



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoinachaidh na h-Alba

Intake Targets for Paramedic Education AY 2022-23

SFC Announcement

Issue Date: 22 March 2022

University intake targets for Paramedic Education in AY 2022-23

Issue date: 22 March 2022

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Summary: Announcement of intake targets for the Paramedic Education programme for Academic Year 2022-23.

FAO: Principals/Chairs of Scotland's Universities

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University intake targets for Paramedic Education in AY 2022-23

Purpose

1. I am writing to announce the intake targets for BSc Paramedic Education programmes in universities for Academic Year (AY) 2022-23.

Background

2. This is the third year of SFC issuing guidance on university intake targets for the BSc Paramedic Education programme. SFC will confirm the funded places and funding associated with this programme in the final funding announcement for AY 2022-23 due to be published at the end of May. The five Scottish universities that were previously awarded contracts to deliver Paramedic Education will continue to deliver this programme in AY 2022-23.
3. In setting the intake targets for the third cohort of BSc Paramedic Education programmes in AY 2022-23, SFC received guidance from the Scottish Government's Chief Nursing Officer's (CNO) Directorate. The CNO Directorate's guidance for AY 2022-23 is provided as Annex A and the recommended intake targets for each university are provided as Annex B with this announcement.

Intake targets for AY 2022-23

4. The overall intake target for Paramedic Education in AY 2022-23, as recommended by the CNO Directorate, is **335 students** with 'home fee' status; an increase of **11.7%** to the overall intake target from AY 2021-22. This equates to an additional 35 students. The AY 2022-23 intake targets for each of the five universities are set out in Table 1 below.
5. Funded student places will be provided in the final funding announcement for AY 2022-23. SFC will liaise with universities on the allocation of places prior to their announcement.
6. Funded places allocated by SFC for students on year 1 of the programme should be similar to the intake target for each university, with funded places for years 2 and 3 to be based on projections of continuing students. Paramedic Education places will continue to be funded at SFC Teaching Subject Price Group 4.
7. We recognise that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the last two AYs have been extremely challenging and this was reflected in student recruitment to Paramedic Education. In AY 2022-23 however, it is our expectation that universities should make every effort to recruit to the intake targets in this letter.

Rest of UK and international students

8. The intake targets, below, are for students with 'home fee' status. Universities can recruit rest of UK (rUK), Republic of Ireland (RoI) and international students, but should discuss any such recruitment with the Scottish Ambulance Service and placement providers before doing so. RUK, RoI, and international students cannot be counted against the intake targets.

Monitoring

9. Universities should return information on students on their Paramedic Education programmes to SFC through their annual Early Statistics Returns. Details of the information required will be published in the annual Early Statistics Return Notes of Guidance on the SFC website.
10. Any monitoring requirements set out in the original contract between NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and the universities will remain in place.

Under-recruitment policy

11. SFC will operate an under-recruitment policy for the Paramedic Education programme in AY 2022-23. We may recover funding if universities under-recruit against their funded student places, subject to a tolerance of 3%. This is subject to consideration of any mitigating evidence presented by universities. Specific allocations of funded places will be provided in the final funding announcement.
12. If a university recruits below the tolerance threshold then SFC will write to them to set out the potential funding to be recovered and to request details of any mitigating circumstances before a final decision is made on whether any funding is to be recovered. If it is agreed that recovery should go ahead then we will recover Main Teaching Grant equivalent to that associated with the recruitment below the tolerance threshold.

Over-recruitment policy

13. SFC will continue to operate an over-recruitment ('consolidation') policy for Paramedic Education in AY 2022-23. Universities may be liable for a financial penalty if they exceed their 'consolidation number' by more than 10%. This is subject to consideration of any mitigating evidence presented by universities.
14. If a university recruits above the tolerance threshold then SFC will write to them to set out the potential financial penalty to be applied and to request details of any mitigating circumstances before a final decision is made. If it is agreed that any financial penalty should be applied, the penalty will reflect the additional tuition fee income associated with those students recruited above

the tolerance threshold.

Further information

15. Please contact Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer, Finance Directorate, tel: 0131 313 6671, email: dcondie@sfc.ac.uk.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Brown', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chris Brown

Interim Director of Finance

Table 1: Breakdown of university intake targets for Paramedic Education in AY 2022-23

University	Intake target for AY 2022-23 (students)
Glasgow Caledonian University	67
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	67
Robert Gordon University	67
University of Stirling	67
University of the West of Scotland	67
Total	335