



Taith

**International Learning Exchange
Programme for Wales**

Programme Guide 2023

Pathway 1 – Higher Education



Pathway 1 – Higher Education (Education and Research)

This document relates specifically to the Taith Pathway 1 (2023) funding call for the HE sector (Education and Research). General information on the Taith programme, including Taith’s aims and objectives, assessment process and project management can be found in the [Core Programme Guide](#). It is strongly advised that all applicants read through the Core Programme Guide in addition to the Pathway specific information that is included in this document prior to completing an application.

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Glossary

Accompanying person An adult, including, but not limited to, members of staff of the applying organisation, who accompany participants in a mobility activity and support participants to ensure they receive the maximum benefit from the activities. Groups of participants should be accompanied by a qualified professional to support and facilitate learning.

Application deadline The final date and time by which all application forms and calculation tools must be submitted to the Taith team for assessment.

Applying organisation The organisation in Wales submitting an application for funding to Taith. An applying organisation may apply either individually or on behalf of a consortium, which includes other organisations involved in the project.

Beneficiary When approved for project funding, the applying organisation becomes a Beneficiary of the grant funding and is responsible for signing the Grant Agreement.

Consortium Two or more organisations working collaboratively to develop and deliver a project or an activity within a project.

Disadvantaged participant Learner, student or young person participant(s) who are classified as disadvantaged by meeting one or more of the Taith criteria and will be eligible for additional financial support. See Annex 1 for more details.

Double funding The costs for the same activity are funded twice via the use of public funds. For clarity, this is not permitted and is considered a breach of the Grant Agreement terms and conditions.

Eligible activity An activity that meets the criteria set out in the Taith Programme Guide.

Eligible costs The amount of grant related to the delivery of project activities.

Eligible organisation An organisation that is able to apply for Taith funding.

Formal learning Any learning that takes place during an organised or structured learning programme.

Funding call The period of time during which applications for funding can be submitted.

Grant The funding awarded by Taith to a successful applying organisation.

Grant Agreement The written agreement between Taith and the Beneficiary detailing the terms and conditions of the grant award in line with the application form which will have been independently assessed to be fundable and approved for funding by International Learning Exchange Partnership Limited.

Grant rates Fixed rates that are available for different eligible costs.

Green Travel Sustainable means of transport, i.e. travel that uses a low-emission means of transport for the main part of the journey. For example, bus, train or car-sharing.

Informal learning Learning that takes place outside of organised or structured learning programmes and no learning support is present. Sometimes referred to as experiential or incidental learning.

Inward mobility Participants from eligible sending organisations who come to Wales to participate in a Taith programme.

International In the context of Taith, any country outside the United Kingdom.

Learning outcomes Statements of what a learner knows, understands and is able to do on completion of a learning process (comprised of project activity, formal, non-formal or informal learning opportunity).

Legal representative The person who has legal responsibility to represent an organisation and has the legal authority to enter into a legally binding contract, including, in the context of Taith, the authority to sign a Grant Agreement.

Month In calculating the amount of Taith grants, a month is equal to 28 days.

Non-formal learning Learning that takes place outside of any organised or structured learning programme, but some learning support is present.

Outward Mobility Participants from eligible organisations in Wales participating in Taith supported activities at receiving organisations outside the UK (or in exceptional circumstances only, outside of Wales at receiving organisations in the rest of the UK).

Physical Mobility Moving physically to a country other than the country of residence to participate in project activity and/or formal, non-formal or informal learning opportunity.

Participant An individual undertaking physical/virtual or blended international mobility in a Taith funded project.

Partner organisation A generic term for any organisation formally involved in a Taith funded project, where there is a project relationship or interaction. Can include those organisations identified as applying organisation, coordinator, receiving organisation or sending organisation, as well as others involved in the delivery of the project.

Partnership A formal agreement between two or more organisations to participate in a Taith funded project and engage in joint activities and learning experiences.

Project Agreed activities organised and designed to meet clear objectives and outcomes.

Project budget The total sum of money allocated to agreed activities within a Taith funded project.

Receiving organisation When individuals or groups participate in a physical mobility through Taith, they will be hosted by a receiving organisation. This organisation can also often be referred to as host or international partner organisation. Eligible receiving organisations are defined in the sector specific Pathway 1 Programme Guides.

Sending organisation Organisations registered and operating outside the UK who send participants to be hosted in Wales during a physical mobility. Eligible sending organisations are defined in the sector specific Pathway 1 Programme Guides.

Staff A person employed by, or working for an applying organisation, whether on a professional or voluntary basis.

Subsistence Funding available for living expenses, which can include accommodation, food and local transportation, whilst on a physical mobility.

Virtual exchanges Participation in wholly online project activity and/or formal, non-formal or informal learning opportunity, whereby participants engage in learning opportunities using online platforms or learning tools and in collaboration with at least one organisation in another country.

1. Introduction to Pathway 1

Pathway 1 supports the outward and inward mobility of individual participants or groups of participants.

