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**Scoping Demand & Eligibility Criteria for HEE Funding for Advanced Practice Development**

## Re: Advanced Practice Programme 2021/22 onwards

Dear Colleague

I am writing to invite you to participate in our current demand scoping survey and to outline our intended approach to commissioning Advanced Practice (AP) programmes beyond 2021/22.

There is the intention to provide funding for AP for continuing and new students where this is in line with the service and workforce plans of organisations and where certain conditions are met. Trusts and Training Hubs are invited to put forward their current demand as expressions of interest for AP training for new learners to inform the commissioning planning beyond 2021/22.

Also, subject to budget sign off, support to a limited number of trainees in 2021/22 through a direct employer reimbursement model may be possible as an interim measure.

You are invited to put forward/provide details of learners under the following training pathways:

* Level 7 Advanced Practice Apprenticeship
* Advanced Practice Master of Science (MSc) in a period of up to 3 years
* Top-up level 7 modules to **fully** meet the Multi-Professional AP Framework

### The expected funding model is outlined below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Training Pathway** | **Training Grant (Including ES Fee)** | **Tuition Fees** | **Education Supervision Fee**  **(ES Fee)** |
| AP MSc Qualification | Yes | Full tuition fees paid to the HEI for a period of up to 3 years practice to be deducted from the Training Grant. | £2,500 per annum |
| AP Apprenticeship | Yes | Paid through the apprenticeship levy | £2,500 per annum |
| AP Top-up modules | No | Tuition fees employer reimbursed (2021/22)/paid to HEI (2022/23) for named modules agreed between HEE and the employer. Modules must be completed within a **single academic year and must enable the trainee to fully meet the AP/MSc Multi-Professional AP Framework** | No |

Tuition fees will be paid from HEE to HEIs directly, in line with the new HEE education contract post 2021/22.

Supervision fees will be paid to employers after the named individual has enrolled. A data validation exercise will take place between HEIs and HEE to confirm enrolled students.

The level of training grant offered will be in line with a National AP Commissioning Framework yet to be finalised and will include the £2,500 ES fee.

Funding for single modules will not be provided unless it is clearly demonstrated that such completes an AP pathway. Top-up modules must be completed within the academic year, no further funding will be committed. **Alternative CPD funding must be used to support standalone modules for individuals who are not completing a full AP pathway**.

Continuing students are being reviewed separately through our monitoring process with HEIs, which will confirm which students are still on programme.

### Expectations around AP funding are as follows:

* Funding is for programmes of accredited academic study for staff who are already registered as nurses, midwives, pharmacists or AHPs to train as Advanced Practitioners (AP).
* This is a specific offer to develop APs. It cannot be replaced by an equivalent offer of funding for other activity.
* The individual should be undergoing training in line with the HEE Multi-Professional Advanced Practice Framework.
* Staff supported by this funding must be academically eligible and ready to start a course in 2021/22 academic year.
* For new AP trainees, a full pathway should be undertaken rather than single modules.
* The employer should make a clear case for the AP role to demonstrate that it is one of the organisational priorities in line with their workforce plans and service requirements.
* The employer should provide assurance that there will be an AP post on completion of training, demonstrated in the service/division establishment by way of a Job Description or job plan, to avoid investing in the upskilling of staff who cannot then put their advanced skills into practice.
* There should be a job description or job plan in place to ensure that the individual has work-based learning opportunities whilst in training.
* The employer should commit to providing a suitable learning environment to the AP trainees, in line with the HEE Quality Framework.

## Learning environment, educational and workplace supervision

The £2,500 supervision fee is available for those on a full AP Apprenticeship/MSc pathway to support organisational costs of supporting an AP. It is based on the equivalent cost of 0.25PA at consultant level per week.

Individuals on AP pathways require regular educational and workplace supervision, opportunities for work-based learning and adequate study leave throughout their period of training. A lack of support often results either in individuals withdrawing from the programme or seeking alternative employment; employers should consider whether they can fully support individuals before seeking funding for training.

### The expectations of employers in return for the supervision fee are:

* Principles of the [HEE Quality Framework](https://healtheducationengland.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/Comms/Digital/EXmEo9yM_uJNrV4715sujKwBzTUm_N3XoZvtHMyk_rNpDg) should be in place for all learners.
* Sufficient study leave for university training. It is not acceptable for AP trainees to be taking unpaid or annual leave for dedicated training days.
* Supervision provided by an appropriately trained supervisor. The expectation is that AP trainees will have a minimum 0.25PA (1 hour) of supervision per week over the course of their training.
* Alignment to [Workplace Supervision for Advanced Practice](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Workplace%20Supervision%20for%20ACPs.pdf) framework
* Inclusion of postgraduate medical education department in discussion of supervision where appropriate to enable suitable job-planning.
* Sufficient work-based learning opportunities to gain clinical competence at an advanced level.
* Appropriate governance in place in line with the Multi-Professional Advanced Clinical Practice Framework.www.hee.nhs.uk @NHS\_HealthEdEng
* Learners should be encouraged to complete NETS survey.

Where these conditions are not met, funding may be discontinued and where there is a pattern within an employer of AP trainees not being supported appropriately, future AP funding may be fully withdrawn from the employer.

## Next steps

1. Please complete the demand survey via this [link](https://healtheducationyh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/ap-demand-survey-copy) by Friday 18th June 2021. The template must be fully completed; and in order of priority (further details within template guidance). Where information is missing requests may not be further considered.
2. Following submission of your demand HEE will review the indicative demand against the criteria outlined in this letter and within the form. This data will be used to both inform our commissioning planning for AP Funding 2022/23 onward and, to allocate any 2021/22 employer reimbursement funding possible, depending on the allocated budget.
3. You will be contacted separately with confirmation of any new 2021/22 funding and continuing students.
4. We will in 2022/23 undertake a similar survey in March / April to establish the demand at that time and seek EOI for funding support in 2022/23.

If you have any questions, please refer to the HEE SW AP handbook in the first instance. If your question is not answered in the handbook or you would like to provide any updates, please contact.

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Kind Regards