

Funded opportunities for summer school and work experience in Kosovo

STUDENT CALL 2024-2025

Summary

What	International Summer School followed by work experience				
Where	University of Pristina, Kosovo				
When	28-day activity at the University of Pristina in Kosovo, exact dates to be agreed but likely to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival and briefing: Friday June 20 • Work experience: Monday June 23 to Friday July 4 • Summer school: Monday July 7 to Friday July 18 				
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 an interview.				
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 (Widening Participation/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>£493 for 1 month/29 days (living expenses grant only)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Grant for WP-student</td> <td>£934 for 1 month/29 days (£609 living expenses grant and upto £325 travel stipend)</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	£493 for 1 month/29 days (living expenses grant only)	Total Grant for WP-student	£934 for 1 month/29 days (£609 living expenses grant and upto £325 travel stipend)
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Application Deadline	9 March 2025				

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 Pristina (UP). BU has previously sent

Social Science students to Kosovo to undertake work experience opportunities within a range of civil society organisations or at UP and within the Programme of Gender Research and Studies.

This summer, BU students from Levels 5 to 8 within programmes of study in the fields of Social Sciences and the Humanities can spend a month in Kosovo. Students will undertake a two-week work experience placement in the UP International Relations Office, supporting a variety of tasks to prepare for the annual UP international summer school. Students will then receive a free place at summer school, participating in a wide range of academic and cultural activities with international faculty and students from around the world.

Students taking part will:

- Gain valuable international experience by participating in summer school activities and through networking with academics and students from Europe and around the world
- Gain knowledge and understanding about Kosovo's history, politics and culture
- Gain knowledge of the workings of a university International Relations Office
- Gain increased cultural awareness and sensitivity through working in a new, international environment

Costs, Travel and Accommodation

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.

The summer school will be free of charge and includes accommodation and all learning and cultural activities. During the work experience in the International Relations Office, students will need to arrange their own accommodation, travel and food.

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

Who is eligible?

BU students from Levels 5 to 8 within programmes of study in the fields of Social Sciences and the Humanities are eligible for this opportunity.

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 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)
- 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
 - 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
Kosovo (Group 2 Country)	20 June – 18 July 2025 29 days	£17 x 29 days	£493

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
Kosovo (Group 2 Country)	20 June – 18 July, 2025 29 days	(£21 x 29 days = £609) + up to £325 travel grant	Up to £934

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 Kosovo 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.

Applicants are responsible for researching the types of insurance they are required to carry for Kosovo 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 \$100,00 or medical benefits, \$25,000 for repatriation of remains, \$50,000 for medical evacuation, and \$500 deductible for accident or illness).

For travel to Kosovo, 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 Kosovo.

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 Kosovo 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.

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 the University of Pristina, Kosovo.

Further Information

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

Please contact Dr. Alex Fry (afry@bournemouth.ac.uk) or Prof Stephanie Schwandner-Sievers if you require further information about the summer school and work experience activities, or the location.

Timeline

Student Call Launch: **7 February 2025**

Application deadline: **9 March, 2025**