



Guidance for Pre-registration Nursing Degree Programmes

Date policy agreed: March 2022

Review Date: Jan 2025



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Version Control

Date	Amendment
August 2017	Original Version
January 2019	Front Cover – replace NWSSP logo with HEIW logo
	Various pages – replace NWSSP with HEIW
	Page 7 – invoice address replaced with HEIW invoice address
	Pages 9 & 15 – Email addresses replaced with HEIW finance/commissioning addresses
January 2022	Front cover visual updated
	Programme information updated to reflect outcome of education strategic review 1 prior to new courses commencing in Sept 2022.

Pre-registration Nursing Programmes

Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) is responsible for commissioning education and training to meet the needs of the NHS in Wales. There are a number of pre-registration nursing programmes that fall within this remit.

Each year, HEIW funds places on behalf of NHS Wales on pre-registration nursing programmes. The current pre-registration nursing programmes are:

- 3 year nursing degree programme
- Accelerated nursing degree programme for HCSWs
- Part time/flexible nursing degree programme
- Full time distance learning nursing degree programme
- Full time dispersed learning nursing degree programme
- MSc/Post-Graduate Diploma 2 year pre-registration nursing programme

This all Wales guidance describes the different pre-registration nursing programmes that HEIW commission and details their funding arrangements.

3 Year full-time Nursing Degree Programme

A 3 year full-time nursing programme that consists of 50% university based teaching and 50% clinical placement based learning.

Entry requirements

Individuals that meet the entry requirements of their chosen university are eligible to apply for the programme through UCAS. Details of entry requirements can be accessed from the universities individual web sites.

HEIW commission the following fields of nursing from the five Welsh universities detailed below:

[University of South Wales](#)

Adult, Child, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities

[Cardiff University](#)

Adult, Child and Mental Health

[Aberystwyth University](#)

Adult and Mental Health

[Swansea University](#)

Adult, Child, Mental Health and Learning Disabilities

Bangor University

Adult, Child, Mental Health, Learning Disabilities, Full and Part time distance learning degree programme and Full and Part time dispersed learning degree programme

Undergraduate courses - Wrexham Glyndwr University

Adult, Child, Mental Health

Funding

Funding arrangements for the 3 year pre-registration nursing programme are as follows:

- Applicants can **only** apply for an **NHS Wales Bursary** from [Student Awards Services \(SAS\)](#) on agreement to commit to work in Wales for 2 years on completion of their programme (18 months for PG Dip or accelerated 2year Programmes). Applicants must register their intentions on the [Welsh Health Registration System](#) on the SAS website, and complete the declaration within the NHS Wales Bursary Scheme Terms and Conditions.

The **NHS Wales Bursary Scheme** provides the following financial support to students:

- The cost of tuition fees
 - A means-tested bursary for living costs
 - £1,000 non means tested grant,
 - In addition students are supported for costs such as travel and accommodation (whilst on placement), Childcare, Disabled Student Allowance, Dependents Allowance and Parental Learning Allowance.
 - If eligible, you will have access to a reduced student loan (subject to Student Loans Company regulations)
- Welsh domiciled students, who do not wish to commit to work in Wales on completion of their course, will have access to the standard student support package available from [Student Finance Wales](#).
 - Non-Welsh domiciled students, who do not wish to commit to work in Wales will continue to be eligible to study in Wales but will need to secure funding from an alternative source, this may include funding from the relevant funding body in their home country or self-finance.
 - Students can self-finance their training

2 year full-time nursing degree programme for HCSWs

A full-time programme for HCSWs to join the 3 year full-time nursing degree course at year 2.

Entry requirements

HCSWs that have successfully completed one of the courses in the following list are eligible to apply to enter onto the 3 year nursing degree programme at year 2. There may be other education programmes that enable access to year 2 of the programme, further details can be obtained from individual universities.

Details of entry requirements can be accessed from the universities individual web sites.

[Certificate in Health Care Studies for Health Care Support Workers](#)

Swansea University

[Cert HE in Health Care Nursing Support Worker Education](#)

University of South Wales

[Foundation Degree \(FdSc\) Healthcare Practice](#)

Coleg Llandrillo

Funding

The funding arrangements are the same as for the full 3 year programme detailed above.

Up to 4 years part-time/flexible Nursing Degree Programme

A part-time/flexible programme for current HCSWs employed within NHS Wales. This is also available to HCSWs who work within GP practices, where the GP has agreed to release the member of staff for the agreed time, and the local health Board has agreed to support this staff member in terms of the commission and placement provision.

The HCSW will spend the agreed number of hours per week as a student nurse, with the remainder of their weekly contracted hours fulfilling their current role as a HCSW in their substantive employment.

The university may configure the weekly hours into block periods of learning, rather than a number of hours every week. The completion of these hours will provide sufficient time over the duration of the course for the student to complete the required amount of placement hours and have study time, as per NMC regulations.

[Aberystwyth University](#)

[Wrexham Glyndwr University](#)

[Swansea University](#)

[Bangor University](#)

[University of South Wales](#)

Entry requirements

This route is available for those HCSWs that meet the university's eligibility criteria to apply, entry requirements can be accessed from the universities individual web sites.

HCSWs may be eligible to join the part-time/flexible nursing programme at various points along the programme dependant on their qualifications. Further information can be obtained from individual universities.

Confirmation on whether the student is eligible for funding **should only be sought** from HEIW where the student has previously started, but not completed, a pre-registration nursing programme that has also included all or some salary contributions.

