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Karen Watt  
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Scottish Funding Council  
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Dear Karen

## **PRE-REGISTRATION BSc PARAMEDIC EDUCATION**

This letter is to advise Scottish Funding Council (SFC) of the Scottish Government Health & Social Care Directorate's (SGHD) proposal on the recommended intake target for the new BSc Paramedic Education programmes which are to commence in Academic Year (AY) 2022-23.

The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that there is an adequate supply of paramedics coming through the system to meet projected workforce numbers and ensure a sustainable workforce for the future.

The total overall recommended intake target to paramedic education programmes will be 335 Scottish domiciled students.

As with previous years, Ministers consider that the funded places allocated by the SFC should be similar to the intake target for each university. I have set out below the Universities and intake targets for each institution. Institutions should ensure they recruit students within the limits of their intake target.

As agreed, in AY 2021-22, SFC will model the required number of funded places for each new intake and for the continuing cohorts of eligible students. Subject to agreement over the number of funded places each year SGHD will transfer the required funding for each financial year (the AY allocation will be split on a 62% / 38% basis).

SFC should monitor the paramedic education programme through their annual Early and Final Statistics Returns, collecting information on both the annual intake and total number of students enrolled on the programme.

SFC should recover funds for under-enrolment against funded student places and impose a penalty for over recruitment against the consolidation number. In doing so SFC should recover funds from universities who under-recruit eligible students against funded places by

more than 3% and apply penalties to universities who exceed their consolidation number by more than 10%.

The recommended intake in this letter is for Scottish domiciled students. Institutions are at liberty to accept rest of UK (rUK) and International students but the SFC should not provide funding for these students, and universities should discuss any recruitment above the intake target with the Scottish Ambulance Service and placement providers.

I would be grateful if SFC would now make the necessary arrangements for the 2022-23 intake, including to continue to work closely with SGHD officials and those within Scottish Government Higher Education policy to ensure developments are well aligned to the widening access work taking place in Scotland.

This letter is copied to Universities Principals, Heads of Schools of the relevant HEIs, the Council of Deans Health (Scotland), NHS Education for Scotland, Scottish Ambulance Service, Student Awards Agency Scotland, Director General Health and Social Care, Director General Education, Communities and Justice, and Directors of Advanced Learning and Science.

Yours sincerely,

Jessica McPherson  
**Chief Nursing Officer's Directorate**