

Text on NOVA to be published on the NOVA member institutions' websites

IAH – 20 January 2015

NOVA - what can NOVA offer you?

The Nordic Forestry, Veterinary and Agricultural University Network (NOVA), is a university cooperation aimed at supporting the understanding of major global challenges in a Nordic context. Our main task is to initiate, administer, promote and financially support cooperation between the Nordic universities on PhD and Master's level education.

The NOVA member institutions cooperate based on the belief that together we are stronger. The Nordic countries are similar in many ways in terms of conditions for land use and ideas about how to build capacity to meet future challenges facing the world. As a cooperation platform, NOVA operates on the basis of the core value of nurturing and strengthening the Nordic dimension. We wish to enhance the adoption of good practices within the Nordic countries. We provide a platform for networking between Nordic postgraduate students and senior researchers through facilitating high quality, international level education for postgraduate students.

Students

Why take a NOVA course?

- NOVA provides high quality, international level education. Courses are planned, run and taught by a group of leading Nordic teachers and researchers. The teaching is based on the latest scientific results using adequate teaching methods.
- A NOVA course will give you international experience and good networking possibilities with students and teachers in your field. Courses are in general intensive courses and are held in one of the Nordic or Baltic countries. Course participants are Nordic and other international students.
- NOVA offers PhD and Master's courses. Master's students may inquire vacancy for PhD courses from the contact listed on the course's NOVA webpage.
- As a NOVA student, you do not pay any course fee. To check if you are a NOVA student, please see [this link](#).
- NOVA does not cover accommodation and travel costs for NOVA PhD students.
- NOVA Master's students can apply for coverage of travel and living costs from [Nordplus](#).
- The course leader/institution offering the course handles the admission. Please see information on the course's NOVA webpage.

- There is a [local NOVA coordinator](#) at your institution who can help you with information on NOVA.

For NOVA's course catalogue, please go to the NOVA website www.nova-university.org.

Teachers

How to acquire grant money from NOVA? It is an easy process to apply for support for Nordic collaborative postgraduate courses or other projects.

- The following types of expenses can be covered in accordance with NOVA rules (for Master's courses some of these expenses might be covered by [Nordplus](#) instead of NOVA): travel, accommodation, external teacher, meals, miscellaneous (e.g. venue, material and transport) and administration. Please review the rules carefully as there are restrictions/limitations on expenses.
- Applications are submitted in NOVA's online application system. An electronic form and NOVA's budget template must be filled in. Your home institution will evaluate your application after it has been submitted in the online application system.
- For applications for [PhD courses](#) and [Master's courses exceeding EUR 5 000](#), there are three application deadlines per year. Applications are reviewed by the NOVA Board three times a year. In 2015, these are the application deadlines:

Application deadline to home institution	Application deadline to NOVA	Board's approval	Course implementation
19 February	5 March	26 March	Autumn 2015 or 2016
21 May	4 June	25-26 June	2016
2 October	16 October	6 November	2016

- There is no application deadline for [Master's courses not exceeding EUR 5 000](#) and for [other projects not exceeding EUR 5 000](#). The NOVA executive committee will approve these applications continuously.
- In the budget for 2015, EUR 170 000 is set aside for PhD courses and EUR 50 000 is set aside for Master's courses and other projects.

- For successful PhD course applications applied for after 1 January 2015, NOVA can cover administration by 10% of total costs of the course* + EUR 2 500. This amount can be spent freely on administration, but must be reported.
- There is a [local NOVA coordinator](#) at your institution who can help you with information on NOVA.
- Potential applicants, please go to the NOVA website www.nova-university.org.

* In the final disbursement, the allotted amount will be 10% of the actual costs, but can never exceed 10% of the total grant. It is not a fixed amount. Independent of the 10% in administration fees budgeted in the grant, the NOVA Board will provide an additional grant in the amount of maximum EUR 2 500 to cover administration, regardless of actual costs.