

CALL for APPLICATIONS

Emerging Regional Centre of Excellence

ERCE 2018-2022

ERCE is a label awarded by the EMS to centres showing an outstanding level in its area of influence in research and education, being attractor of students from other regions and countries. Indeed the education of Master and PhD students is an asset for raising the quality and the diffusion of mathematics worldwide and it has particular value in the developing world. ERCE centres are selected among those which play an important role in training students in their region particularly coming from less developed areas and countries.

With the global proliferation of emerging economies worldwide there are among developing countries varying degrees of development, just as among the developed world. In order to benefit from this situation our strategy of cooperation and help has to be adapted to the different levels of development. Very good centres exist in emerging economies where students from the least developed regions can be trained to the master level or higher. After the master degree the most talented students may wish to pursue further education and they would be eligible for a PhD. This would enrich their countries of origin once back. An education obtained in these good regional centres is surely effective in fighting the brain drain, while also cost effective in obtaining a full degree.

In this spirit the first ERCE centre was awarded in 2011. Since then 9 institutes have been awarded. Please visit the webpage of the EMS Committee for Developing Countries, under the page ERCE, for a complete list:

<http://euro-math-soc.eu/EMS-CDC/erce.php>

With the success of this scheme the committee is now opening a new call for applications.

Here after follow some details.

About ERCE

The ERCE label is a recognition of excellence awarded for a period of four years. It provides a number of advantages to the awarded institution:

- The label adds prestige and visibility to the centre, which will then likely attract more and better students.
- Often, in turn, this will secure funding from local and regional sources.

Moreover, the CDC maintains a particular relationship with these centres:

- The CDC will give support and advice whenever needed. Since this will be considered a core activity of the CDC's mission, the centre will get priority of the CDC's time and resources.
- The CDC will provide advise and help to those students who wish to and are capable of continuing their studies after their MSc.
- The CDC will try to send experienced lecturers to give short or medium courses, e.g. by involving the Voluntary Lecturers Scheme run by the IMU.
- The CDC will seek European hosts for researchers from these centres for visits and/or collaborations.
- The CDC will make available small grants for members of the centres to attend conferences when appropriate.

How to apply

The application has to be sent by **e-mail** to the address:

EMS Office <ems-office@helsinki.fi>

Deadline for this application is: **February 15th, 2018**

The application has to be written in English and should be as comprehensive as possible. Hereafter a list of important pieces of information that any application should contain:

1. ERCE centre Director
 - Name, title, address of affiliation, contacts including email
 - CV
2. The vision about the ERCE centre
 - The vision about the centre and how this will play a leading role in the region
 - Plans with horizon of 4 years on how to implement such vision
3. Background material about the Applying Institute
 - a. Webpage address of the institute (in English)
 - b. General presentation of the Centre: location, facilities
 - c. List of academic staff (professors, lecturers, PhD students) that will be associated to the ERCE centre, with details of the subject area of interest and possibly homepages
 - d. List of publications of the academic staff involved in the ERCE centre with weight in the last 10 years
 - e. List of Master programs (description)
 - f. List of PhD programs (description), if applicable
 - g. Number of students (national and international) subscribed at the Master/PhD programs (weight to the last 4 years). For international students, add information of the country of origin
 - h. Information about the policy of enrolment of international students (qualification requested, subscription fees, grants, etc.)