

Funded opportunities for research traineeships at Manmohan Memorial Institute of Health Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal

STUDENT CALL 2024-25

Summary

What	Research Traineeships				
Where	Manmohan Memorial Institute of Health Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal (MMIHS)				
When	28-day traineeships, date to be agreed between student and MMIHS, 2025				
Who	L6, Masters and PhD students from health disciplines, including but not limited to: Midwifery, Nursing, Nutrition, Public Health, Sports and Exercise Science, and also students from related disciplines such as Health Psychology.				
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 a meeting with the relevant academics to discuss the potential research opportunity before the award will be confirmed.				
Funding	<p><u>Turing Scheme at BU</u></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.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Total Grant for non-WP student</td> <td>£476 (28 days at £17 per day)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Grant for WP-student</td> <td>Up to £1333 (28 days at £21 per day, plus up to £745 travel contribution)</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><u>Placement Opportunity Fund</u></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	£476 (28 days at £17 per day)	Total Grant for WP-student	Up to £1333 (28 days at £21 per day, plus up to £745 travel contribution)
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Traineeship Details

BU has a long-standing partnership with MMIHS, led by the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences. This summer, MMIHS are able to support up to three BU students to undertake research traineeships with a minimum of 28 days duration. These are an excellent opportunity for students to undertake research into a chosen health field to support their undergraduate or Masters level research project. This might be suitable for an elective in the health field, or a small-scale dissertation project in a health discipline or related field. Research subjects could include, but are not limited to, midwifery, nursing, public health, sports and exercise science, media and health, health management, exercise physiology, psychology, migration and health...

Successful applicants will work with FHSS and MMIHS academics to develop the research proposal and plan the research traineeship programme.

Learning outcomes will be tailored to the individual and the specific project, but are likely to include:

- Gaining an understanding of research;
- Developing transferable skills such as literature searching, working with key stakeholders, collecting and analysing data, presentation skills;
- Understanding health challenges in low resource settings.

Costs, Travel and Accommodation

There is no fee for the research traineeship at MMIHS. Students will need to cover their travel and living costs for the duration of their stay in Kathmandu. There are regular flights to Kathmandu from major London airports. The FHSS academics can offer advice on good locations for accommodation and how to travel within Kathmandu.

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

Who is eligible?

These research traineeships are open to L6, Masters and PhD students studying within FHSS and FST who would like to undertake research in the field of health as outlined above.

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 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 Home students only)
- Mature students (21 or older at start of programme, UG only)
- Students who are first in their family to attend university.
- 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
 - 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 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>). 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 Dates and Duration (exact dates TBC)	Calculation	Total Grant
Nepal (Group 2 Country)	Dates to be agreed with MMIHS	£17 x 28 days	£476

2. **Funding for Students from disadvantaged backgrounds**

This funding consists of a cost-of-living grant, a cost-of-living uplift, and a 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. 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 calculations for students from disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
Nepal (Group 2 Country)	Dates to be agreed with MMIHS	(£21 x 28 days = £588) + up to £745 travel grant	Up to £1,333

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.

Visa Requirements

Applicants will be responsible to research whether they will need a visa to enter Nepal 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 \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://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.

Applicants are responsible for researching the types of insurance they are required to carry for Nepal which may 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 \$100,000 or medical benefits, \$25,000 for repatriation of remains, \$50,000 for medical evacuation, and \$500 deductible for accident or illness).

For travel to Nepal, 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 Nepal.

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 Nepal 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?

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

- a. 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.
- b. quality assessment
In this section you will be asked to:
 - Outline any academic and work experience you have that are relevant to your mobility.
 - Write a brief statement outlining how this experience will help you to develop your intercultural competence
 - Describe how this experience will positively impact your academic performance
 - State how this experience will enhance your growth and employability

It is your responsibility to ensure all the necessary information is provided correctly.

A panel will consider your application and, if you are successful, you will be invited to a short interview to discuss the opportunity with the lead academics.

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

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 Manmohan Memorial Institute of Health Sciences, Nepal.

Further Information

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

Please contact Dr Pramod Regmi (pregmi@bournemouth.ac.uk) or Prof Edwin van Teijlingen (evteijlingen@bournemouth.ac.uk) if you require further information about the traineeship, would like to discuss ideas for research, or find out more about the location.

Timeline

Student Call Launch: **17 February, 2025**

Application deadline: **16 March, 2025**