



England

East of England

NHS England – East of England
Victoria House
Capital Park
Fulbourn
Cambridge
CB21 5XB

26-04-2024

Dear Colleague,

Expressions of interest for 2024/2025 – Diagnostic Workforce Programme

I am pleased to inform you that the portal for requesting funding for trainee places for 2024 has now opened. Requests for funding should be based on meeting the criteria for application detailed in appendix 1. A link to submit your expression of interest is provided towards the foot of this letter. Please note a submission of an expression of interest does not result in automatic allocation for funding for a post and outcomes of expressions are expected by the end of June.

These programmes are aimed at the specialist Respiratory and Sleep gaps at level 6 and level 7 to address the current workforce deficit, to backfill positions opened as existing practitioners enter advanced training in Respiratory and Sleep, and to staff the Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs).

The Graduate Diploma in Respiratory Science includes clinical and professional modules from the PTP (together with the appropriate work-based training) and is to be completed within 12 months. Academic training is provided by either Sheffield Hallam University or the University of the West of England. The University will be allocated based on your location, and the Programme will attract a training grant of £10,200.

Please use the link below to submit your expression of interest:

<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/healtheducationyh/diagnostic-workforce-programme-graduate-diploma-respiratory-sci>





The Post Graduate Certificate in Sleep Medicine is a new programme designed to support the delivery of services by different staff in different settings, by educating colleagues in the underpinning science to deliver a clinical role in a chronically understaffed specialism. Academic training is provided by the University of the West of England and is completed within 12 months. The Programme will attract a training grant of £12,240.

Please use the links below to submit your expression of interest:

<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/healtheducationyh/diagnostic-workforce-programme-postgraduate-certificate-sleep-1>

Diagnostic Workforce Funding Model

University Fees - University fees are fully funded on this programme, with NHSE paying the fees directly to the university.

Training Grant - The Diagnostic Workforce Programme will attract a training grant and NHSE is currently awaiting confirmation of the financial value. For further questions and queries relating to funding, please email: assad.roachford1@nhs.net.

Commissioning Timeline	
The portal is now open	Portal open
15.00 03 June 2024	Expression of interest portal closes
Week commencing 3 June 2024	Applications are reviewed
Week commencing 24 June 2024	Letters to organisations confirming commissions

Please note that the expressions of interest portal for ETP, STP and HSST relating to September 2024 starts will open later this year.

On behalf of NHS England, thank you for your support for the diagnostic workforce profession and we look forward to working with you to meet the future workforce needs. If you have any questions regarding the commissioning process, please e-mail: england.healthcarescience.commissioning@nhs.net

Yours faithfully,

Gareth George

Head of Education and Transformation

Appendix 1

Criteria for application:

- 1. Student Programme Requirements:** To apply for the programme, trainees must have a 1st, 2:1 or 2:2 class undergraduate honours degree or an integrated master's degree, in a pure or applied science subject, or equivalent. The degree subject must be relevant to the specialism and include Human Anatomy and Physiology and research skills. By completing the following recruitment sections, the organisation is confirming their understanding of this entry requirement.
- 2. Supervision requirements:** All trainees must have a clinical supervisor who will oversee the training and supervisors in each placement/rotation.
<https://nshcs.hee.nhs.uk/programmes/respiratory-and-sleep-training-programmes/employer-guidance-on-the-respiratory-science-and-sleep-medicine-programmes/participating-in-the-programmes/>
- 3. Workforce planning:** Please include in your application the information required for workforce planning. Either a succession plan for trainees' post qualification or how you see this post adding value to the local or national workforce for your speciality.
- 4. Programme commitment:** As an employer you are undertaking the responsibility to host the trainee for the **full** duration of their training programme. If there are service, staffing, or departmental changes, efforts should be made by the organisation to safeguard the training of trainees.
- 5. Exceptional circumstances:** Should there be any exceptional circumstances during the training programme, which affect the trainee and are outside of their control, the organisation will be called upon to extend the period of training to maximise the trainee's opportunity to complete.

If you do not currently meet one or more of the above criteria, please contact your local NHSE office to discuss:

London: a.makan@nhs.net, danielle.johnson22@nhs.net, ruth.vickerstaff2@nhs.net

Midlands: maxine.kwofie@nhs.net

East of England: jennifer.boughen@nhs.net , copied to katrina.oates1@nhs.net and england.eastcommunications@nhs.net

Northeast: Sally.Drew1@nhs.net



Northwest: n.fowler-johnson@nhs.net copied to hilda.muchenje@nhs.net

Southeast: Shakira.Greaves@nhs.net

Southwest: Helene.Fouquet@nhs.net

Guidance notes:

1. Submission of a form does not result in automatic allocation for funding for a post.
2. Queries about the online portal: should be directed to:
england.healthcarescience.commissioning@nhs.net
3. **Application review:** applications will be reviewed by a panel of NHS England and NSHCS staff to assess the application based on funding available and recommendations from members of the panel.
4. **Application outcomes:**
 - a. Submission of a form should not result in the expectation that funding for a trainee post will be made available.
 - b. Please note that NHSE has no control over the Department of Health funding timelines.
5. **Application withdrawals:** Please note that NHSE, together with the NSHCS can take the decision to withdraw trainee posts or trainees if the training centre is deemed as providing a poor trainee experience about work-based training and inability to deliver the training curriculum.
6. **Changes to the training department structure, facilities, or named persons within this document:** to ensure we have a robust and updated database of contacts, it is imperative that you directly inform the following stakeholder of any changes in the information you have provided in this form:

NHSE National Lead for Healthcare Science:
england.healthcarescience.commissioning@nhs.net

NHSE National School of Healthcare Science based in Birmingham:
england.nshcs@nhs.net