



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

**Additional funding for staff to
develop simulated clinical
placements within universities**

SFC Announcement

Issue Date: 3 June 2021

Additional funding for staff to develop simulated clinical placements within universities

Issue date: 3 June 2021

Reference: SFC/AN/18/2021

Summary: Announcement of additional funding for AY 2020-21 and AY 2021-22 to allow universities to employ additional staff to develop simulated placements within a university setting.

FAO: Principals / Finance Directors of Scotland's universities

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Additional funding for staff to develop simulated clinical placements within universities

Summary

1. I am writing to announce additional funding for universities in Academic Years (AYs) 2020-21 and 2021-22 for the purpose of employing additional staff to develop simulated clinical placements within a university setting.

Background

2. As part of the Scottish Government's commitment to ensure that there are sufficient placement opportunities for students studying Nursing and Midwifery and the Allied Health Professions, given the additional pressures brought about by COVID-19, additional funding of £3.8 million has been made available for the development of simulated clinical placements within university settings. The funding should be used primarily to employ additional members of staff to develop the university's capacity to offer simulated clinical placements.
3. The Scottish Government recognises that additional placement capacity will be required in the remainder of AY 2020-21 and in AY 2021-22.
4. The letter from the Scottish Government to SFC confirming the transfer of funds for the purpose of funding the development of simulated clinical placements is attached as Annex A.

Allied Health Professions

5. Each university who offers an Allied Health Professions course which leads to registration will be allocated 1.0 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) post per professional area which they offer. Each FTE is funded at £66,330 per annum, which is based on 2020 pay rates at midpoint Grade 8, plus costs.
6. The exceptions to this are in Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy where, taking into account the size of the annual student intakes, 2.0 FTE will be allocated per university. For Paramedic Education 0.4 FTE will be allocated per university, this reflects these courses having recently commenced and only having one cohort of students in AY 2020-21 and two cohorts in AY 2021-22.
7. The breakdown of funding for each university is set out in Table 1 below.

Nursing and Midwifery

8. Each university who offers a Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery course will be allocated funding for a maximum of 2.0 FTE posts. The number of posts to be funded is based on each university's intake target for AY 2020-21.

9. For universities with an intake target of more than 200 students the allocation will be 2.0 FTE, for universities with an intake target of between 100 and 200 students the allocation will be 1.0 FTE, and for universities with an intake target of less than 100 students the allocation will be 0.5 FTE.
10. The Open University in Scotland has not been allocated any additional posts due to their unique course structure and funding model.
11. The breakdown of funding for each university is set out in Table 1 below.

Monitoring and recovery of funds

12. In order to allow SFC to monitor the use of this additional funding to develop simulated clinical placements, universities are asked to submit an interim report in October 2021 and a final report in October 2022. The report will ask universities to return the number of staff recruited to post at the end of each academic year for each Allied Health Profession professional area and for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery, and other significant related costs. A template report is provided as Annex B.
13. Funding may be recovered by SFC following receipt of the final report in line with the criteria set out below:
 - SFC intends to recover one third of the full funding associated with each post if it is reported as unfilled in the interim report but reported as filled in the final report.
 - If a post is reported as unfilled in both the interim and final reports then SFC intends to recover the full funding associated with that post.
 - If a post is reported as filled in the interim report but unfilled in the final report then SFC will recover funding in proportion to the number of months that the post was unfilled.
14. If there are any mitigating circumstances which universities wish SFC to take into account when making a final decision on recovery of funds, these should be presented to SFC along with the final report.
15. The interim and final reports should be submitted to funding@sfc.ac.uk according to the deadlines for each submission set out below:
 - Interim report: 29 October 2021.
 - Final report: 31 October 2022.

Payment of funds

16. Funding for AY 2020-21 will be paid to universities in two equal tranches

between June 2021 and July 2021. Funding for AY 2021-22 will be paid to universities according to the profile below:

Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	6.25%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%

Conditions of grant

17. This funding should only be used for the purpose(s) for which it is being allocated, i.e. employing additional staff to develop simulated clinical placements within universities and related costs. SFC retains the right to audit relevant university documentation to satisfy itself that this is the case (and the university undertakes that it will provide such assistance as SFC reasonably requires).
18. Universities must meet the reporting requirements of this funding, as set out.

Further information

19. If you have any queries or require any further information, please contact Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer: dcondie@sfc.ac.uk.



Lorna MacDonald
Director of Finance

Table 1 – Additional Funding for Simulated Clinical Placements AY 2020-21 and AY 2021-22

Table 1 - Funding for Simulated Clinical Placements AY 2020-21 and AY 2021-22

Institution	Additional Staff										Funding	
	Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery	Dietetics	Occupational Therapy	Arts Therapies	Paramedic Science	Physiotherapy	Podiatry	Speech & Language Therapy	Physiotherapy & Occupational Therapy	Total Additional Staff	AY 2020-21 Funding	AY 2021-22 Funding
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Abertay Dundee, University of	0.5									0.5	16,583	33,165
Dundee, University of	2.0									2.0	66,330	132,660
Edinburgh Napier University	2.0								1.0	3.0	99,495	198,990
Edinburgh, University of	0.5									0.5	16,583	33,165
Glasgow Caledonian University	2.0	1.0	2.0		0.4	2.0	1.0			8.4	278,586	557,172
Glasgow, University of	0.5									0.5	16,583	33,165
Highlands and Islands, University of the	1.0									1.0	33,165	66,330
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	0.4	2.0	1.0	1.0		9.4	311,751	623,502
Robert Gordon University	2.0	1.0	2.0		0.4	2.0				7.4	245,421	490,842
Stirling, University of	2.0				0.4					2.4	79,596	159,192
Strathclyde, University of								1.0		1.0	33,165	66,330
West of Scotland, University of the	2.0				0.4					2.4	79,596	159,192
Total	15.5	3.0	6.0	1.0	2.0	6.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	38.5	1,276,854	2,553,705