

NOTICE

opening the call for applications for granting de minimis aid under the de minimis aid scheme for supporting the activity of air operators operating flights to/from "Transilvania - Targu Mures" Airport, in order to promote tourism in Mures County and the areas served by the airport

The Mures County Council, as a de minimis aid provider within the *de minimis aid scheme for supporting the activity of air operators operating flights to/from "Transilvania - Targu Mures" Airport, in order to promote tourism in Mures County and the areas served by the airport*, hereby announces the opening of the call for applications for the granting of de minimis aid within the budget of 1,500,000 Euro, for a period of 3 years, as follows: 500,000 Euro in the first year, 500,000 Euro in the 2nd year and 500,000 Euro in the last year.

Contact details of de minimis aid providers:

Mures County Council

Seat: Piața Victoriei, nr.1, municipality Târgu Mureș, county Mureș

E-mail: cjmures@cjmures.ro

Contact details of the airport manager:

Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania - Târgu Mureș".

Seat: Șoseaua Tg-Mures-Luduș (E 60) km.14,5, Mures county, loc. Vidrasău

E-mail: office@transylvaniaairport.ro

1. Objective of the scheme

The objective of the measure is to develop local tourism by stimulating airlines to operate scheduled flights to/from "Transilvania - Târgu Mureș" Airport, respectively to increase the number of passengers travelling through "Transilvania - Târgu Mureș" Airport, thus contributing to the increase of the number of tourists and the development of the local economy.

2. Legal grounds

- COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 2023/2831 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid;
- Government Emergency Ordinance no.77/2014 on national procedures in the field of state aid, as well as amending and supplementing Competition Law no.21/1996, approved with amendments and additions by Law no.20/2015, with subsequent amendments and additions;
- Law no.15/1990 on the reorganisation of the state economic units as autonomous regii and commercial companies, with subsequent amendments and additions;
- 398/1997 Government Decision no.398/1997 on the transfer of some autonomous airport companies from the authority of the Ministry of Transport to the authority of county councils;
- Government Emergency Ordinance no.57/2019 on the Administrative Code, with subsequent amendments and additions.





Option No 7374/29.05.2025, issued by the Romanian Competition Council;

- Mures County Council Decision no.97 of 26.06.2025 on the approval of the de minimis aid scheme to support the activity of air operators operating flights to/from "Transilvania - Targu Mures" Airport, in order to promote tourism in Mures County and the areas served by the airport (<https://ro.cjmures.ro/consiliul-judetean/hotarari/hotararea-nr-97-din-26-iunie-2025-privind-approbarea-schemei-de-ajutor-de-minimis-pentru-sustinerea-activitatii-operatorilor-aerieni-care-opereaza-zboruri-la-de-la-aeroportul-transilvania/>)

3. Eligibility conditions

Airlines that undertake to operate scheduled flights to/from Transilvania Târgu Mureş Airport for at least 3 consecutive months within a period of one year, with a minimum frequency of one weekly flight per proposed destination, and fulfil the following eligibility criteria may benefit from state aid under the scheme:

- a) hold an air operating licence issued in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 on common rules for the operation of air services in the EU; (copy of operating licence to be attached)
- b) hold compulsory insurance against accidents covering passengers, baggage, cargo and third parties in accordance with the terms of Regulation (EC) No 785/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on insurance requirements for air carriers and aircraft operators; (copy of insurance to be attached)
- c) is not on the European Commission's blacklist of airlines that fail to meet safety standards, published at: <http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air-ban/> - Fill in the declaration of conformity - Form 1;
- d) hold a European Air Operator Certificate (AOC) or similar document issued by a competent authority in their country of origin; (copy of AOC to be attached)
- e) the total amount of de minimis aid received over a period of 3 years, cumulated with the amount of the financial allocation granted in accordance with the provisions of this procedure, does not exceed the equivalent in RON of 300,000 Euro, calculated at the RON/EUR exchange rate on the date of signing the financing agreement - Declaration according to *Form F2*;
- e) no decisions of the European Commission to recover state aid have been issued against them or, if such decisions have been issued, they have been executed, in accordance with the legal provisions in force - Fill in Declaration according to - *Form 3*;
- f) are not insolvent, have their affairs administered by a court, have no business restrictions, are not subject to creditors' arrangements, are not subject to any arrangements with creditors, are not in difficulty on 31 December 2024, as defined in Article 2(18) of REGULATION (EU) No 651/2009/2014 of the Commission of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended and supplemented by Regulation (EU) No 1084/2017 - Fill in declaration in accordance with - *Form no.4*, to which the financial statements closed on 31.12.2024 and the proof of registration with the State authorities, according to the legislation of the State where the air carrier is registered, shall be attached;
- g) have no public debts and have paid on time their taxes, duties and other contributions to the state budget, special budgets and local budgets provided for by the legislation in force; (a tax





