University of Waterloo Guidelines for International Partnership Agreements

International Partnerships

In order to consider establishing a formal international partnership agreement, Faculties and Departments are reminded of the institutional priority of enhancing Waterloo’s presence in the international arena, achieved in part by partnering with international institutions of high reputation as noted in University of Waterloo’s Strategic Plan on Global Prominence and Internationalization. This strategy is not intended to inhibit departments working with recognized departmental level excellence at an international institution. Departments are invited to discuss these opportunities with Waterloo International.

A listing of University of Waterloo’s current academic and research partnerships is available on Waterloo International’s website.

Types of Agreement & Internal Approval Process

The type of agreement and its purpose must be clearly defined and must follow the respective internal approval process noted below and contained in the Proposal for New International Partnership Agreement Form:

https://uwaterloo.ca/international/partnerships/guidelines-international-partnerships-and-agreements

General and Research Agreements:

- **General Agreement:** A simplified partnership agreement that is intended to acknowledge the intent to explore various forms of institutional cooperation with details specified in separate accompanying agreements.

- **Research Agreement:** An agreement that specifies common fields of joint research themes and activities involving mobility of students, staff, and/or faculty for research, lectures, workshops and general exchange of research documentation.

Student Mobility and Joint Academic Agreements:

- **Student Exchange Agreement:** A student mobility program type where students partake in a short term academic program (inclusive of coursework, work terms, and/or internships) at a partner host institution and pay tuition fees to their home institution. Student exchanges are based on reciprocity with an equal number of students participating in the program from the home and host institutions.

- **Study Abroad Agreement:** A student mobility program type where students partake in a short term academic program (inclusive of coursework, work terms, and/or internships) at a partner host institution and pay the respective tuition/program fees to the host institution.
**Field Study Agreement**: A student mobility program type whose pedagogy revolves around experiential learning outside the classroom setting. Examples include field research programs, internship programs, field schools, etc.

**Service Learning Agreement**: A student mobility program type whose pedagogy revolves around experiential learning with a focus on development activities that serve the needs of a community.

**Joint Academic Agreement**: A student mobility program type offering dual degrees and/or an integrated degree-awarding academic program that is officially recognized by the participating partner institutions. Examples include cotutelle, 2+2, 3+1, 3+1+1 programs, etc.

**High School Pathway**: A simplified student mobility agreement which seeks to recognize high schools with global recruitment reach and specific geographic focus to match our strategic recruitment goals as well as proven academic strength. Academic pathways enhance the transition for international students to postsecondary studies while maintaining consistency with overall Waterloo admission standards.

**Internal approval process:**

- For all agreements (both General and Research Agreements as well as Student Mobility and Joint Academic Agreements) discuss the proposal with Drew Knight (dknight@uwaterloo.ca, ext. 32288), Waterloo International/Office of Research.

- For all new agreements, complete the Proposal for New International Partnership Agreement Form and obtain the necessary approval signatures outlined on page 8 of the form:
  - (a) institutional-level agreements will be approved and signed by the Vice-President Research or Associate Vice-President International prior to a recommendation being made to the President for signature.
  - (b) discipline-level agreements will be approved and signed by the Vice-President Research or Associate Vice-President International, the respective faculty Dean(s), and respective Head/Department Chair(s) prior to a recommendation being made to the President for signature.
  - All student mobility agreements that do not follow the University of Waterloo pre-approved agreement template will require academic review and approval by the Registrar’s Office and/or Graduate Studies Office.

- For all agreement renewals/amendments that have already been processed and approved through the cycle outlined in the step above, contact Drew Knight, Waterloo International/Office of Research, to commence the renewal/amendment process:
  - (a) institutional-level agreements will be approved and signed by the Vice-President Research or Associate Vice-President International prior to a recommendation being made to the President for signature.
  - (b) discipline-level agreements will be approved and signed by the Vice-President Research or Associate Vice-President International, the respective faculty Dean(s), and respective Head/Department Chair(s) prior to a recommendation being made to the President for signature.
  - All student mobility agreements that do not follow the University of Waterloo pre-approved agreement template will require academic review and approval by the Registrar’s Office and/or Graduate Studies Office.