

# Questions and Answers: Interact Academy

October 2023



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Furthermore, understanding and knowledge evolves throughout the programming period. If you spot a something out of date or inconsistent, please contact us at [communication@interact.eu](mailto:communication@interact.eu)

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**Interact**



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# Table of contents

- 1. Interact Academy ..... 3
  - 1.1. Overview ..... 3
- 2. Who can enrol in certified trainings ..... 4
  - 2.1. Who is the primary audience? ..... 4
  - 2.2. Is there a limit to the number of people who can take a certified training?.. 4
  - 2.3. My Interreg programme is ending, can I enrol? ..... 4
  - 2.4. I am a trainee, can I enrol?..... 4
  - 2.5. If a cohort is over-subscribed, what happens?..... 4
- 3. Participation, in person and timing ..... 5
  - 3.1. Do all certified trainings have a physical event? ..... 5
  - 3.2. What if I do not attend the physical training? ..... 5
  - 3.3. Do I have to attend a physical event?..... 5
  - 3.4. Will Interact provide funding to support participation ..... 5
  - 3.5. When will the training(s) take place ..... 5
- 4. Courses and future plans ..... 6
  - 4.1. What courses are currently available..... 6
  - 4.1. What language(s) will courses be available in? ..... 6
  - 4.2. Who delivers the trainings? ..... 6
- 5. How do I enrol?..... 7
  - 5.1. Where do I enrol..... 7
  - 5.2. What are my log in credentials ..... 7
  - 5.3. I forgot my password, what should I do? ..... 7

# 1. Interact Academy

## 1.1 Overview

The Interact Academy offers certified trainings and short courses aiming to equip Interreg programme staff with enhanced skills and knowledge, enabling them to fulfil their roles with confidence and efficiency.

The Academy offers certified trainings which will take place in cohorts of around 25 people. This will allow for deep learning to take place and enable participants to build a network of professionals at a similar stage of their careers.

Certified trainings are made up of components, which may include different self-paced online learning parts and in-person training at set times in specified locations.

The first two certified trainings are Interreg Project management and Storytelling for Interreg. The trainings draw on the best practices of the wider Interreg community and are focused on practical learning based on adult educational approaches.

The Academy also offers six self-paced short courses, similar to the offer in the Online Learning Platform. More short courses will be made available soon.

## **2. Who can enrol in certified trainings**

### **2.1 Who is the primary audience?**

The main target audience for the Interact Academy is staff from all Interreg programme bodies. This includes all four strands of Interreg cooperation, as well as internal and external (IPA, NEXT and OMR) programmes.

Depending on the training, other persons who work in relation to Interreg programmes, for instance bodies providing an accounting function, may also be regarded as part of the target audience.

### **2.2 Is there a limit to the number of people who can take a certified training?**

Individual cohorts for certified trainings are limited to around 25 people. Multiple cohorts can be offered each year, to respond to programme needs.

### **2.3 My Interreg programme is ending, can I enrol?**

We accept anyone currently working for an Interreg programme. This would not affect your opportunity to enrol.

### **2.4 I am a trainee, can I enrol?**

Depending on the course, and with the support of your hosting programme yes.

### **2.5 If a cohort is over-subscribed, what happens?**

Certified trainings are designed to be run multiple times per year, responding to the need of programmes.

If an individual training is oversubscribed, a prioritisation will be made to ensure the spaces are offered as best they can be in the first cohort. This is the same process as applied to the training camps which were similarly limited. Factors in prioritisation can include how well an individual's profile matches the target audience description, whether the programme has other applicants and other factors which ensure a diversity of geography, regions and individuals in the training cohort.

Individuals who are not successful in applying in the first cohort would likely have a prioritisation in a subsequent cohort.

## **3. Participation, in person and timing**

### **3.1 Do all certified trainings have a physical event?**

Some certified trainings will be offered which are wholly online, but most will have a physical training component.

Where a certified training includes an in-person element it is mandatory.

We appreciate this is a challenge for programmes, in-person elements are always carefully considered, to ensure they have a high value-added element for participants.

Especially in programmes targeted at beginners, the in-person element is important to help them build a network and expand their knowledge of the Interreg context.

### **3.2 What if I do not attend the physical training?**

Failure to attend the physical element, or to complete any mandatory component of a certified training will mean it cannot be completed, and no certificate can be issued.

Where this is due to unforeseen circumstances, Interact will consider how to respond in a case-by-case basis.

### **3.3 Do I have to attend a physical event?**

Some certified trainings will be offered which are wholly online.

Where a certified training includes an in-person element it is mandatory.

### **3.4 Will Interact provide funding to support participation?**

Interact offers the services free of charge to participants, i. e. there is no charge by Interact for attending an event or activity.

Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation costs.

This is in line with all services provided by Interact.

### **3.5 When will the training(s) take place?**

All synchronous elements within the certified training will be delivered during the work day. Some components can be undertaken in your own time (asynchronous elements).

All synchronous activities (both online and physical) are defined in the course specifications. You should ensure your availability prior to enrolment.

## **4. Courses and future plans**

### **4.1 What courses are currently available?**

At launch, there are two Certified Trainings and six Short Courses available.

More courses will be available in 2024. Please consult the Academy website, and the Interact website for more details.

All new courses will be announced via the Interact Newsflash.

### **4.2 What language(s) will courses be available in?**

All courses will be available in English.

While many elements can be translated by participants, the language of instruction and all discussion, shall be English.

### **4.3 Who delivers the trainings?**

The Interact staff are the trainers. As Certified Trainings are offered multiple times per annum, there is a high importance on the consistency of the trainer.

Of course, Interact draws extensively on the knowledge of programmes to ensure the content of the courses are appropriate and resolve the real challenges faced by practitioners.

Interact is grateful for the ongoing support of Interreg Programmes to share knowledge and best practice.

## **5. How do I enrol?**

### **5.1 Where do I enrol?**

You can enrol now at [Academy.Interact.eu](https://Academy.Interact.eu).

### **5.2 What are my log in credentials?**

The platform uses single sign on, the Username and Password you use to access Interact events powers the platform.

### **5.3 I forgot my password, what should I do?**

You can request to reset your password at: [apps.interact-eu.net](https://apps.interact-eu.net)