certificate issued by the authorities of the state where the airline has its tax domicile shall be attached);

h) has no outstanding debts towards the airport manager, Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania -Târgu Mureș" (Letter of confirmation of outstanding debts issued by Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania- Târgu Mureș");

i) the legal representative has not been convicted by a final judgement of a court of res judicata for professional conduct contrary to the law - Fill in the declaration according to *Form no.5*;

j) submit a written commitment to operate scheduled flights from/to Transilvania Targu Mures Airport, specifying the routes and weekly frequencies proposed for flight operations from/to this airport - To be filled in - *Form no.6*;

k) submit a written commitment regarding the allocated budget and the number of actions to promote the county of Mures and the areas served by Transilvania Airport - Targu Mures for the agreed period (minimum 3 months) - To be filled in - *Form no.7*.

4. Budget allocated

The total budget allocated to the scheme is 1,500,000 Euro, equivalent in RON at the National Bank of Romania exchange rate valid on the date of payment of the de minimis aid, for a period of 3 years.

The amount of de minimis aid will be a maximum of 100,000 Euro / year per beneficiary airline and no more than 300,000 Euro cumulated / 3 years per beneficiary.

The estimated minimum number of beneficiaries of this scheme is 2 (two) airlines and the maximum is 5 (five) airlines.

All applications received by the deadline will be examined and only those that fulfil the eligibility conditions will be submitted for assessment with a view to granting de minimis aid.

Selected applicants will receive de minimis aid at the level of the expenses for the promotion of the county of Mures and flights to/from "Transilvania-Târgu Mures" Airport, provided that they fulfil the obligations to operate scheduled flights undertaken by contract.

The de minimis aid will be paid by the Mures County Council in quarterly instalments, based on supporting documents drawn up by the airline company and submitted electronically to the airport manager: Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania-Târgu Mureș", by the 5th of the month following the quarter for which the payment is requested.

Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania-Târgu Mureș" will carry out quarterly compliance checks on flights to/from Transilvania-Târgu Mureș Airport and will draw up a quarterly report comparing the frequency/number of flights to/from Transilvania-Târgu Mureș Airport and the number of promotion actions undertaken under the financial aid financing contract and the actual achievements as shown in the supporting documents.

The quarterly report shall be submitted in original to the provider of de minimis aid - Mures County Council, by the 10th of the month following the month for which the payment is requested, together with the supporting documents submitted by the airline and shall be the basis for the payment of the de minimis aid.

Airlines resident in Romania, shall submit to the de minimis aid provider, by the date of conclusion of the contract, proof of opening an account in RON at the Romanian State Treasury.





Airlines non-resident in Romania, shall submit to the de minimis aid provider, by the date of conclusion of the contract, proof of opening an account in "Euro" currency with a credit institution.

5. Evaluation of submitted applications

i) Assessment of eligibility criteria

Interested airlines should send their applications together with the documents proving fulfilment of the eligibility criteria mentioned in point 3 of this notice in electronic format to the following e-mail address office@transylvaniaairport.ro.

ii. The following assessment factors will be used for the selection of beneficiaries in order to grant State aid:

- the budget allocated by the Marketing Plan for the promotion of Mures County and flights to/from "Transylvania - Targu Mures" Airport;
- Aircraft capacities to be used for flights to/from "Transylvania - Targu Mures" Airport.

The score for each assessment factor will be as follows:

Evaluation factor	Maximum points
1. Budget allocated by the Marketing Plan for the promotion of Mures County and flights to/from "Transylvania - Targu Mures" Airport	60
2. Capacities of aircraft to be used for flights to/from Transylvania - Targu Mures Airport (no. of aircraft seats x weekly frequency x no. of weeks assumed)	40
TOTAL	100

Method of calculation

- The score for each applicant will be calculated as follows:

a. For each of the evaluation factors, the best offer will receive the maximum score. For example: The highest value will be awarded the maximum score allocated to the evaluation factor.

b. For other bids below the maximum, the score will be prorated as follows: $P(\text{score}) = (\text{offer} \times \text{maximum score}) / \text{best offer}$.

The total score of the de minimis aid applications will result from the sum of the scores obtained for each factor. Applications will be ranked in descending order according to the total score obtained. The first-placed airline will be allocated the amount requested, but no more than the aid limit (i.e. the equivalent in lei of 100,000 euro/year, subject to the rules on cumulation). The second-placed airline will be allocated the amount requested, but no more than the aid ceiling, in proportion to the points obtained and subject to the cumulation rules.

