



10th August 2020

Dear Colleague,

Re: Funding for Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship Project and Learning Disability Nursing Apprenticeships

Health Education England (HEE) are delighted to announce a funding package to support the growth of Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeships (RNDA) in the NHS.

The government manifesto committed to increasing the nursing workforce by 50,000 and apprenticeships will play a key part in this.

We have over 1000 Registered Nurse Apprentices currently on programme and would like to recognise the commitment of their employers in making this happen despite the significant financial challenges. The Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship (RNDA) is the most requested apprenticeship on the National Apprenticeship Service so we require 2 strands to this expansion, new recruits into the NHS and the progression of the existing workforce. This RNDA apprenticeship workstream includes an employer support package and will therefore provide substantial solutions to one of the major areas of concerns from employers – the costs of employing an RNDA.

A 'Training Grant' of £8,300 is payable to the employer of each apprentice per year. This grant is available across all four fields of nursing practice (adult, child, mental health and learning disability). This is available for new starts, and those already on programme going into years 2, 3 and 4 of the apprenticeship.

The funding can be used to support off the job supernumerary elements of the apprenticeship, to support employers with implementing this programme or increasing their current offer.

Note: The new post Covid-19 recovery initiative of financial incentives announced by the Department of Education of £1500 for over 25s, or £2000 for under 25s, per apprentice start (only for apprentices new to workforce), can be added to the £8300 payment for each new RNDA starter in 2020, but not to apprentice RNDAs already on programme.

Further information packs, workshops and webinars will be arranged shortly but in the meantime we would ask you to engage with your regional HEE Nursing Leads and HEE Apprenticeship Relationship Managers to begin scoping potential demand for September 2020 starts onwards.

System (STP/ICS) working is encouraged and procuring apprenticeships at a system level is expected to be the default position. Workforce planning for the duration of the project is essential to ensure HEI capacity and to identify the talent pipeline needed to achieve and exceed this target. On completion of their apprenticeship, these Registered Nurses will be employed in NHS Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups, and General Practices in England.

Learning Disability Nursing Apprenticeships

The learning disability nursing apprenticeship offer will continue in the 20/21 financial year and will offer an additional payment of £3900 per apprentice per year.

The eligible apprenticeships routes include: -

- Undergraduate learning disability nursing apprenticeships
- Postgraduate learning disability nursing apprenticeships
- Nursing Associates moving to learning disability nursing apprenticeships
- Apprentices starting this year as Trainee Nursing Associates (TNA) in a learning disability service identified to continue on to an undergraduate learning disability nursing apprenticeship upon successful completion of their TNA course. This is sometimes referred to as the 2 by 2 route¹

The full employer grant of £3,900 a year will be available to each apprentice who starts training by 31st March 2021.

If you would like to apply for the funding offer, please complete and return the Expression of Interest form to nursingapprenticeproject@hee.nhs.uk as soon as possible.

If you have any queries or questions, please contact our team on the above email address or your local Relationship Manager for Apprenticeships;

North West - Gemma Hall gemma.hall@hee.nhs.uk

North East and Yorkshire – Fay Lane fay.lane@hee.nhs.uk

Midlands - Liz Sahu liz.sahu@hee.nhs.uk

East of England – Rob Brooks rob.brooks@hee.nhs.uk

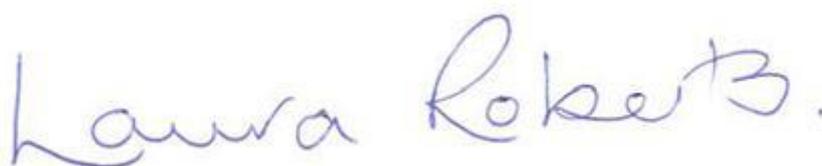
London – Jennifer Stone jennifer.stone@hee.nhs.uk

South East - Elaine Lancaster elaine.lancaster@hee.nhs.uk

South West – James Orpin-Wright james.orpin-wright@hee.nhs.uk

This letter has been sent to all Chief Nurses and Trust Apprenticeship Leads as collaboration will be vital to ensure the sustainability and success of this programme and ensure the apprenticeship levy commitment to fund the required degree apprenticeships are accurately forecasted.

Kind regards



Laura Roberts

Director of Skills Development & Participation

Health Education England

¹ 2 by 2 refers to the minimum time it may take depending on accreditation of prior learning afforded by the awarding organisation.