

Funding for Additional MSc Physiotherapy Students AY 2025-26



Funding for Additional MSc Physiotherapy Students AY 2025-26

Issue Date:	27 November 2025
Reference:	SFC/AN/22/2025
Summary:	Announcement of funding for additional MSc Physiotherapy students recruited by universities in Academic Year 2025-26.
FAO:	Principals and Finance Directors of Scotland's universities and the general public.
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Funding for additional MSc Physiotherapy students in AY 2025-26

Summary

1. I write to announce funding for additional pre-registration MSc Physiotherapy students recruited by universities through the September and January intakes of Academic Year (AY) 2025-26.

Background

2. This additional funding is related to the Scottish Government's commitment to fund additional advanced Musculo-Skeletal (MSK) practitioners in Primary Care.
3. Four providers recruited 34 additional students in AY 2025-26 and 48 continuing students are being funded for year 2 of their studies. SFC will administer the funding associated with the additional recruitment for both year groups.
4. AY 2025-26 will be the last year that providers will recruit to the programme. Funding has been set aside by the Scottish Government for students that have started their studies to complete their course in future years.

Funding for AY 2025-26

5. This funding announcement covers the total of 82 additional students across two years of study.
6. In discussions between the Scottish Government, NHS Education for Scotland and the relevant universities, it was agreed that the funding associated with these additional students would be based on each university's postgraduate fees for each year, rather than at SFC's teaching subject price. As a result of this arrangement, the additional MSc Physiotherapy funding will sit outside of SFC's Main Teaching Grant model and no funded student places will be allocated for this additional provision.
7. **Total funding of £869,665 will be allocated in AY 2025-26**, with payment due to be made in December 2025. The table below sets out the funding for each university, broken down by year group.

Table 1: Funding allocations for additional MSc Physiotherapy students in AY 2025-26

Institution	Allocation for Year 1 students	Allocation for Year 2 students	Total allocation for AY 2025-26
Edinburgh Napier University	£32,445	£129,780	£162,225
Glasgow Caledonian University	£122,200	£169,200	£291,400
Queen Margaret University	£105,390	£122,650	£228,040
Robert Gordon University	£105,750	£82,250	£188,000
Total	£365,785	£503,880	£869,665

Table 1 has been updated to take account of revised student numbers and an updated fee assumption.

Conditions of grant

8. It is a condition of grant that universities should not charge additional pre-registration MSc Physiotherapy students a tuition fee, in addition to the funding provided through this allocation.
9. Universities should work with Scottish Government colleagues in the Chief Nursing Officer's Directorate on the monitoring of MSc Physiotherapy students and provide student number data as required.

Acceptance of funding

10. We cannot process any payment until you have accepted this offer of grant in writing. Please sign this letter and return by email to Caroline Sutherland, Budgeting and Reporting Officer, email: grantacceptance@sfc.ac.uk, **by Friday 5 December 2025**. You should contact Hazel McCartney, Senior Funding Policy Officer, email: hmccartney@sfc.ac.uk if you have any queries about this offer of funding.

Tiffany Ritchie

Acting Director of Finance