

Postgraduate work placements

Which tourism, hospitality and events or food and nutrition postgraduate courses have the option of undertaking a work placement?

Currently, we offer four routes with the work placement option - MSc International Hospitality Management, MSc International Events and Conference Management, MSc International Hospitality and Tourism Management and MSc Food Consumer Marketing and Product Development.

What is a work placement?

A work placement is a period of work experience related to your subject of study. The aim of the work placement is to facilitate your personal and professional development through experience at an appropriate level.

How do apply for a course with a work placement?

You will need to apply for a work placement course by filling in a postgraduate application form and stating that you would like to apply for the work placement route.

How long does a work placement last?

Work placements are up to 12 months long.

Can I decide how long I would like the work placement to last?

Companies who provide placement opportunities to our students usually have a set idea of how long they would like to employ a student on placement for. Students who undertake a placement overseas are also bound by the conditions of their work visa. Students can negotiate with an employer but lengthening or shortening the length of time spent on placement is at the employer's discretion and needs to be approved by Sheffield Hallam University.

Where will my work placement be?

We currently have placement opportunities from companies all over the UK, as well as the potential to apply for a placement in any part of the world. You may need a visa to undertake a work placement overseas.

Am I guaranteed a work placement if I join one of the work experience routes?

Our placement team advertise placement opportunities to you through our dedicated placement web site and provide support throughout the recruitment process.

Our placement support officers organise dedicated teaching sessions - including CV writing, developing interview skills, filling out job applications - to support you during your search for a work placement.

It is your responsibility to apply for the placement vacancy as you would for any job vacancy. You will then go through a recruitment process, where you may be shortlisted and invited for an interview. The employer will then contact you to let you know if you have been selected for the placement.

We cannot guarantee you a work placement. You are not given a placement and you have to work hard to find one and be successful in the recruitment process.

When does my placement search begin?

You will search for a placement during the taught element of your course, alongside your studies. The placement team advertise vacancies to you and invite you to attend employer presentations. You can also look for a placement yourself. We can advise you about this and can tell you how to have the placement university approved.

What kind of role can I expect?

Whilst you are studying to a high level it is important that you are realistic about the type of placement role that you are seeking. For many of you a work placement is likely to be your first experience in the hospitality/tourism/events industry and therefore it is important to have a realistic approach; expecting to be a manager straight away may not be possible. The important point to consider is that you regard the work experience as a good starting point to your career. Make contacts, approach your placement with a management thinking approach - even if your role is not yet managerial - consider how the theory that you learn at university applies to your work placement, and look to see how you might be able to turn your placement into a full-time job once you have finished your dissertation.

When will I start my work placement?

The course comprises one year of taught full-time masters study followed by your work placement. You will study for two semesters (September to May) at the University before undertaking your placement. Your work placement will start during the summer after you have completed your taught element (typically between June and September), and you will also continue with your dissertation during this period.

Will I get paid whilst I am on placement?

Most work placements are paid. The average UK salary while on placement is between £10,000-14,000 per annum.

What support will I receive from the University whilst I am on my work placement?

You will be allocated a placement support tutor, who will be your main point of contact while you are on your work placement. They will also be responsible for visiting you and your employer to discuss your progress.