Studying, training, volunteering or working abroad broadens people's horizons, expands their skills, and brings benefits to communities and organisations here in Wales. International mobilities have been shown to have hugely positive impacts on participants' personal and professional outcomes, enabling them to develop skills and experience. They will also serve as Wales' ambassadors to the world, carrying the message that Wales is outward-looking, collaborative, and open to educational innovation.

Funding is available for learners, pupils, young people, students, researchers and staff to undertake international exchanges, both short and long term, which provide opportunities to share learning, experience different cultures and develop new skills.

2. Who can apply for/participate in Pathway 1

2.1 Eligible sectors

Taith Pathway 1 is open to all Taith sectors:

- Schools
- Youth
- Further Education and Vocational Education and Training
- Adult Education
- Higher Education (Education and Research strands)

Eligibility criteria for Applying Organisations in the Higher Education (Education and Research) sector, together with information on eligible activities, participants, costs and project durations for the sector can be found in [section 3](#).

Information detailing the eligibility criteria for Applying, Receiving and Sending Organisations for all sectors can be found in the eligibility section of the Core Taith Programme Guide ([link](#)).

All potential applying organisations are advised to check they are eligible to apply prior to submitting an application and to contact the Taith team if they have any questions on this.

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2.2 Reciprocity

The principles of reciprocity and shared learning are central to Taith. Organisations applying for funding for outward mobilities in Taith Pathway 1 can apply for additional funding for inward mobilities to Wales. This will be calculated as a maximum of 30% of a project's budget allocated for outward mobility activities and paid in addition to the sum dedicated for outward mobility activities. Further details on funding for inward mobilities and what funding can be spent on can be found in the eligibility section below. Funding for inward mobilities will be included in the grant award to those successful applying organisations in Wales and it will be their responsibility to administer these funds to, and on behalf of, the sending organisation.

3. Eligibility - Sector information

This section details all the information on eligible activities, durations, participants and costs for the Higher Education sector. Information relating to other sectors can be found in the relevant sector's Pathway 1 Programme Guide.

3.1 Overview

Taith offers students and staff at Welsh universities opportunities to undergo transformative learning mobility experiences. International learning and exchange has demonstrably positive impacts on educational outcomes, future employability and research collaboration, with these benefits even more pronounced for participants from widening participation backgrounds. Taith will offer a comprehensive range of mobilities for the higher education sector, across all disciplines and with a wide range of sectors, all whilst promoting Wales, and the Welsh language and culture throughout the world.

Higher education is tertiary education which does not amount to further education (but can be delivered by further education providers). It generally leads to a specified qualification at level 4-8.

Examples of higher education include:

- Level 4 – Certificate of Higher Education
- Level 5 – Foundation degree
- Level 6 – Degree with honours
- Level 7 – Integrated Master's degree/ Postgraduate diploma
- Level 8 – Doctorate

3.2 General information

There are two strands of Pathway 1 for the higher education sector:

Pathway 1HE (Higher Education Mobility): Education-focused mobility of students and staff to and from Wales.

The total indicative amount allocated to the HE (Education) sector in the 2023 Pathway 1 funding call is £2.5 million.

Pathway 1RE (Research Mobility): Mobility of researchers and research support staff to and from Wales.

The total indicative amount allocated to the HE (Research) sector in the 2023 Pathway 1 funding call is £500,000.

Project durations for the HE sector (1HE and 1RE) for student and staff mobilities are:

- 12 months
- 24 months

When considering the length of mobilities, please ensure you investigate the visa requirements of the country(ies) to which you plan to travel, and ensure you allow sufficient time for the visa application process (where relevant).

Unfortunately, Taith is unable to provide advice on visas or provide support for organisations or individuals with visa applications.

Applying organisations will be required to apply separately to the Higher Education Mobility and the Research Mobility call if they wish to take advantage of the full spectrum of opportunities available. An applying organisation can submit one application to Pathway 1HE and one application to Pathway 1RE. Grant Agreements will be issued separately for Pathway 1HE and Pathway 1RE projects, to be implemented as distinct projects, each with their own monitoring and reporting requirements.

3.3 Eligible organisations

Eligible applying organisations:

- Any Welsh higher education institution (HEI), regulated or funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW);
- A higher education provider, whose courses have been specifically designated for the purposes of being eligible for student support, and operates in Wales.

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Eligible receiving organisations:

Eligible applying organisations in Wales can send eligible participants to the following receiving organisations outside of the UK and the British Overseas Territories:

- HE provider recognised or regulated by the relevant national competent authorities or regulatory body/bodies of the country within which the HE provider is operating and incorporated and/or domiciled (including overseas campuses operated by a Welsh HEI);
- Any public or private organisation active in the labour market or in the fields of education, training and youth.

Eligible sending organisations (inward mobilities):

Higher Education providers registered with the relevant regulatory body/bodies and operating outside the UK and the British Overseas Territories, can send eligible participants to be hosted in Wales.

Eligible participants are expected to be hosted at the Welsh applying organisation. The applying organisation may arrange for the participant to be hosted by a third party, in exceptional circumstances.

Further information on eligible receiving and sending organisations can be found in the eligibility section of the [Taith Core Programme Guide](#).

