

Funded opportunities for work experience placements in Kosovo

STUDENT CALL 2023-24

This call is now open for students to undertake work experience placements in Kosovo. This opportunity is available to both undergraduate and post graduate students as outlined in the summary below. The application deadline is **Sunday 18 February 2024**

All details including the eligibility criteria are outlined below.

Summary

What	Work experience placements in Kosovo					
	<p>Option 1</p> <p>Placements within civil society organisations or the Programme of Gender Research and Studies</p> <p>Eligibility: Students from Levels 5 to 8 within programmes of study in the fields of Social Sciences and the Humanities.</p>	<p>Option 2</p> <p>Placements within the University of Prishtina International relations Office followed by attendance at the university summer school</p> <p>Eligibility: All students</p>				
Where	Prishtina, Kosovo					
When	28-day minimum placement, maximum duration can be up to 12-months. Note most Kosovan organisations will close for several weeks during August for summer holidays.					
Application	The Turing Scheme funding application will also serve as the activity application – see here for further details (including link to application). Successful candidates will be shortlisted and invited to attend a short interview.					
Funding	<p>Turing Scheme at BU</p> <p>Successful students will receive a cost-of-living grant from the Turing Scheme at BU to help offset some of the costs of undertaking the experience. Students from certain groups (WP students) are eligible for an additional cost-of-living uplift and a travel grant. See more information on WP criteria here.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Total Grant for non-WP student</td> <td>£480 for 1 month</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Grant for WP-student</td> <td>£840 for 1 month</td> </tr> </table> <p>90% of the total grant is paid before the activity. The remaining 10% is paid after post-activity paperwork is submitted.</p> <p>Placement Opportunity Fund</p> <p>Where the activity is undertaken as part of a degree placement, UK Home students may be eligible for additional funding for specific expenses through the BU Placement Opportunity Fund. Visit https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/students/help-advice/financial-support/placement-opportunity-fund for more information.</p>		Total Grant for non-WP student	£480 for 1 month	Total Grant for WP-student	£840 for 1 month
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Traineeship Details

Bournemouth University's Department of Social Sciences & Social Work (including several criminology, sociology, and social work programmes and led by the BA (hons) programme in Sociology and Social Anthropology) has a long-standing partnership with the University of Prishtina (UP). BU has previously sent Social Science students to Kosovo to undertake work experience placements within a range of civil society organisations or at the University of Prishtina within the Programme of Gender Research and Studies or the International Relations Office. Previous external placements have taken place at Outdoor Kosovo, the Kosovar Centre for Security Studies, Bear Sanctuary Prishtina, and the Humanitarian Law Centre Kosovo.

Option 1

This summer, up to six BU students from Levels 5 to 8 within programmes of study in the fields of Social Sciences and the Humanities can undertake work experience placements in Kosovo. The placement location will be agreed between the successful students, BU's Department of Social Sciences & Social Work and our partner academics at the University of Prishtina. Students may also be able to arrange to take part in University of Prishtina's two-week international summer school in June as a component of the placement. This is subject to a separate application and will need to be agreed with the placement provider and UP's International Relations Office.

Option 2

Additionally, up to three BU students from any level and programme can undertake work experience placements in the International Office at University of Prishtina, supporting the team to deliver the annual UP Summer School. This would include a minimum of two weeks placement followed by attendance or volunteering at the summer school, which will take place in early July.

Students taking part in placements will:

- Gain understanding of the relevance of local experience, knowledge, and perspectives in addressing post-conflict developmental challenges.
- Gain increased cultural awareness and sensitivity.
- Gain specific skills and knowledge related to the placement provider's area of work and the activities or projects carried out.

Costs, Travel and Accommodation

There is no anticipated cost for the placements in CSOs or at the Programme of Gender Research and Studies. Students will need to cover their travel expenses and their living expenses for the duration of their stay in Kosovo. There are regular flights between the UK and Kosovo, and Prishtina is a short distance from the airport. Students will need to arrange their own accommodation with private providers. The Faculty of Health and Social Sciences can provide some guidance with this. If students plan to take part in the University of Prishtina's summer school then separate arrangements and small fees may apply.

For students on placements in the International Office, accommodation is available in student dormitories and food would be available at the student canteen, all for a small fee of approximately €150 per month for accommodation and €20 per month for catering. The cost of the summer school is €100 which includes accommodation and all meals.

Turing Scheme funds are provided as a contribution towards these costs.

Who is eligible?

Internships within CSOs or the Programme of Gender Research and Studies is specifically open for undergraduate and post-graduate students at Levels 5 to 8 who are studying programmes within the fields of Social Sciences or Humanities across BU, such as Social Anthropology, Sociology, Criminology, Law, Politics, Gender Studies, or History. Students from other programmes may apply but will need to demonstrate a strong application with reference to their interest in and benefits gained from a placement in a civil society organisation in Kosovo.

