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Martin Smith
Chief Funding and Information Officer
Scottish Funding Council

cc Gavin Bruce, SFC
Duncan Condie, SFC
Helen Raftopoulos, SFC

26 January 2017

Dear Martin

**FUNDING OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION FOR RUK STUDENTS FROM 2017/18**

I am writing with regard to the funding arrangements for nursing, midwifery and allied health professional (AHP) students from the rest of the United Kingdom (rUK) who will study in Scottish institutions from academic year 2017/18.

You may be aware that a voluntary reciprocal arrangement has been in place for a number of years with the other administrations in the UK that allows students who normally live in Scotland to study nursing, midwifery and allied health professional courses at institutions in other parts of the UK and receive support from the country they are studying in and vice versa.

Following the decision of the UK Government to remove the health bursary and move to a loans based support package for nursing, midwifery and AHP students from academic year 2017/18 we have, along with the other home countries, been reviewing the reciprocal arrangement and Scottish Ministers have now decided that it should come to an end for new students.

This means that from academic year 2017/18 new students from rUK who choose to study in Scotland should apply to their home country for fee and living cost support. The situation for Scottish students who choose to study in another part of the UK is that they should apply to the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) for the standard undergraduate support package of a tuition fee loan, means-tested bursary and living-cost loan.

For existing students who are already receiving support under the reciprocal arrangement we would like to maintain the reciprocal funding arrangements that were in place for 2016/17 until these students complete their studies, this includes payment of fees and support from the Nursing and Midwifery Student Bursary Scheme.

Our recently announced nursing and midwifery intake recommendation of 4.7% in the Academic Year 2017/18, will include any students who choose to study in Scotland.

If you need any further information about these changes or have any questions, please get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Hugh Masters

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hugh Masters", enclosed in a light blue rectangular border.

Hugh Masters
Associate Chief Nursing Officer