3.4 Pathway 1 HE – Higher Education (Education)

Applying organisations must have tuition fee waivers in place for outward and inward credit-bearing mobilities, where participants would otherwise be liable to pay tuition fees. This is not a requirement for non-credit bearing activities or credit-bearing summer schools.

Participants can be in receipt of multiple sources of funds to support their mobility, however, if any of those are deemed as public funds and the intent is to use them to cover the same mobility costs that would also be covered by Taith (such as travel, subsistence and eligible additional costs), this would be defined as double funding and must be avoided, where possible.

Student finance

Travel:

Where a participant is eligible for a travel grant from the Student Loans Company (SLC), Taith funding for travel should always be utilised first. Participants can apply to the SLC for eligible additional costs that have not been covered by Taith funding, such as travel between their accommodation and placement/institution whilst abroad, or additional return journeys.

Additional funding for participants with disabilities and/or additional learning needs:

Where a participant is eligible for Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) through the Student Loans Company additional funding required to support their participation in Taith should first be sought through this route. To allow sufficient time for any DSA claims to be processed, beneficiary organisations must ensure that they inform participants as soon as possible that their mobility is taking place and should provide sufficient support/signposting to the relevant institutional team to enable them to progress the claim. Information on student finance products available to students from England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland can be accessed on each student finance body's website.

Where DSA does not cover the required additional funding to support a participant to access a Taith opportunity, the beneficiary organisation can apply to Taith for additional funding to cover these costs. Further information on additional funding for participants with disabilities and/or additional learning needs can be found in [section 6](#).

Student Mobilities:

Information on eligible applying and receiving organisations can be found in the eligibility section of the [Taith Core Programme Guide](#).

Eligible participants:

For all activities:

- All students registered in a HEI and enrolled in an undergraduate or postgraduate taught programme leading to a recognised degree.
- All students enrolled on Foundation Degree, Higher National Diploma (HND) or Certificate of Higher Education course.

For work placement mobilities:

- Students as per the above definition.
- Recent higher education graduates (within one year of graduation) may participate a *student mobility – work placement*. They must complete a *work placement* mobility abroad within 12 months of graduating.

Students who have not completed their first year at undergraduate level are only able to participate under the Summer School, Group Mobility, Blended Mobility or Virtual Mobility categories.

It is possible for an individual to undergo multiple mobilities (e.g. a 6-month individual mobility in Spain, followed directly by a 6-month mobility in France), for year-long placements. Participants are however limited to a maximum of 12 months' participation for each distinct study programme leading to a recognised qualification/degree.

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Eligible student activities:

1. Individual academic, volunteering or work placement mobilities

Individual student mobilities, (credit bearing or non-credit bearing), for the purposes of academic or vocational learning, work placements, research or volunteering activities, at an eligible receiving organisation.

A combination of academic, volunteering, research or work placement is possible in one single mobility abroad.

Duration

- Minimum 2 weeks – maximum 12 months.

Eligible costs:

Students:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for students with disabilities and additional needs.

For students from disadvantaged backgrounds:

- An additional 50% top-up to the subsistence grant.
- An additional 50% top-up to the travel grant for destinations beyond 4,000km.
- 100% of actual costs for additional travel related costs e.g. visas, passports, travel insurance, luggage (where necessary).

The applying organisation will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in section 6.

2. Group Mobilities

Short-term group mobility activities, led by academic or professional services staff member(s), facilitating curricular field trips, group or project work, centered around departmental teaching and learning objectives, but may be credit or non-credit bearing.

Activities must expand and further develop existing departmental activities currently offered and must not simply repeat activities previously covered through other sources of funding.

Duration

- Minimum 2 weeks – maximum 1 month.



Eligible costs:

Students:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for students with disabilities and additional needs.

For students from disadvantaged backgrounds:

- An additional 50% top-up to the subsistence grant.
- An additional 50% top-up to the travel grant for destinations beyond 4,000km.
- 100% of actual costs for additional travel related costs e.g. visas, passports, travel insurance, luggage (where necessary).

Accompanying staff:

- A subsistence grant for up to two accompanying staff members. Organisations can choose whether to pay staff against receipted expenditure or pay the unit directly to staff (where receipted expenditure is not required).
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation will receive organisational support grants for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

3. Summer Schools, Work Placements or Volunteering

Summer school activities provided by eligible partner universities and international colleges during the summer (or winter) holidays with classes related to a specific course area, with the option of attending extracurricular activities designed to stimulate cultural awareness.

Summer work projects and international volunteering programmes are also eligible activities.

Duration

- Minimum 2 weeks – maximum 12 weeks.

Eligible costs:

Students:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.

- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for students with disabilities and additional needs.
- Contribution to fees for courses and training including for students' summer school courses, summer work opportunities, or international volunteering programmes up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum of £400 per same participant per project/Grant Agreement.

For students from disadvantaged backgrounds:

- An additional 50% top-up to the subsistence grant.
- An additional 50% top-up to the travel grant for destinations beyond 4,000km.
- 100% of actual costs for additional travel related costs e.g. visas, passports, travel insurance, luggage (where necessary).

