



Scottish Funding Council
Comhairle Maoinachaidh na h-Alba

SFC Announcement

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Issue date: 14/06/2023

Funding for counsellors in AY 2022-23 (April - July 2023)



Funding for counsellors in AY 2022-23 (April – July 2023)

Issue Date:	14 June 2023
Reference:	SFC/AN/14/2023
Summary:	Announcement of additional funding in Academic Year 2022-23 (April - July 2023) for counsellors in colleges and universities.
FAO:	Principals/Directors, Finance Directors, Chairs and Board Secretaries of Scotland's colleges and universities, and the general public.
Further Information:	CONTACT: Eilidh Fulton JOB TITLE: Senior Policy Officer DIRECTORATE: Access, Learning and Outcomes Directorate EMAIL: efulton@sfc.ac.uk

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Funding for counsellors in AY 2022-23 (April – July 2023)

Summary

1. I am writing to announce the further allocation of funding in Academic Year (AY) 2022-23 (April – July 2023) to provide additional counsellors in colleges and universities. This funding has been allocated by the Scottish Government; it complements the funding announced for the period August 2022 to March 2023 and concludes the Scottish Government’s four-year commitment.

Purpose of funding

2. In its 2018 [Programme for Government](#), Scottish Government committed to ‘provide more than 80 additional counsellors in Further and Higher Education over the next four years with an investment of around £20 million. SFC announced the first year of this funding in November 2019¹. The purpose and principles behind this commitment have not changed since the original announcement. This is the last year of funding of the four-year commitment.
3. We recognise that institutions may not be in a position to maintain all the commitments supported by this funding to date and, as such, this funding and any unspent funding from AY 2021-22 may be used to transition to new arrangements to support students.

Funding allocations for AY 2022-23 (April – July 2023)

4. The Minister for Higher Education, Further Education, Youth Employment and Training wrote to Universities Scotland, Colleges Scotland and NUS Scotland on 22 December 2022 to confirm the funding allocation for student counsellor support for AY 2022-23 (August 2022 to March 2023) of £2.025 million (m). This was announced in January. The Minister’s letter reiterated the Government’s commitment to provide funding for the remainder of AY 2022-23, i.e. from April to July.
5. The April – July 2023 funding will be allocated so that colleges and universities receive at least the same amount of funding, in total, as they did in AY 2021-22. This means for the period April to July 2023:
 - Colleges will receive £1.378m.
 - Universities will receive £0.827m.
6. The total AY 2022-23 allocation for colleges is therefore £2.424m, with universities receiving £1.806m. This total award of £4.230m for AY 2022-23 is in line with last year’s award of £4.229m and sector split. A breakdown of funding allocations to colleges and

¹ [Funding for counsellors 2019-20](#)

universities can be found in Annexes A and B.

7. We will also issue a final baseline survey to capture the overall impact of the four-year investment. As outlined in paragraph 10, institutions may also use this funding to transition to a sustainable embedded approach to mental health. SFC recognises that some institutions may not be in a position to maintain or embed their full commitment to counsellors outlined in previous baseline surveys.

Conditions of funding

8. This funding must only be used for the purpose(s) for which it is being allocated as outlined above. SFC retains the right to audit relevant institutional documentation to satisfy itself that this is the case (and the institution undertakes that it will provide such assistance as SFC reasonably requires).
9. Institutions may carry forward any unspent funds from this award and the award pertaining to the first eight months of the current Academic Year to support student mental health and wellbeing including any transitions needed to embed a more sustainable approach.
10. As institutions plan for future support, we expect them to engage closely with students and student associations. We also encourage institutions to work together, where possible, to ensure high quality and relevant support is available to students throughout their learning journey.

Payment of funds

11. All colleges and universities will receive funding in one instalment in July 2023.

Acceptance of grant

12. Institutions are invited to formally accept this offer of funding by emailing Graeme Scotland, Senior Budgeting & Reporting Officer, email: gscotland@sfc.ac.uk by **30 June 2023**.

Further information

13. Please contact Eilidh Fulton – Senior Policy Officer, email: efulton@sfc.ac.uk.



James Dunphy

Director, Access, Learning and Outcomes

Annex A: College funding allocations for April – July 2023

College/Region	AY 2021-22 allocation (£)	AY 2022-23 allocation (£)		Total AY
		Aug - Mar	Apr - July	
Ayrshire College	133,000	63,000	70,000	133,000
Borders College	97,000	57,000	40,000	97,000
Dumfries & Galloway College	104,500	59,000	45,500	104,500
Dundee & Angus College	151,500	64,000	87,500	151,500
Edinburgh College	161,500	67,000	94,500	161,500
Fife College	163,500	67,000	96,500	163,500
Forth Valley College	118,500	62,000	56,500	118,500
Glasgow Region	404,500	136,000	268,500	404,500
Highlands & Islands Region*	363,500	91,000	272,500	363,500
Lanarkshire Region	165,500	91,000	74,500	165,500
Newbattle Abbey College	12,000	13,000	0	13,000
North East Scotland College	145,500	63,000	82,500	145,500
Sabhal Mór Ostaig	14,500	13,000	1,500	14,500
SRUC*	125,000	74,000	51,000	125,000
West College Scotland	160,000	66,000	94,000	160,000
West Lothian College	103,000	60,000	43,000	103,000
Total	2,423,000	1,046,000	1,378,000	2,424,000

* Includes funding for UHI and SRUC's HE students

Annex B: University funding allocations for April – July 2023

Institution	AY 2021-22 allocation (£)	AY 2022-23 allocation (£)		
		Aug - Mar	Apr - July	Total AY
Aberdeen, University of	97,000	56,000	41,000	97,000
Abertay University	65,000	54,000	11,000	65,000
Dundee, University of	116,000	58,000	58,000	116,000
Edinburgh Napier University	97,000	57,000	40,000	97,000
Edinburgh, University of	173,000	63,000	110,000	173,000
Glasgow Caledonian University	128,000	60,000	68,000	128,000
Glasgow School of Art	58,000	53,000	5,000	58,000
Glasgow, University of	198,000	67,000	131,000	198,000
Heriot-Watt University	97,000	56,000	41,000	97,000
Highlands & Islands, University of**	-	-	-	-
Open University in Scotland	104,000	58,000	46,000	104,000
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	66,000	54,000	12,000	66,000
Robert Gordon University	90,000	56,000	34,000	90,000
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	53,000	53,000	-	53,000
SRUC**	-	-	-	-
St Andrews, University of	90,000	56,000	34,000	90,000
Stirling, University of	98,000	57,000	41,000	98,000
Strathclyde, University of	156,000	62,000	94,000	156,000
West of Scotland, University of the	120,000	59,000	61,000	120,000
Total	1,806,000	979,000	827,000	1,806,000

** Funding for UHI and SRUC's students included within college allocation.