After verifying the eligibility and selection criteria, "Autonomous Administration Aeroportul Transilvania-Târgu Mureş" will inform the airline in writing about the potential aid amount





(expressed in gross grant equivalent) and its de minimis character, explicitly referring to Regulation (EU) No 2831/2023 and mentioning its title and publication reference in the Official Journal of the European Union, waiting 5 calendar days for the airline's point of view.

If the airline is not eligible to receive a specific allocation under this de minimis aid scheme procedure, the airport operator shall notify the airline in writing.

In case of a positive response from the airline company, Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania-Târgu Mureș" will forward to the Mures County Council the documents proving the fulfilment of the eligibility conditions, accompanied by a report with the proposal to conclude the financing contract.

Mures County Council will conclude contracts with the beneficiaries for the granting of financial aid until the budget is completely exhausted, but no later than 31.12.2028.

6. Date, place and method of applying

Applications for de minimis aid, drawn up in accordance with the attached model, together with the documents proving fulfilment of the eligibility criteria set out in point 3 of this notice, must be submitted electronically to the following e-mail address :office@transylvaniaairport.ro from the date of publication of the notice until **31.08.2025, 18.00 local time (+2 GMT)**.

Within 5 working days after the deadline for submitting the applications for de minimis aid, Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania Târgu Mureș" will carry out the following operations: verifying applications and accompanying documents, assessing applications, selecting airlines and informing them of the potential amount of de minimis aid or of the non-fulfilment of eligibility conditions.

In case of a positive reply from the airline company, Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania-Târgu Mureș" will forward to Mures County Council the documents proving the fulfilment of the eligibility conditions, accompanied by a report with the proposal to conclude the financing contract, within 1 working day.

Verification of the reports and publication of the selection results will be made within 5 working days from the date of their registration with the de minimis aid provider - Mures County Council.

Contracts will be finalised and signed within 10 working days from the date of publication of the selection results.

6. Forms:

- State aid application;
- Form no.1 "*Affidavit of compliance with safety standards*";
- Form no.2 "*Declaration on de minimis aid granted to airlines in Romania*";
- Form 3 "*Affidavit concerning European Commission decisions to recover state aid*";
- Form no.4 "*Affidavit on not being a business in difficulty*";
- Form no 5 "*Declaration on the absence of criminal and tax records*;
- Form no.6 "*Commitment to operate scheduled flights to and from "Aeroportul Transilvania Targu Mures for the agreed period (minimum 3 months)*";
- Form no.7 "*Commitment regarding the allocated budget and the number of actions to promote the county of Mures and the areas served by Transilvania Airport - Targu Mures during the agreed period (minimum 3 months)*".





All documents will be submitted in English and Romanian and will be signed by the authorised persons.

In order to be taken into account the application for de minimis aid, accompanied by the relevant documentation, it is mandatory the confirmation of their receipt by the airport manager - Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania Târgu Mureş".

Any clarifications regarding the call for applications should be sent during the call for applications to the following e-mail address: office@transylvaniaairport.ro.

Potential beneficiaries may request clarifications similar to the way in which the application for de minimis aid is submitted, under penalty of disregard, until 13.05.2025, 23:59, and shall contain, under the same penalty, the indication that it constitutes a request for clarification to this notice, the applicant's identification data and mailing address. The answers to these requests will be sent by the same route no later than 21.08.2025 and will be displayed/published on the website of Mures County Council and of the Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania Targu Mures in the section dedicated to the notice.

Further information about Mures County Council, Transilvania Targu Mures Airport, tourist attractions and business opportunities in Mures County and the areas served by the airport can be obtained from the following websites: www.cjmures.ro, www.aeroportultransilvania.ro and www.visitmures.com.

If the allocated budget will not be exhausted, a new call for applications will be opened within at least 6 months.

MURES COUNTY COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Péter Ferenc

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Paul Cosma

Drawn-up by: Working group according to Provision no.222/09.07.2025:

President: Alin Mărginean - Executive Director of the Economic Directorate;

Members: Peti Andrei, President of the Board of Directors of the Autonomous Administration "Aeroportul Transilvania Targu Mures;

Rodica Mazilu - Counsellor at the Wealth and Corporate Governance Department;

Friss Csaba - Counsellor at the Budget Service;

Kakasi Andras - Counsellor at the Legal Department.



The undersigned, Tănase Alexandru, professional translator No. 25200/2009, I hereby certify that this is an accurate translation of the document presented to me.

Subsemnatul, Tănase Alexandru, interpret și traducător autorizat pentru limba străină engleză în temeiul autorizației 37315 /MJ, certific exactitatea traducerii efectuate din limba română în limba engleză,

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Translator