The applying organisation will receive organisational support grants for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

4. Virtual Group Exchanges:


A wholly non-physical exchange which will allow the virtual engagement of learners where physical mobility or travel for participants would otherwise not be possible/feasible.

Virtual exchanges must not be used as a substitute for those participants that require extra support and funding to undergo a physical mobility. Applying organisations must be explicit in their applications as to why a wholly virtual mobility is the only format suitable for their pupils.

While virtual projects do not replace the benefits of physical mobility, they have demonstrable positive educational outcomes as part of the 'internationalisation at home agenda'. Undergoing virtual exchanges has also been shown to lead to future physical mobilities for participants.

Example activities include:

- A combination of online learning and online facilitated discussions between students of Higher Education institutions based in different countries, integrated as part of higher education degrees and credit bearing, where possible.
- Interactive open online courses including traditional course materials such as filmed lectures, readings, and problem sets (MOOCs – Massive Open Online Courses) but putting an emphasis on interactive user forums in small groups to support community interactions among students and young people.
- Third party providers of virtual exchanges (including virtual placement programmes) which are clearly distinct from 'distance learning'. Virtual exchanges should aim to deliver a balance of interaction between learners, cultural contexts, work experience and curriculum.

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Blended mobilities (those which involve both physical and virtual mobility elements) are encouraged, but will not attract additional funding for the virtual mobility element. Funding for virtual mobilities is only available where there is no element of physical mobility involved.

Duration

- A minimum of 70 hours of virtual engagement.

Eligible costs:

Virtual exchanges development costs:

A contribution towards the cost of developing and delivering high-quality virtual exchanges, including a contribution to course fees where virtual exchanges are facilitated by a third-party provider. 100% of actual costs and up to £1,200 is available per project.

The applying organisation(s) will receive an organisational support grant for up to 20 participants per project who complete the minimum 70 hours of virtual engagement. Additional participants are strongly encouraged but will not attract additional organisational support.

Staff Mobilities:

Staff participating in mobility opportunities are expected to share their learning/experience with their institution (and more widely where appropriate) on their return to Wales. How this will be achieved should be detailed in the 'Project Objectives and Implementation' section of the application form.

Eligible participants:

For academic teaching placements:

- All staff with an active teaching or teaching & research contract (fixed term or open-ended) with the applying organisation.

For all other staff activities:

- All staff with an active contract of employment (fixed term or open-ended) with the applying organisation.

Eligible staff activities (staff mobilities outlined below) are not permitted to/from overseas campuses operated by a Welsh HEI.

Eligible staff activities:

1. Academic teaching placements or job shadowing

Teaching placements for academic staff in any study field to teach and collaborate at a partner institution abroad. Academic teaching placements may also involve the providing of training for the development of the partner institution in a particular field.

Job shadowing will involve mobility opportunities for academic or professional services staff to undergo a job shadowing mobility, facilitating best practice, knowledge exchange, career development and continued professional development.

Teaching placements and job shadowing may be combined during a single period abroad.

Duration

- A minimum of 3 days – a maximum of 2 months.

A teaching mobility must comprise of a minimum of 8 hours of teaching per week (5 working days). If the mobility is more than one week, or in the case of an incomplete week, the minimum number of teaching hours should be proportional to the mobility length (not including travel days except in cases travel takes place in the evening of the final teaching day). A 3-day teaching mobility (not including travel) will carry an obligation to teach for a total of 4 hours. A 4-day teaching mobility (not including travel) will carry an obligation to teach for a total of 6 hours.

Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant. Organisations can choose whether to pay staff against receipted expenditure or pay the unit directly to staff (where receipted expenditure isn't required).
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in section 6.

2. Training Courses and Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Funding for eligible staff where the international mobility aspect of the training or CPD course has demonstrable added value to their function and wider strategic goals within the higher education provider.

Duration

- A minimum of 1 week – maximum of 2 weeks.

Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant. Organisations can choose whether to pay staff against receipted expenditure or pay the unit directly to staff (where receipted expenditure isn't required).
- A travel grant.
- Contribution to course or training fees up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum of £400 per same participant per project/Grant Agreement.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff with disabilities and additional needs.

The applying organisation will receive organisational support grants for *each* outward (and inward) participant.

Ineligible staff costs:

Conference fees or travel to international conferences.

Detailed information on eligible costs and grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

3. Pre-departure or pastoral visits

Funded visits to new or existing partners for the purposes of establishing new partnerships, links, new projects, renegotiating partnerships agreements, undertaking risk assessments, quality assurance or pastoral care for students.

Taith will fund up to a maximum of 3 visits per project and each participant must meet with at least 3 partners during any one visit.

Where pre-departure or pastoral visits are used for the purposes of assessing the learning environment, risk assessments and suitability for students with additional learning needs, a student may accompany the staff member.

Duration

- Maximum 3 visits per project/application.
- Maximum duration for each visit is 1 week.
- A participant must meet a minimum of 3 partners per visit.

Eligible costs:

- A subsistence. Organisations can choose whether to pay staff against receipted expenditure or pay the unit directly to staff (where receipted expenditure isn't required).
- A travel grant.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for staff and/or the accompanying student with disabilities and additional needs.

Ineligible costs:

- Conference fees or travel to international conferences.

