
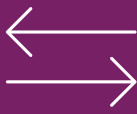



Academic partnerships and pathways involve collaboration with external education providers to offer programmes leading to Heriot-Watt University (HWU) awards or credit. This briefing paper outlines the operational models associated with various types of partnerships considered by HWU and summarises the [Academic Partnerships & Pathway Providers Document](#).

## Types of Academic Partnership and Pathway Providers

The diagram below provides a general overview of the operational models associated with HWU's academic partnership and pathway provider arrangements (**Recruitment Pathways, Mobility Partnerships, and Collaborative Partnerships**). It should be noted that some partnership arrangements may not fall completely within one of these definitions or operational models; a single partner may operate hybrid arrangements.

 <p><b>RECRUITMENT PATHWAYS</b></p>	 <p><b>MOBILITY PARTNERSHIPS</b></p>	 <p><b>COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Articulation</li> <li>• Progression Pathway</li> <li>• Associate Student Scheme</li> <li>• Scottish College Articulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange</li> <li>• Study Abroad (incoming / visiting students)</li> <li>• Study Abroad (HWU outgoing students)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EBS Delivery Partner (DP)</li> <li>• Approved Learning Partner (ALP)</li> <li>• Chinese Joint Education Partner (JEP)</li> <li>• Joint Collaborative Programme (JCP)</li> <li>• Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT)</li> <li>• Cotutelle</li> </ul>

## Key Variations and Risk Considerations

While the overview above outlines the broad categories of partnerships, it's important to note that each arrangement is unique and carries varying levels of complexity and risk.

No two partnerships are the same. Each agreement reflects the specific arrangements made with the partner(s), and the potential risks to the quality and standards of HWU programmes can vary. Every proposal therefore requires context-specific scrutiny.

For example, a jointly awarded degree can be complex due to the need to align different regulatory frameworks. By contrast, partnerships with long-standing UK institutions are generally lower risk than those with new partners or in countries where HWU has limited experience.

## Resources

- **Email:**
  - Academic Quality (International and UK): [academicpartnerships@hw.ac.uk](mailto:academicpartnerships@hw.ac.uk)
  - International Development (International): [internationaldevelopment@hw.ac.uk](mailto:internationaldevelopment@hw.ac.uk)
  - Global Student Office (Exchange and Visiting Students): [outexchange@hw.ac.uk](mailto:outexchange@hw.ac.uk)
- **Visit** the [Academic Partnerships SharePoint](#) for more information
- **Read** the [Academic Partnerships & Pathway Providers Document](#)