Internships with the International Relations Office and attendance at the UP summer school is open to all BU students with an interest in spending time in Kosovo.

All successful students will receive a cost-of-living grant.

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Students from **disadvantaged backgrounds** will receive a travel grant as well as higher cost of living grant. To be eligible for a disadvantaged background status, you must meet at least one of the following (1-4):

1. **Household income of £25,000 or below** (as assessed by Student Finance England/Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland),
2. **In receipt of a BU Maintenance Bursary or BU Financial Support Fund for the current 2023/24 academic year.**
3. **You meet one or more of the following:**
 - Student receiving Universal Credit or income-related benefits because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them, such as a child or partner
 - Care-experienced students (Students who have been or are currently in the care system (including living in care with foster carers, living in a children's home) or from a looked after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short, including adopted children who were previously looked after)
 - Students from low participation neighbourhoods (The Office for Students provides a tool to look at how likely young people are to participate in higher education across the UK and shows how this varies by area. A low participation neighbourhood would be one where young people were not likely to participate in higher education).
 - Black and Minority Ethnic Students (UK Home students only)
 - Students who are the first in their family to attend university
 - Mature students (21 or older at start of programme, UG students only)
 - Female students studying STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, as defined by BU)
 - Students with caring responsibilities (Caring responsibilities are providing unpaid care to a family member or friend who could not cope without their support. This may be due to illness, disability, a mental health issue, or substance misuse.)
 - Estranged students (where a student does not have support from their parents due to a breakdown in their relationship or where neither of the student's parents can be found or it is not reasonably practicable to get in touch with either of them)
 - Refugees and asylum seekers
4. **Students with additional learning needs (including students registered with ALS at BU):**
 - The term additional learning needs refers to learners with special education needs (SEN), including those whose SEN arise because they have a long-term disability that has a substantial and long-term effect on the ability to do everyday tasks or are in receipt of Disabled Student Allowance. This would include learners who identify as having a disability, special needs, or medical condition as categorised below:
 - Social/communication impairment such as Asperger's syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
 - Blind or have a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
 - Deaf or have a serious hearing impairment

- A long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- Mental health condition such as depression, schizophrenia, or anxiety disorder
- Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D 13
- Physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using limbs or using a wheelchair or crutches
- Disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above

Applicants who meet the aforementioned criteria must be keen to develop a hands-on work experience in a different cultural context, gain intercultural skills and global awareness, enhance their employability and career prospects, and enrich the world as socially responsible global citizens.

What *will the Turing Scheme funding cover?*

Turing Scheme funding provides grants to support students with **specific costs** related to undertaking their traineeship. The amount of the grant is determined by the length of the mobility and the destination country where the work is being undertaken. The sections below outline standard funding and funding for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Please note that the funding provided through the Turing Scheme is intended **as a contribution towards** the overall costs of undertaking this mobility. It is **NOT INTENDED to cover the entire costs incurred**.

You will receive an initial payment of 90% of funds upfront. After your activity is complete, you will be asked to complete a feedback survey and submit a blog. The remaining 10% will be paid after these requirements have been met.

1. Funding for Students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds

This funding consists of a cost-of-living grant.

Cost of Living Grant

To calculate the cost-of-living grant, destination countries are divided into three groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.turing-scheme.org.uk/funding-opportunities/cost-of-living-groups/>). There is no travel grant for students who are not from disadvantaged backgrounds.

1. For placements in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £545 per month for the first 2 months (or parts of months)
 - b. £380 per month for months (or parts of months) from 9 weeks to 12 months
2. For placements in **Group 2 or 3** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £480 per month for the first 2 months (or parts of months)
 - b. £335 per month for month (or parts of months) from 9 weeks to 12 months

Example Grant calculations for students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Kosovo (Group 3 Country)	28 days	£480 x 1 month	£480

2. Funding for Students from disadvantaged backgrounds

This funding consists of a cost-of-living grant and travel grant. Additional funding is available as outlined below for other costs related to undertaking a mobility.

Cost of Living Grant

To calculate the cost-of-living grant, destination countries are divided into three groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.turing-scheme.org.uk/funding-opportunities/cost-of-living-groups/>).

1. For placements in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £545 per month for the first 2 months (or parts of months) + £110 per month (or parts of months)

- b. £380 per month for months (or parts of months) from 9 weeks to 12 months + £110 per month (or parts of months)
- 2. For placements in **Group 2 or 3** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:
 - a. £480 per month for the first 2 months (or parts of months) + £110 per month (or parts of months)
 - b. £335 per month for month (or parts of months) from 9 weeks to 12 months + £110 per month (or parts of months)

Travel Grant

Travel grants are calculated based on the distance to the destination country. Distances are calculated from Bournemouth University to the city where the traineeship is taking place. To find the distance:

1. Go to Google Maps
2. Right-click on Bournemouth and choose 'Measure Distance'
3. Click on your destination city to create a path to measure
4. The total distance will be displayed in the bottom centre of the map

The rates are as follows:

- 10 to 99km: £20
- 100 to 499km: £165
- 500 to 1,999km: £250
- 2,000 to 2,999km: £325
- 3,000 to 3,999km: £480
- 4,000 to 7,999km: £745
- 8,000 to 12,000km: £905
- 12,000km+: £1360

Supplemental travel funding may be available to cover real travel cost for exceptionally expensive travel.