This activity will **not** generate organisational support grants.

3.5 Pathway 1 RE – Higher Education (Research)

Taith funds the travel and subsistence costs associated with researcher mobility only. No funding is provided for researcher salaries/stipends or costs associated with research, including consumables, bench fees, overheads or other ancillary costs.

Eligible participants:

- Researchers employed by the sending organisation on an academic contract ('Teaching & Research' or 'Research') of 0.2 FTE or greater (fixed term or open-ended).
- Postgraduate research students, including, but not limited to PhD students, registered and enrolled at the sending organisation.
- Staff supporting research activities, such as technicians, or other research specific professional services staff employed by the applying organisation.

Eligibility is not limited to any age or career stage of a researcher.

Individual participants should not undergo more than a total of 12-months of mobilities across the eligible activities per project/Grant Agreement.

Research mobilities to overseas campuses operated by a Welsh HEI are not permitted.

Eligible activities:

1. Research placements and secondments

This activity will support the mobility of eligible research-focused staff including postgraduate research students, post-doctoral and early career researchers, established researcher and research support staff to undergo research placements and secondments, including interdisciplinary possibilities and inter-sectoral opportunities for training, collaboration and use of research facilities at a partner higher education institution, research institute, R&D focused industry, or other relevant workplace outside the UK.

Institutions are particularly encouraged to promote this activity amongst postgraduate research students and early career researchers.

Duration

- Minimum 2 weeks – maximum 12 months.

Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- Contribution to course or training fees of up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum £400 per same participant per project/Grant Agreement.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for researchers with disabilities and additional needs.

Ineligible costs:

- Conference fees or travel to international conferences.
- Researcher salaries or stipends.
- Costs associated with research, including consumables, bench fees, overheads or other ancillary costs.

The applying organisation will receive an organisational support grant for each outward (and inward) participant.

2. Exploratory visits, networking and collaboration

This activity will promote the knowledge exchange, the creation of new partnerships and strengthen research links between research staff at Welsh HEIs and their international peers.

Participants may wish to:

- undergo a mobility to collaborate on joint research proposals or papers with researchers at partner organisations abroad including exploratory visits to establish new opportunities for collaboration.
- participate in collaborative activities and/or field work, including gaining access to specialist facilities, infrastructure and equipment.
- engage in networking and research development opportunities including through delivery of collaborative seminars, workshops and research training.

Duration

- Minimum 2 days – maximum 1 month.

Eligible costs:

- A subsistence grant.
- A travel grant.
- A contribution to course or training fees of up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum of £400 per same participant per project/Grant Agreement.
- 100% of actual identified inclusion costs for researchers with disabilities and additional needs. Some funding will be held centrally by Taith at grant award stage for this purpose.

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Ineligible costs:

- Conference fees or travel to international conferences.
- Researcher salaries or stipends.
- Costs associated with research, including consumables, bench fees, overheads or other ancillary costs.
- The applying organisation will receive organisational support grants for each outward (and inward) participant.

Inward Mobility:

Information on eligible sending organisations can be found in the eligibility section of the [Taith Core Programme Guide](#).

Eligible participants:

Students:

- All students enrolled and registered at the HEI of the eligible sending organisation, enrolled in a first or second cycle degree programme (undergraduate and post-graduate taught courses), recognised by the relevant national competent authorities or regulatory body/bodies.
- All students enrolled on the national equivalent of Foundation Degree, Higher National Diploma (HND) or Certificate of Higher Education course as recognised by the relevant national competent authorities or regulatory body/bodies.

Staff:

- All staff with an active contract of employment with the eligible sending organisation.


For academic teaching placements:

- All staff with an active teaching or teaching & research contract with the eligible sending organisation.

For research mobilities:

- Researchers employed by the sending organisation.
- Postgraduate research students, including but not restricted to PhD students, registered and enrolled at the sending organisation.
- Staff supporting research activities, such as technicians, or other research specific professional service staff who carry out research and innovation support activities, employed by the sending organisation.

Eligible activities:



All activities defined as eligible activities for outward mobility are also eligible for the purposes of inward mobility.

Eligible costs and payments:

Inward mobility participants are eligible to receive grant funding for **travel** and **subsistence** for their mobility to Wales. The applying organisation in Wales, as the Taith Beneficiary, will receive an organisational support grant for every inward participant to Wales. Funding for inward mobility activities will be paid to the Welsh applying organisation to appropriately distribute to the partner (sending) organisation.

The applying organisation in Wales, as the Taith Beneficiary and host of the inward participants, will be expected to clearly communicate the terms of any contributions to be made and to specify the amount of financial support allocated to the inward participant(s).

It is generally expected that inward mobility participants will receive Group 1 subsistence rates, and a travel grant at the same level as the rates defined for the equivalent outward mobility. Payments to an inward participant may not exceed the equivalent grant rate of an outward participant from Wales to a Group 1 country for the same duration and type of mobility activity. Beneficiaries do not have the discretion to operate a flat rate model of payments to inward mobility participants.

