher education institution can arrange them.

F. Make a **FINANCIAL** plan including additional disability related costs. Find out if you can get funding for these extra costs (*eg* supplementary grant E+).

G. Consider **GOING** on a preparatory study visit if possible/available to get a full picture of what to expect (living, learning, social life…) and to get in touch with staff, other students... Check if you can get grants for this visit.

H. Find out about **HEALTH** insurance and ask about expenses related to you disability. If you need medication or special equipment, check the travel agency rules and country's entry regulations.

I. **INFORM** the host institution about your strengths and what has helped you in the past to overcome barriers (including arrangements and supports).

J. **JUST** make sure the host institution can offer the necessary access, adjustments, assistance devices and support you require to learn and live abroad. Some things you might have to bring from home.

K. Ask the host institution to let you **KNOW** what the application procedure is for the adjustments and support (*eg* deadlines, necessary documents like needs assessment or medical report…).

L. Ask for a NAMED person in the **LOCAL** (host) institution that you can contact with all your questions. Also keep contact details of someone from your home institution. They are still there to help.

M. Not sure yet that it is possible? Hear about the stories of other students with disability who went abroad. This will definitely **MOTIVATE** you.

FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

N. The **NORMAL** student doesn't exist. Don't make assumptions about students with a disability: they want to go abroad and it is possible.

O. Show that international mobility is a real **OPTION**, using diverse pictures and testimonies of students with disabilities in all your communication (website, brochures, talks…)

P. **PAUSE** and really make time to listen to the expert, the student: what are his strengths, what are his needs, what helped him in the past that can support him again to study and live abroad?

Q. Ensure a high-**QUALITY** experience by providing the students with the necessary support, devices and arrangements to fully participate in university life. Inform the student quickly about what is possible. Also think about evacuation and safety issues.

R. **REACT** quickly: inform the student as soon as possible with general prospectus in accessible formats, information on the possible support and adjustments, contact details, information on grants, social life … (everything the student needs to know to successfully live and learn abroad).

S. Make **SURE** you explain that asking for students' disclosure is only to arrange the necessary supports and all information stays confidential.

T. Offer awareness **TRAINING** for staff to get to know more about diversity, the difficulties international students with disabilities might experience…

U. Apply **UNIVERSAL** design while making buildings where classes take place, residence halls, designing learning environments, support services, ICT… (or as an inclusion check for improvement) to make it more inclusive for a greater extent of people.

V. Think about setting up **VALUABLE** support like a buddy-system for all domestic and international students. This will benefit all students, including international students with disabilities.

W. Collaborate **WITH** others: make liaisons between international and disability/access office, library, connect with the host/home education institution, other disability organisations outside college.

X. **'XPLAIN** to teachers what they can do to let the student feel welcome and to create equal opportunities for the student to succeed.

Y. Apply a **YES**-we-can-do-attitude. Say yes first to inclusive international mobility requests, and think HOW this can be realised afterwards.

Z. Step out of your local **'ZONE'.** Do you as a higher education institution need support or do you have questions on this topic? Don't hesitate to contact the EAIE Expert Community ACCESS, Ahead, siho, MIUSA…

EAIE Access and Diversity

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