Other Funding

- Additional funding may be available to offset real costs related to obtaining or updating a passport, obtaining a Visa, or Covid-19 related costs. Receipts are required for these costs to be covered.
- Actual costs for support directly related to **additional learning needs**. Receipts are required for these costs to be covered.

Example Grant calculations for students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Kosovo (Group 3 Country)	28 days	$(£480 \times 1 \text{ month}) + (£110 \times 1 \text{ month}) + (£250 \text{ travel grant})$	£840

Travel Information

Entry Requirements

You must have a valid passport with at least six months remaining from the date of your return departure to the UK.

Visa Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to research whether they will need a visa to enter the specific country where they will undertake their mobility and how long it will take to obtain a visa. Costs associated with visa requirements are covered for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Immunisations (if applicable)

Please refer to the NHS guidelines regarding immunisations:

[Travel vaccinations - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

You will need to book immunisations through your local GP at your own cost. Costs associated with requirement immunisations are covered for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Insurance

BU will provide comprehensive Travel Cover for the duration of the overseas trip. Please note that you might be required by the partner university to purchase a valid medical/health insurance for the duration of your stay.

Applicants are responsible for researching the types of insurance they are required to carry for their destination country. Some countries require specific medical insurance to meet visa conditions (ex: to obtain the relevant visa for a traineeship in the USA, you must hold insurance with \$100,00 or medical benefits, \$25,000 for repatriation of remains, \$50,000 for medical evacuation, and \$500 deductible for accident or illness).

If you are applying to go to a European destination, you could apply for a UK Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC) or use an existing UK European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) if it is still valid.

Please refer to the NHS guidelines regarding the UK GHIC/EHIC:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/healthcare-abroad/apply-for-a-free-uk-global-health-insurance-card-ghic/>

Covid-19 Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to check the Covid-19 entry requirements to the specific country where they will undertake their mobility.

Please refer to the FCDO advice about entry requirements and Covid-19 regulations:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>

Successful applicants will receive further information regarding Covid-19 considerations and travel guidance once they are officially accepted onto the programme.

Covid-19 Travel Implications

- There could be sudden changes that affect your travel plans, including changes to border control advice which may prevent travel and changes to quarantine and/or testing requirements in your host country or when re-entering the UK.
- **BU MUST approve travel before you depart.** Your travel plans should be in line with UK Foreign Correspondence and Development Office advice. Travel approval will be made on a case-by-case basis within two weeks of the start of the traineeship and, where travel is not possible, you may be able to start work remotely, depending on your host organisations requirements.
- Funding will only be paid where physical travel takes place and BU has approved travel in advance.
- The Global Engagement Mobility Team will support you with the funding process. You will also be given support by your Placement Coordinator and Placement Development Advisor for mobilities that are part of a BU placement year.

Where do I apply for funding and how?

Application:

Access your online Turing Scheme at BU application form [here](#). On your Application form you will be asked to complete two main sections:

(1) student information and eligibility requirements

In this section you will be asked to provide your student details including information about the Disadvantaged Background eligibility criteria.

(2) quality assessment

In this section you will be asked to:

- a. Outline any academic and work experience you have that are relevant to your mobility.
- b. Write a brief statement outlining how this experience will help you to develop your intercultural competence

- c. Describe how this experience will positively impact your academic performance
- d. State how this experience will enhance your growth and employability

It is your responsibility to ensure all the necessary information is provided correctly. Incomplete or late applications will be marked as void and removed from the process.

If you have questions about your application – please contact internationalgrants@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Please note the panel's decision is final and we cannot provide individual feedback on applications.

Interview:

If you are shortlisted then you will be invited to attend a short interview with staff from the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, the Global Engagement Hub, and University of Prishtina. Further details will be sent in advance of the interview date.

Am I eligible to apply for future mobility programmes if my application is declined?

If your application is declined, you are able to apply again for a future programme (assuming that you still meet the eligibility criteria).

Important notes

(1) Please ensure your email address is correct. **All communication will be sent to your student email address**, so please check this!

(2) If successful, your participation in the above programme is subject to the placement agreement between you and the placement provider.

Further Information

If you have questions about your application, please contact internationalgrants@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Timeline

Student Call Launch: 15 January 2024

Application deadline: 18 February 2024

Interviews: Friday 23 February 2024