Participants can be in receipt of multiple sources of funds to support their mobility, however, if any of those are deemed as public funds and the intent is to use them to cover the same mobility costs that would also be covered by Taith (such as travel, subsistence and eligible additional costs), this would be defined as double funding and must be avoided, where possible.


The general expectation is that there is outward flow for every inward flow to Wales for any one international partner. Beneficiaries may not accept inward participants from a partner where there is no intention to send outward students throughout the course of the project.

4 Applying for Pathway 1

4.1 Deadline

The deadline to submit an application to the **2023 Pathway 1 funding call is 16th March 2023 at 12.00pm GMT**. Applications received after this deadline will not be assessed.

4.2 Before you apply

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Before beginning an application, it is recommended that applicants:

- Read the [Core Programme Guide](#).
- Check to make sure your organisation is eligible.
- Read through this guide thoroughly, in particular the sector specific information on eligible activities, durations, participants and costs.
- Verify your organisation has sufficient financial and operational capacity.
- Familiarise yourself with the Pathway 1 assessment criteria – in [section 5.2](#).
- Attend the guidance and support events on completing an application and read through the Pathway 1 resources.

4.3 Completing an application

To apply for funding for Taith Pathway 1, applying organisations must use the Pathway 1 application form and grant calculation tool accessed via the Taith website.

The application form asks for narrative responses on a range of questions including a project overview, details about planned project activities, project and financial management, and alignment to the Taith programme objectives.


Alongside the application form, applying organisations will be required to complete the grant calculation tool, which will calculate the total grant requested based on the various activities applied for. Information on grant rates can be found in [section 6](#).

As part of the application process, applying organisations will need to confirm if they want to apply for funding for inward mobilities. Funding for inward mobilities is available for travel costs, subsistence and organisational support, up to a maximum of 30% of the equivalent outward mobility costs. The funding available for this will then be calculated automatically through the grant calculation tool.

Applications will be assessed against the set assessment criteria for Pathway 1, as shown in in [section 5.2](#). It is recommended that applying organisations read through the assessment criteria thoroughly before starting the application so you are clear on what the application is asking for, and how it will be assessed.

There are a range of resources on the Taith website which have been created to support organisations with their application. These include the qualitative questions and assessment criteria, a step-by-step application guide and pre-recorded information on completing the application form.

All applicants are encouraged to complete the qualitative application sections offline, and then copy and paste them into the online application form. This will enable applicants to work through the sections of their application in their own time, without any of the risks associated with working online. Once the offline application is complete, applicants are able to copy and paste the content into the relevant sections on the online form and submit.



Organisations can only submit one application per sector per Pathway funding call. Applicants should ensure that multiple applications to the same Pathway funding call are not submitted by different parties in the same organisation. Where organisations work across more than one sector, they can submit one application per sector, provided they meet the eligibility criteria for those sectors.

5. Assessment

Detailed information on the Taith assessment process and how funding decisions are made can be found in section 6 of the [Core Programme Guide](#).

5.1 Assessment of applications

To be considered for funding, an applying organisation must demonstrate in their application how they meet the Pathway 1 assessment criteria (see below). The assessment criteria are intended to enable Taith to evaluate the quality of the applications received and establish an overall assessment score for each application. All applications will be scored out of a maximum of 100, based on the below criteria and weightings.

To be considered eligible for funding, applications must pass the following quality thresholds:

- At least 60 out of the total 100 points, and
- At least half of the maximum points in each of the three award criteria categories.

Applications that pass the set quality thresholds will be considered fundable. Applications that do not meet the minimum quality thresholds will be deemed unsuccessful. All applications will be given feedback.

Funding allocations

Inclusivity and accessibility are a strategic focus for Taith and the programme is looking to fund as many and as wide a range of organisations as possible. As such, no organisation will be able to receive more than 40% of the published indicative sector budget.

Taith will aim to fund all organisations who pass the assessment process and are considered to be fundable. However, Taith funding is finite and it is likely that there will be funding calls where the value of successful, 'fundable' applications exceeds the available allocated budget. Where there is not sufficient budget to fully fund all applications, Taith may adopt an approach to reduce the funding across successful organisations on an equitable basis.

The indicative budgets for the Pathway 1 (2023) funding call for the HE sector can be found in [section 3](#).


5.2 Pathway 1 Assessment Criteria

Assessment criteria for Taith Pathway 1 – Mobility of participants

Relevance and quality of project objectives and delivery plans
(maximum score 40 points)

