

| Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) Program

Launched in: 2022

In partnership with:

- University of Waterloo
- Khalifa University
- University of Sharjah
- United Arab Emirates University

The Foundation launched the WIL program to support the localization of experiential learning models at UAE universities. In line with the UAE's national growth strategy and Emiratization goals, the program focuses on enhancing the employability of UAE graduates by incorporating market-driven employment experiences in higher education.

The program connects key stakeholders through a multi-phased approach.

Phase 1: Scoping requirements, viability, and planning (Completed in 2023)

Through 160 hours of scoping analysis with multiple stakeholders, including 4 universities, this phase:

- Assessed the feasibility of implementing WIL in UAE institutions
- Explored stakeholders' needs and existing capacity
- Developed a report on WIL readiness for relevant stakeholders in the UAE
- Produced 4 practical notes on implementing WIL programs within each partner university

Phase 2: Capacity-building and local pilot implementation (2023-2025)

With the aim of facilitating capacity building, training, and resourcing, this phase aims to:

- Launch a national community of practice and an employability certificate
- Train and equip partner UAE universities to implement experiential learning

Phase 3: Expansion of WIL programs (Completed by 2026)

This phase will focus on:

- Program evaluation and adjustments
- Expansion to more universities and programs