In these instances, education providers must contact HEIW, to confirm whether the student is entitled to further funding before offering an NHS Wales place to the student. Each student will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Funding

Funding arrangements for the part-time/flexible nursing programme are as follows:

- Tuition fees paid by HEIW
- Applicants who take up a training place on a part time/flexible nursing degree programme **will remain employed with their current employer** for the duration of the course.
- The employer will continue to pay the HCSW an annual salary equal to their current substantive salary for the duration of the course. The HCSW will continue to pay their usual deductions from their salary, such as pension contributions, tax and National Insurance contributions.
- Employers should seek reimbursement from HEIW of HCSW salary backfill costs at a rate of 16 hours per week at the current salary rate of the HCSW but no more than at midpoint of agenda for change band 3. The remaining required hours (up to 7 hours) **MUST** be funded by the employing organisation. HEIs need to ensure that all employing organisations are made aware of this commitment otherwise the funding could be removed.

- HCSWs will only be reimbursed for travel costs in respect of travelling to clinical placements/higher education institution within Wales that **exceeds** the daily cost of travel between their **home and work base**. No reimbursement of expenses should be made to any student undertaking, on request, a placement outside Wales where a placement within Wales would have been available.
- NHS Wales HCSWs will be required to have an e-expenses account to claim reimbursement of travel expenses.
- Employers should submit Invoices to HEIW on a monthly basis detailing the breakdown of those costs in respect of:
 - a. HCSW salary backfill costs (16 hours) plus employer on-costs for the duration of the course (excluding overtime and any enhancements).
 - b. The cost of travel to the student from travelling to and from their clinical placement and/or higher education institution that **exceeds** the daily cost of travel between their **home and work base**
 - c. Reimbursed authorised mileage is at the NHS Wales reserve rate (previous public transport rate), currently 28 pence per mile. The HCSW's manager at the NHS Wales Organisation should ensure all travel claims are verified with the Education Lead in their organisation/HEI before these are approved for payment.
 - d. Please see Appendix A - Flowchart for the reimbursement of placement expenses.
 - e. NHS lease car payments will not be reimbursed by HEIW. If any charges are incurred with lease car return, please contact HEIW finance on ETFinance.HEIW@wales.nhs.uk.
 - f. HEIW will reimburse costs in excess of normal car parking fees incurred by HCSWs to attend HEI/clinical placements. However, if a HCSW normally incurs car parking fees at their place of work, only fees in excess of this amount will be reimbursed.
- Invoices should be labelled for the attention of HEIW and submitted to HEIW, PO Box 123, Pontypool, NP4 4DW or ETFinance.HEIW@wales.nhs.uk.
- HCSWs on this programme are **not** eligible to apply for the NHS Wales bursary scheme.

Maternity/paternity Leave

HEIW will not reimburse employer's costs arising from a student's absence from training due to extended maternity leave.

The HEI and NHS Organisation must contact HEIW when the student returns to their training to recommence backfill contributions.

Additional general information relating to maternity/paternity leave for all pre-registration nursing programmes can be found in the "Information for all Pre-registration Nursing Programmes" section below.

Sick Leave

HEIW will not reimburse employer's costs arising from a student's absence from training due to extended Sick leave.

The HEI and NHS Organisation must contact HEIW when the student returns to their training to recommence backfill contributions.

Additional general information relating to sick leave for all pre-registration nursing programmes can be found in the "Information for all Pre-registration Nursing Programmes" section below.

2 Year full-time Post-graduate Nursing Programme

A 2 year full-time post-graduate nursing programme that consists of 50% university based teaching and 50% clinical placement based learning.

HEIW commission the 2 year post-graduate full-time nursing programme from the following Welsh universities:

[Cardiff University](#)

[Glyndwr University](#)

[Swansea University](#)

[University of South Wales](#)

Entry requirements

This programme is available to individuals who have already achieved a first degree. Further details on entry requirements can be obtained from individual universities.

Funding

Funding arrangements for the 2 year pre-registration post-graduate nursing programme are as follows:

- Applicants can **only** apply for an **NHS Wales Bursary** from [Student Awards Services \(SAS\)](#) on agreement to commit to work in Wales for 18 months on completion of their programme. Applicants must register their intentions on the [Welsh Health Registration System](#) on the SAS website and complete the declaration within the NHS Wales Bursary Scheme Terms and Conditions.

The **NHS Wales Bursary Scheme** provides the following financial support to students:

- The cost of tuition fees
 - A means-tested bursary for living costs
 - £1,000 non means tested grant,
 - In addition students are supported for costs such as travel and accommodation (whilst on placement), Childcare, Disabled Student Allowance, Dependents Allowance and Parental Learning Allowance.
- Non-Welsh domiciled students, who do not wish to commit to work in Wales will continue to be eligible to study in Wales but will need to secure funding from an alternative source, this may include funding from the relevant funding body in their home country or self finance.
- Students can self-finance their training
 - Post-graduate students are NOT entitled to a student loan.

Information for all Pre-registration Nursing Programmes

Maternity/paternity Leave

Students should adhere to their employer's/university's Maternity, Adoption, Paternity and Parental Leave policies.

Where a student needs the length of their training to be extended due to maternity leave, the HEI should formally request additional funding from HEIW by completing the relevant change request form.

Sick Leave

Students should adhere to their employer's/Universities Sickness Leave policy.

Where a student needs the length of their training to be extended due to Sickness, the HEI should formally request additional funding from HEIW by completing the relevant change request form.

If you have any queries or need further explanation then please email:
ETFinance.HEIW@wales.nhs.uk/ HEIW.EdCommissioning@wales.nhs.uk.

Appendix A

Flowchart for the reimbursement of placement expenses