- The relevance of the proposed project to the aims and objectives of the Taith programme and the value of the proposed international activity to the applicant organisation(s).
- The extent to which the proposed project addresses identified needs of the targeted participants (learners and staff) is demonstrated in a clear and concrete manner.
- For consortium applications, the relevance and benefits of project delivery via a consortium is clearly demonstrated.
- International partners identified in the application are appropriate and relevant for the desired activities and outcomes of the project, with clear reasoning for the countries involved. Where international partners are not identified in the application, the plans outlined for their identification and engagement are considered and appropriate.
- Where inward mobilities are included, the proposed approach and processes to manage these are considered, appropriate and demonstrably add value to the project.
- The applying organisation/consortium has evidenced sufficient administrative capacity proportionate to the scale of the proposed project. The proposal demonstrated a considered and appropriate approach to day-to-day project management, financial management, the delivery of mobilities, and the provision of support to participants.
- The measures proposed to monitor the project’s activities and progress, including the approach to capturing and using participant feedback and the plans to evaluate the success of its outcomes at all levels, are inclusive and realistic.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The proposal includes appropriate processes for identifying and managing risks (and exceptional circumstances) during project delivery. ▪ The applying/organisation demonstrates it has appropriate safeguarding / duty of care measures for all its proposed activities and its plan for ensuring a supportive environment for all participants is considered and appropriate. |
| <p>Quality and design of project activities (maximum score 35 points)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The project's activities are clearly set out, well defined, and meet identified needs. ▪ The proposed activities demonstrate a realistic approach to meeting the project's overall objectives, with a clearly articulated plan for each of the proposed activities, and how they fit within the overall timeframe of the project. ▪ A clear explanation for the proposed content of each of the planned activities and the reasoning for the balance between the different types of activities proposed. ▪ The extent to which the proposed activities are either new or additional to existing practices within the organisation(s) or, where they build on existing practices, they show innovation and commitment to continuous improvement. ▪ The extent to which the proposed activities will produce high-quality learning outcomes for the participants. ▪ The proposal clearly outlines the targeted participants for each of the proposed activities and identifies appropriate and inclusive mechanisms to support their participation in a way that meets their needs and enables them to realise the full potential of their experience. ▪ The respective roles of all organisations are clearly defined for each activity, differentiating between the applying organisation/consortium, the receiving organisation(s) of the project participants and inward mobility arrangements, as required. ▪ The quality of the proposed actions to support the preparation of participants before mobility activities, and the support provided during and after their mobility activity. |
| <p>Delivery towards Taith</p> | <p>The extent to which:</p> |

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cross-cutting commitments
(maximum score 25 points)

- The proposal outlines clear channels of communication and appropriate ways of promoting the project opportunities for participants, including those from underrepresented groups.
- The applying organisation/consortium clearly defines its targeted underrepresented groups, provides details on the identified challenges to widening participation among them and outlines appropriate measures to overcome these challenges.
- The proposal outlines a clear commitment and coherent plans to specifically support the participation of those with additional learning needs and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- The proposal outlines how the project delivery will incorporate environmentally sustainable and responsible practices, including clear and tangible plans for sustainable travel where appropriate.
- The proposal outlines clear and effective mechanisms to promote the Welsh language and culture through its activities, including ways in which it proposes to raise the profile of Wales as an open, outward-looking and globally responsible nation.

6. Pathway 1 grant rates – HE Sector

Taith funding will be awarded in the form a grant. Grants are calculated using set grant rates for different eligible costs. As part of the application process, organisations will be required to complete a grant calculation tool. Information such as activity, destination country, duration and numbers of participants input into the tool will automatically calculate the grant amount which can be applied for.

Funding will be awarded primarily based on grant rates that contribute towards the travel and cost of living for each participant, based on the mobility length and the destination country. Additional financial support for participants facing exceptional circumstances will also be provided, including the provision of additional support for disadvantaged participants and those with disabilities and/or additional learning needs. Funding will also allow organisations to cover costs related to project delivery.

| Budget Category | Description | Participant Type | Grant Rate (£) | |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Organisational Support (OS) | A contribution to any cost incurred by the organisation(s) in relation to activities in support of the physical or virtual mobility of learners and staff, both outward and inward. OS is calculated based on the number of outward and inward participants per project. Rates start at £500 per participant for the first 10 participants and reduce as participant numbers increase. OS for virtual mobilities is capped at 20 participants. | All | No. of Participants | Participant Rate |
| | | | 0 – 10 | 500 |
| | | | 11 – 30 | 400 |
| | | | 31 – 60 | 330 |
| | | | 61 – 100 | 250 |
| | | | 101 – 150 | 125 |
| | | | 151 – 200 | 100 |
| 201+ | 80 | | | |
| Subsistence | A grant for living expenses, which can include accommodation, food and local transportation, whilst on a physical mobility, or preparatory visit (staff only). | Students and Accompanying Persons | Daily rate for country group 1 / 2 / 3 | |
| | | | First 2 weeks | 26 / 24 / 22 |
| | | | 2 – 8 weeks | 18 / 16 / 14 14 / 12 / 11 |

