

Brexit:

Consequences for EU mobility under the Swiss programme for Erasmus+

25.11.2021 (This version replaces the information from 28.01.2021 and 07.04.2021)

Brexit has brought with it a number of changes – we provide up-to-date information on them here:

- **News on the website:** The previous general information is available [here](#) and will be communicated as news on our website. Specific information for vocational education can be found [here](#) (right column).
- **The UK is a programme country in the Swiss Erasmus+ programme:** The UK will remain an eligible [programme country for the Swiss Erasmus+ programme](#) (for outgoing and incoming mobility) even though it is no longer a programme country of the EU's Erasmus+ funding programme from 2021 onwards and implements its [own funding programme](#).
- **Entry regulations for apprentices and apprenticeship graduates:** The new Swiss and [UK entry regulations](#) in place since 1 January 2021 must be complied. The UK government has introduced a fee-based [visa process for vocational internships](#) for all countries and all durations which always requires a British sponsor. This role can be performed by selected ["government-authorised exchange" institutions](#) (see right column in the list), as per the process for workers/temporary workers.
Because the Swiss programme for Erasmus+ is not connected with any official European funding programme, the British Council cannot offer Swiss institutions any sponsorship. However, it is possible that other institutions could take over this role, for example one alternative could be to carry out a vocational internship with the UK subsidiary of a [listed and authorised Swiss company](#).

As a flexibilisation to the company placements in the UK, stays of up to 6 months at a VET college are financially supported by Movetia. For students, there is a [list of selected educational institutions](#) that could offer a scholarship for educational exchanges. Since 2021, in addition to company placements, mobilities with a thematic project work (e.g. vocational or general education topics) as an exchange between groups of learners from Switzerland and Europe with a concrete end result at the end of the mobility, with or without language preparation, are now also possible.
- **Entry regulations for teaching staff:** Unlike for vocational internships, no visa will be required for the eligible teaching staff activities (job shadowing, networking activities or project work, exchanges on educational issues). The current situation could serve to enhance [mobility for teaching staff](#) and strengthen the relevant [project structures](#).
- **Alternatives to the UK:** If you are planning to do a placement in the UK, please justify in your application which alternative solutions will allow you to use the approved funds if the situation does not change.
Please note that it is possible to collaborate with other programme countries of the Swiss Erasmus+ programme where English is used as a working language, namely the Netherlands, Ireland, Malta, Cyprus, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Iceland.
 For new partnerships, there is a [list](#) with vocational schools and service providers in the above mentioned countries. Movetia must be notified of any new partner institutions must Movetia [in writing](#).
- **Procedure for bilateral relations between Switzerland and the UK:** A [memorandum of understanding](#) was recently published. The official authority for the development of the bilateral relations between Switzerland and the United Kingdom is the federal government, which can negotiate possible agreements to simplify the entry procedure for internships in the UK in the medium to long term.