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Addysg a Gwella Iechyd
Cymru (AaGIC)
Health Education and
Improvement Wales (HEIW)

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**Addysg a Gwella Iechyd Cymru (AaGIC)
Health Education and Improvement Wales
(HEIW)**

Ty Dysgu
Cefyn Coed, Nantgarw,
Cardiff, CF15 7QQ

Cefyn Coed, Nantgarw
Caerdydd, CF15 7QQ

9th April 2020

To: Universities

Dear Colleague,

HCPG Regulated AHP and PTP HCS Students: Supporting the Health and Care System to Combat COVID-19

As part of the joint announcement made by the Chief Allied Health Professional Officers for the four UK Nations, the HCPG and the Council of Deans of Health earlier this week, the NHS is asking third and second year undergraduate and second year postgraduate students to consider undertaking paid NHS roles to support the NHS emergency response to the COVID-19 outbreak and support our NHS resilience and capacity at this time.

HEIW is asking education providers, as the organisations with direct contact and key links to HCPG regulated AHP and Healthcare Science students, to please contact all second and third-year students, to enquire whether they would wish to opt in.

***Please note:** A UK four nations guidance document for the non-statutory regulated Healthcare science programmes is due to be shared with us imminently. We will then need to publish a document from a Welsh perspective that will be specific for these professions and therefore they are now not included in this student guidance for clarity and to avoid confusion for this student cohort.*

The options are:

Final Year Undergraduate or Postgraduate HCPG Regulated Programme Students who have met all their Practice Placement Learning Outcomes.

For you to work with the HCPG to identify final year students who are eligible to join the temporary Register. All eligible students will automatically be included on the temporary register unless the student explicitly asks for their name to be removed.

To link with students to confirm agreement to opt-in to working in practice and to discuss what happens next.

Cont./d...

To support students in joining the temporary register, both yourselves and employers will facilitate offering a bespoke package of support enabling students to practise. This will include:

- An induction including all key mandatory training requirements to ensure they are supported to practise safely
- Support to develop skills ordinarily reserved for preceptorship
- More specific guidance, for example, on the management of coronavirus and how to use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

It is recognised that they will need to be supported and supervised during such deployment to develop their confidence and skills.

Second Year of a HCPC Regulated Undergraduate Programme (or PTP programmes for healthcare scientists) and First Year Pre-registration Postgraduate Programme Students, or Pre-registration Students in the final year who have not met all their Practice Placement Learning Outcomes

Students will be invited to opt-in to an arrangement where they spend a proportion of their time in NHS or social care employment, which would be remunerated, and a proportion of their time in academic study – most likely either, 60% employment, 40% academic study or 80% employment, 20% academic study. The time set aside for academic study would build in continued academic progression and a period of structured contact with your university to ensure ongoing academic and pastoral support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We know that this is an additional ask, but we understand many education providers have already been contacted by students; this process allows you to focus these requests into one streamlined and nationally coordinated system. We have kept the data required from each student to the minimum we need.


We know this is a difficult time for all concerned, including the higher education sector, and we in the NHS are grateful for your support. This activity will directly lead to an increase in health service capacity and support sustaining the NHS can the care it provides.

Attached to this email is:

- A letter for students which we would ask you to share with them
- The student guidance document

Should you have any queries please contact Martin Riley or myself.

Your sincerely



Stephen Griffiths
Director of Nursing
Encs