CUOS Regulations for Merger Subsidies

General

Article 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this scheme, the following definitions apply:

a. University, the UG: the University of Groningen.
b. Executive Board, the Board: The Board of the University of Groningen.
c. CUOS: The Central Implementing Body for Student Organizations.
d. Regulations: the CUOS Regulations.
e. Merger subsidy: the monetary contribution from the CUOS, provided to the merging organizations, for the purpose of (partially) covering the notarial costs associated with the merger between two or more student organizations.
f. Granting of subsidy: the decision of the CUOS to make a subsidy conditionally available.
g. Organization: student organization that focuses on (part of) the student community in the municipality of Groningen and that works in the interest of students, is substantially open to all students and whose executive board consists of students.
h. Determination of subsidy: the decision of the CUOS to make a final award of a subsidy.
i. Fiscal year: fiscal year of the CUOS, being the period from January 1 to December 31.
j. Student: a person who is enrolled at the UG against payment of tuition fees, with the rights referred to in Article 7.34 HRA attached to the enrolment.

Article 2. Organizations eligible for the Merger Subsidy

To be eligible for support with the Merger Subsidy, an organization must meet all of the following conditions:

1. To be eligible for Merger Subsidy support, the organizations in question must:
    a. be included in the Student Support Fund Scheme of the academic year in which the application for Merger Subsidy is made, or
    b. have received another grant from the CUOS in the academic year in which the application for Merger Subsidy is made.

Article 3. Financial Necessity

Financial support will be granted only to the extent that a financial need for support is demonstrated by the organization(s). It will be established afterwards whether this financial need actually existed.

Article 4. Subsidy ceiling

An annual amount of €2000 is available for the Merger Subsidy. A total maximum amount of €1000 per merger may be awarded to the organization(s) concerned.

Article 5. The application procedure

An organization may apply throughout the year at cuos.aanvraag@rug.nl. Applications for a Merger Subsidy will only be considered by the CUOS if organizations provide the following information:

a. a fully completed Merger Subsidy application form.

Article 6. Additional information.
The CUOS may request additional information for a proper assessment.

Article 7. Content-related assessment criteria
The CUOS will first assess the application on the basis of the conditions in Article 2. A submitted application will then be assessed by the CUOS in terms of content on the following points:

a. The quality and substantiation of the application, in particular the need for a merger;
b. The objectives and vision of the new organization to be created;
c. The organizational approach, including at least the feasibility and timeline;
d. The amount and reasonableness of the costs;
e. The ability and commitment of the organization(s) to generate their own income;
f. The relationship between the amount of the requested subsidy and the organization(s)' own resources.

Decision

Article 8. Preliminary decision
1. Within six weeks of considering an application, the CUOS will make a preliminary decision and notify the applicant.
2. A preliminary decision includes:
    a. The amount of the subsidy awarded;
3. what further information the organization must provide and/or the conditions under which the subsidy will be finally determined.
4. After sending the preliminary decision awarding the subsidy, the subsidy amount is paid.
5. The applicant has the opportunity to submit a view to the CUOS within ten working days of the sending of the preliminary decision.

Article 9. Justification
No later than eight weeks after completion of that for which a subsidy was received, the organization shall send a financial account to the CUOS of the use of the funds granted.

Article 10. Reduction of subsidy amount
The CUOS is authorized to reduce the subsidy or to set it at € 0 if:
1. the activities for which the subsidy was granted have not taken place or have not taken place in their entirety;
2. the organization has not properly accounted for the activities carried out and the associated income and expenditure;
3. the organization provided incorrect or incomplete data, and the provision of correct or complete data would have led to a different decision on the subsidy award;
4. the subsidy award was otherwise incorrect and the organization knew or should have known this.

Article 11. Final decision
On the basis of the documents provided under Article 9 and the possible applicability of Article 10, the CUOS will make a final decision on the subsidy.

Article 12. Objection
1. The decisions of the CUOS regarding the distribution of the Merger Subsidy shall be deemed to have been taken on behalf of the Board.
2. An objection to the decision taken on the basis of these regulations may be sent to the Board within six weeks of the publication of the decision, pursuant to the General Administrative Law Act (Awb).

Article 13. Unforeseen cases
In those cases not provided for in these regulations, the CUOS shall decide.

Article 14. Citation
This scheme may be cited as the CUOS Regulations for Merger Subsidies.

Article 15. Language
This scheme has been translated into English from Dutch. In case the Dutch and English texts can be interpreted differently, the Dutch text will prevail.

Article 16. Entry into force
These regulations shall enter into force on September 1, 2025.