



Funded Opportunities at:

Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, Chennai, India

STUDENT CALL 2023-24

We are able to extend the call for BU undergraduate and MSc students studying Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nutrition, Sports Therapy, and Sport and Exercise Science to be part of an interdisciplinary research group at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (SRIHER) in Chennai, Tamil Nadu State, India. <https://www.sriramachandra.edu.in/>.

Application launch: **25 March 2024**

Application deadline: **7 April 2024**

All details including the eligibility criteria are outlined below.

Exchange Opportunity Details

Students will engage in pre and post research activities to consider cross cultural educational activities.

Students will spend 2 days per week in research-based activities which may include collecting data, researching literature / WHO information and visiting rural areas with SRIHER students to learn more about physical activity and nutritional activities in the local population. They will collate this data and present this data in their final week.

Students will spend 2-3 days per week in observational activities related to their professional roles (occupational therapy, nutrition, sports therapy and sports and exercise science). In these roles they will observe and contribute as appropriate to consider cultural differences to professional specific learning and knowledge to enhance their own learning and ongoing professional development.

Students will work with a buddy from SRIHER to learn more about the culture and context in which people live in Chennai, India. They will have access to cultural events. Students will be expected to share educational and life experiences with their peers. Attend lectures or discussions as agreed on the 5th day or use this time for educational activities such as reading, research as appropriate.

Students will have individual opportunities to explore cultural events over weekends and opportunities to make visits in groups with their Buddies.

The exchange opportunities will take place **from July to August 2024 – ACTUAL DATES TO BE CONFIRMED.**

Further details on eligibility and how to apply are included below.

Travel and Accommodation

Successful students will travel together in a group and will be supported by SRIHER in finding accommodation which is provided on campus.

Students are responsible for arranging payment for their own travel and accommodation (if applicable). Turing Scheme funds are provided as a contribution towards these costs.

Who is eligible?

This programme is specifically opened to BU undergraduate and MSc students studying Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Nutrition, Sports Therapy, and Sport and Exercise Science.

All students on the above programme are eligible to apply for the main cost-of-living grant. Students from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for additional funding as outlined in the section '[What will the Turing Scheme funding cover?](#)'

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 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 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 placements between 4 week and 2 months
 - b. £380 per month for placements between 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 placements between 4 week and 2 months
 - b. £335 per month for placements between from 9 weeks to 12 months

Example Grant calculations for students from non-disadvantaged backgrounds

Traineeship Location	Traineeship Duration	Calculation	Total Grant
India (Group 3 Country)	4 weeks	£480 x 1 month	£480.00

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 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:

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

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

Other Funding

- 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
India (Group 3 Country)	4 weeks	(£480x 1 month) + (£110 x 1 month) + (£905 travel grant)	£1495.00

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 for researching whether they will need a visa to India 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. 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 India. Some countries require specific medical insurance to meet visa conditions (e.g.: 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 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, when and how to I apply?

If you are interested in applying, you must first discuss this opportunity with your personal tutor/programme lead.

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 sensitivity
- 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.

The call for applications is now open and the deadline is **7 April 2024**

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?

If you are successful, you will be invited for a short interview and then invited to pre-departure sessions.

We will not be able to accept applicants who do not undertake the interview process and attend pre-departure sessions.

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

If your application is declined, you can 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:
 - a. your participation in the above programme is subject to the contractual agreement between Bournemouth University and Sri Ramachandra, Chennai, India.
 - b. You will be required to attend on-line research groups both pre & post mobility to collaborate on intercultural learning experiences.

Further Information

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

Please contact Juliette Truman (jtruman@bournemouth.ac.uk) for **questions** about this activity.

Timeline

Application deadline:	25 March 2024
Interviews:	11 April
Mandatory Information Sessions:	18 April – logistics/visas/culture 14 June 2024 – 12:00-13:00
Pre-Mobility Research Group:	TBC
Post-Mobility Research Group	TBC