SFC Annoucement

Intake targets and funded places for the controlled subject of pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery in universities for academic year 2015-16

Issue date: 2 April 2015

Reference: SFC/AN/07/2015

Summary: The purpose of this publication is to announce the intake targets and funded places for the controlled subject of pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery in academic year 2015-16.

FAO: Principals and Directors of Scotland’s universities

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Intake targets and funded places for the controlled subject of pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery in universities for academic year 2015-16

Purpose

1. I am writing to announce the recommended intake targets and funded places for the controlled subjects of pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery for the academic year (AY) 2015-16. These are set out in the following tables:

- Table 1: Intake targets and funded places for existing commissioned providers of pre-registration provision (ring-fenced places funded by the Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorates)
- Table 2: Intake targets and funded places for Honours programmes

Background

2. Annually we receive Guidance from the Scottish Government’s Chief Nursing Officer’s Directorate, providing recommended intakes for pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education. Details of the Chief Nursing Officer’s Guidance for 2015-16 is provided in Appendix A.

3. From 2015-16, the Guidance from the Scottish Government has provided us with intake targets for all pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education. This includes the existing commissioned places which are funded through a Scottish Government ring-fenced grant, and places which were previously part of some universities’ core grant which were used for Honours Nursing provision.

Recommended intake targets and funded places

4. The overall intake target for 2015-16, as recommended by the Scottish Government, for pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education is 3,038 FTEs. Of this, 2,766 places have been allocated to the six universities set out in Table 1. Table 2 provides a breakdown of the intakes for the SFC funded places for the six universities delivering Honours provision; this totals 252 FTEs. The remaining 20 places have been allocated to the Open University in Scotland which provides pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery programmes in remote and rural areas under the terms of a contract with the Chief Nursing Officer’s Directorate.

5. The overall recommended intake to all pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery programmes has been increased by around 3%; the recommended intake to Honours programmes remains at the same level as advised last year.
6. In Table 1 we have also set-out details of funded places covering all course years. The funded places have been discussed and agreed with Chief Nursing Officer’s Directorate. In arriving at these funded places we have taken account of actual students in previous years and applied institutional progression rates. We have also reviewed the student number returns relating to courses that count towards pre-registration education and we have tried to better align intake targets and funded places.

7. We continue to implement the Scottish Government’s policy of bringing together and placing controls on all Nursing and Midwifery provision. This includes Honours provision that was non-commissioned. We are phasing in these controls and now have two cohorts controlled; Table 2 sets-out these funded places. These are not additional places; we are reducing universities’ core non-controlled funded places in return for Nursing places.

8. The intakes for controlled subjects and funded student places will be monitored in AY 2015-16 for notable levels of over-recruitment as well as under-recruitment. Our arrangement, which applies to the existing six commissioned providers, is that the upper limit universities are able to recruit is 10% or 10 places (whichever is larger) above their funded places. For under-recruitment the tolerance is 3% under the funded places, before any clawback will be applied.

9. The above controls also apply to the SFC funded provision (four year Honours), however, it is our intention that we will deal with breaches of tolerance flexibly on a case by case basis while we move towards a fully controlled cohort.

Further information

10. Please contact Gavin Bruce, Assistant Director of Funding Policy,
    Tel: 0131 313 6585, email: gbruce@sfc.ac.uk.

    Martin Smith
    Deputy Director, Funding Policy
Table 1: Intake targets and funded places for existing commissioned providers of pre-registration provision (ring-fenced places funded by the Scottish Government Health and Social Care Directorates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>AY 2015-16 intake target</th>
<th>AY 2015-16 funded places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Dundee</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>1,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh Napier University</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>1,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian University</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Gordon University</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Stirling</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of the West of Scotland</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>2,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,766</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,700</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Intake targets and funded places for Honours programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>AY 2015-16 intake target</th>
<th>AY 2015-16 funded places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abertay University</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Edinburgh</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glasgow Caledonian University</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Glasgow</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen Margaret University</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Gordon University</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>252</strong></td>
<td><strong>457</strong></td>
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</table>
Dear Mr Howells

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY PRE-REGISTRATION EDUCATION

This letter is to advise Scottish Funding Council of the Scottish Government Health & Social Care Directorates’ proposals on recommended intake targets for nursing and midwifery pre-registration education programmes for academic year 2015-16.

Having considered all of the factors involved, Scottish Ministers have decided that the overall intake for all pre-registration nursing and midwifery education programmes should be increased to 3,038 in 2015-16, of this, the Honours programmes intake remains at the same level as last year i.e. 252 FTEs. This represents an overall recommended increase of 88 FTEs from academic year 2015-16. Scottish Ministers have taken this view in response to changing patterns of care and service delivery across NHS Scotland.

The target intake has been distributed by allocating 3,018 places to the ten institutions funded under this arrangement. Recommended intake targets, by institution and branch, are set out in the annex to this letter. The remaining 20 places have been allocated to the Open University, which provides pre-registration nursing programmes in remote and rural areas under the terms of a contract with the Chief Nursing Officer Directorate.

Subject to discussions with SFC over the calculation of the fundable student population and confirmation of the funding for session 2015-16, we will transfer the appropriate level of funding required for 2015-16.

As you are aware, Scottish Ministers have set an upper limit to the number of students universities might recruit into controlled subjects, including nursing and midwifery. In recognition of the comparatively small number of places at institutional level, the upper limit has been set at 10% or 10 places, whichever is the larger. In addition, where an Institution achieves a nursing and midwifery student population that is lower than the SFC tolerance of 3% of the total fundable number, funding may be clawed back from them. SGHD and SFC will liaise over any requirement to claw back an element of the allocated funding.
Lastly, I am keen to ensure that the universities continue to support the strategic aims identified in *Setting the Direction for Nursing & Midwifery Education* and work in partnership to develop an educational infrastructure that is efficient, effective and sustainable. I would expect that universities to continue to develop and enhance partnership working – both locally and nationally - to meet these important aims.

This letter is copied to the Principals and Heads of Schools of Nursing and Midwifery of the HEIs, the Scottish Academic Heads Group, Rebekah Widdowfield and Gillian Morrison, Higher Education and Learner Support (HELS).

Yours sincerely

Fiona Mc Queen  
Interim Chief Nursing Officer
### Annex A

**Recommended intake targets for 2015-16**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>MH</th>
<th>LD</th>
<th>CH</th>
<th>Midwifery</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dundee</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>GCU</td>
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<td>75</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>53</td>
<td><strong>569</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>RGU</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
<td><strong>324</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stirling</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>UWS</td>
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<td>113</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>70</td>
<td><strong>706</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abertay</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Glasgow</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td><strong>43</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>QMU</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OU</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2100</strong></td>
<td><strong>420</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>245</strong></td>
<td><strong>173</strong></td>
<td><strong>3038</strong></td>
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