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| | <p>Funding is calculated as a daily rate per participant. The daily rate will reduce the longer the mobility, with different rates applicable for the first 2 weeks, 2 – 8 weeks and over 8 weeks. A week is 7 days and a month is 28 days. The minimum mobility period is two weeks for students. The rate for first two weeks will be incorporated into the calculation of a longer mobility.</p> <p>Participants will not receive subsistence funding for virtual mobilities.</p> | | 8 weeks – 12 months | |
| | | Staff | Daily rate for country group 1 / 2 / 3 | |
| | | | First 2 weeks 2 – 8 weeks 8 weeks – 12 months | 85 / 75 / 65 60 / 50 / 40 35 / 30 / 25 |
| Travel | <p>A contribution to the direct cost of travel for inward and outward mobilities. Funding levels are based on the distance between Wales and the international partner country.</p> <p>Higher grant rates will be available for participants who utilise environmentally sustainable 'Green Travel' options. A green travel top up is available for distances between 100km and 3999km. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for the funding top up via the completion of a request form detailing the green travel option chosen.</p> | All | Distance 100-499km 500-1,999km 2,000-2,999km 3,000-3,999km 4,000-7,999km 8,000-12,000km 12,000km+ | Travel rate/Green travel 150/180 230/270 300/350 450/520 350 600 700 |
| Inclusion Support: Participants with Disabilities and/or Additional Learning Needs (ALN) | <p>Participants who have a disability or additional learning need are eligible for additional funding to support their involvement in a mobility (physical or virtual).</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</p> | All | 100% of eligible costs | |
| Inclusion Support: | Students who are from a disadvantaged background are eligible for additional funding for travel related costs to support their involvement in a physical mobility. Travel related exceptional cost | | | |

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| <p>Participants from Disadvantaged backgrounds</p> | <p>include costs of visas, passports, vaccinations, COVID-19 test(s), health insurance, appropriate clothing and luggage, as necessary. Applies to costs covering travel from/to remote area also.</p> <p>Students who are from a disadvantaged background are also eligible for an additional top up for subsistence and travel.</p> <p>See Annex 1 for eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</p> | <p>Students</p> | <p>100% of eligible costs related to exceptional travel costs.</p> <p>50% additional daily subsistence grant rate</p> <p>50% additional travel grant for destinations beyond 4,000km</p> |
| <p>Exceptional Costs: Exceptional expensive travel</p> | <p>Funding available for travel from/to a remote area.</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</p> | <p>All</p> | <p>All participants to destinations within a distance range of maximum 3,999 km: 80% of actual cost, if the original amount provided does not cover at least 70%</p> <p>Participants to destinations beyond 4,000 km: 70% actual cost, if the original amount provided does not cover at least 60%</p> |
| <p>Exceptional Costs: Travel to a UK transport hub</p> | <p>A contribution to the cost of travel to a UK transport hub as part of international mobility. A UK transport hub is defined by Taith as a departure point from which the mobility departs to its international destination. For example an airport, train station, port or bus station.</p> <p>Funding is available for participants from disadvantaged backgrounds participating in individual mobilities.</p> | <p>Learners</p> | <p>Individual Mobilities: Participants from disadvantaged backgrounds are eligible for up to £100 per participant per individual mobility, based on actual costs.</p> |

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| | Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification. | | |
| Exceptional Costs: Covid related exceptional cost | <p>Costs covering Covid-related exceptional costs, specifically where status of the destination country changes during mobility, causing the participant to incur significant additional costs owing to a requirement to quarantine in a dedicated facility, comply with enhanced testing requirements or similar.</p> <p>Funding will be held centrally by Taith and administered on an actual costs basis once participants are identified. Beneficiaries will be required to apply for funding via the completion of a request form detailing the actual costs per participant and justification.</p> | All | 100% of actual cost |
| Course/Training Costs | Costs covering fees for courses and training in association with international training/Continuing Professional Development mobilities for staff, and summer school courses, summer work opportunities, or international volunteering programmes for students. | Staff | Up to a maximum of £40 per participant per day and maximum £400 per same participant per Project/Grant Agreement |
| Virtual Group Exchanges: Development Costs | A contribution towards the cost of developing and/or delivering high-quality virtual exchanges. | Students | Up to £1,200 per project/Grant Agreement. |

Annex 1 – Inclusion support in Taith

Taith is committed to improving access to international mobility for people with disabilities, additional learning needs, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We understand that access to sufficient funding to cover the cost of a mobility can be a major barrier for participation in international opportunities. The funding offered through Taith is set at a level that aims to remove the majority of financial barriers. The Taith grant model also includes additional financial support for disadvantaged participants (learners, students and young people) and for participants, including staff, with additional learning needs and disabilities. Information on grant rates and the funding available can be found in the relevant Pathway Programme Guides.

1. Disadvantaged participants – Higher Education sector

Participants who meet one or more of the following criteria will be classified as disadvantaged and will be eligible for additional financial support:

- Students with an annual household income of £25,000 or less.
- Students 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.
- Students who are care experienced. This refers to anyone who has been or is currently in care or from a looked after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short, including adopted children who were previously looked after or those who access the Care Experienced Bursary in other parts of the UK.
- Students who have caring responsibilities.
- Estranged students (as defined by Student Finance Wales).
- Refugees and asylum seekers.

2. Participants with additional learning needs and disabilities

Taith is committed to being inclusive to everyone and to reduce barriers to participation for those with physical, mental or health related conditions. The programme will therefore offer funding for participants with a disability and/or additional learning needs of up to 100% of actual costs for support directly related to their additional needs.

This may include aspects such as: preparatory visits to carry out risk assessments and ensure the placement has the necessary access and support in place; to fund additional staff members to support participants; and/or to pay for equipment/adjustments/resources necessary for participation. Further detail around preparatory visits can be found in the eligible activities section of the Programme Guide.



Taith.cymru

Taith.wales

