



Turing Scheme funded opportunities in Vietnam – Cultural Immersion Programme

STUDENT CALL 2024-25

The call is now open for undergraduate students and recent graduates, to take part in a Cultural Immersion Programme organised by British University Vietnam (BUV), Ecopark, Hưng Yên, Vietnam.

Spaces available: 1

Duration: 28 days

Dates: mid-June – mid-July 2025 (exact dates tbc)

Application deadline: 21.02.25

All details including the eligibility criteria are outlined below.

Summer Project Details

This call is open to current undergraduate students, and recent graduates (completed an undergraduate course in 2024). Please note, while the programme isn't designed exclusively for academic or professional development and is open to students from all faculties, it may resonate particularly with students from the Business, Tourism/Hospitality, or Computing fields. These areas align with BUV's strengths, and the programme activities might largely focus on these themes.

Itinerary:

Week 1: Orientation

- A comprehensive orientation week where students receive a warm welcome from BUV.
- BUV will provide you with essential information about the programme and introduce you to local students.
- You will also become familiar with Vietnamese life, culture, and people through interactive workshops and activities with BUV faculty, staff, students, or guest speakers.

Week 2-3: Industry and Community Engagement

- You will dive into an immersive exploration of Vietnam's industries and engage with local communities.
- Through site visits, talks, and a work experience week at BUV's corporate partners' offices, you will gain insights into Vietnam's dynamic business landscape.
- There will be opportunities to collaborate with local students whilst driving meaningful community development projects.

Week 4: Culture Exploration & Reflection:

- The final week is dedicated to delving into the heart of Vietnamese culture.

- You will embark on a fascinating journey through historical landmarks, traditional arts and crafts, and culinary delights.
- Guided reflection sessions will allow you to process and share your thoughts on the cultural discoveries you have made during your time in Vietnam.

For more information on BUV, please visit their website [here](#).

BUV Fees:

Programme Fee: \$0 (BUV are offering one programme fee-waived place (usually \$800) to a BU student)
Accommodation*, meals, off-campus cultural trips: \$1000 (approx. £800)

*Please note accommodation is double/triple occupancy. Single occupancy can be arranged at an additional cost and subject to availability.

Total fees to BUV: \$1000 (approx. £800)

Payment must be made at least **one month prior to the start date** of the programme.

Other costs:

You will need to research the below costs before deciding to apply.

- Round-trip airfare to and from Vietnam
- Travel insurance if applicable (recent graduates and Level 6 students who have finished their course before the activity start date are not covered by BU Travel Cover)
- Personal expenses
- Meals that are not included in the programme itinerary

Further details on who is eligible and how to apply are also included below.

Travel and Accommodation

Accommodation for the Cultural Immersion Programme will be provided at standard hotels in Hanoi, ensuring a comfortable and convenient base for students' exploration of the city. Please note, the accommodation will be double/triple occupancy.

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

Who is eligible?

This programme is specifically open to all undergraduate students, and recent graduates (completed an undergraduate course in 2024).

While the programme isn't designed for academic or professional development, it may resonate particularly with students from the Business, Tourism/Hospitality, or Computing fields. These areas align with BUV's strengths, and the programme activities might largely focus on these themes.

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 Hardship Fund for the current 2024/25 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 undergraduate only)
 - Females studying STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, includes programmes as defined by BU)
 - Students who are first in their family to attend university
 - Mature students (21 or older at start of programme, UG only)
 - 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
 - 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. *NB: Turing Scheme funding is intended to be a contribution towards your living costs.*

You will receive an initial payment of 90% of funds upfront after completing a pre-departure session and paperwork. 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 two groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turingscheme-international-study-and-work-placements/list-of-destinations-and-grant-rates>). There is no travel grant for students who are not from disadvantaged backgrounds.

1. For activities in **Group 1** countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:

- a. £19 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
- b. £14 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration

2. For activities in Group 2 or 3 countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:

- a. £17 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
- b. £12 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration

Example Grant calculation for students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Vietnam (Group 3 Country)	28 days	£17 x 28 days	£476.00

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 two groups based on the cost of living in each country (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turing-scheme-international-study-and-work-placements/list-of-destinations-and-grant-rates>)

1. For activities in Group 1 countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:

- a. £23 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
- b. £18 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration

2. For activities in Group 2 or 3 countries/territories, the grants are calculated as follows:

- a. £21 per day for activities from 28-56 days in duration
- b. £16 per day for activities from 57-365 days in duration. Travel Grant Travel grants are up to a maximum amount which is calculated based on the destination country.

Travel Grant

Travel grants are **up to a maximum amount** which is calculated based on the destination country.

Rates for each country can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/turing-scheme-international-study-and-work-placements/list-of-destinations-and-grant-rates>

Actual travel grants are paid based on actual travel spend. Students will be required to submit evidence of their travel expenses. Travel expenses refer to airfare for one return journey to/from the destination country. Commuting costs in country are NOT covered. Travel grants can only cover economy travel and will not cover any upgrades. Where the actual cost of travel is less than the maximum allowed for the destination country, the difference will be subtracted from the final grant payment or invoiced to the student for repayment if needed.

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

Other Funding

- Funding may be available to offset real costs related to:
- Passport costs
- Visa costs (this can include reasonable associated costs like translated documents and police certificates)
- Vaccines
- Travel Insurance
- Medical Certificates
- Actual costs for support directly related to additional learning needs. Receipts are required for these costs to be covered.

Example Grant calculation for students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Vietnam (Group 3 Country)	28 days	(£21 x 28 days) + (up to £905 travel grant)	Up to £1,493

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. If you are a student from a disadvantaged background, you can get financial support to obtain and renew a passport. Please factor this into the timescales of your planned travel.

Applicants will be responsible to check the entry requirements for Vietnam.

Upon arrival, you will be required to undergo a health check at a BUV-designated clinic to take the compulsory medical examination. This is in accordance with Vietnamese law.

Visa Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to research whether they will need a visa to enter Vietnam and how long it will take to obtain a visa.

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.

Insurance

BU will provide comprehensive Travel Insurance for the duration of the overseas trip for current students. If you are graduate, you are not covered by the BU Travel Cover- please organise your own travel/medical insurance. 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 Vietnam. 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).

Covid-19 Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to check the Covid-19 entry requirements to Vietnam.

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 Vietnam 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 and how?

1. Access your online 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.

What will happen next if I am successful?

You will also be required to complete the paperwork for funding and for your traineeship with BUV. This includes:

BU Turing Scheme funding paperwork

- Traineeship Agreement
- Grant Agreement

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 contractual agreement between Bournemouth University and British University Vietnam.

Further Information

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

Timeline

Student Call Launch: 27.01.25

Application deadline: 21.02.25