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Francesca Osowska  
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Scottish Funding Council  
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Dear Francesca

## PRE-REGISTRATION BSc PARAMEDIC EDUCATION

As you will be aware, we are entering the final year of our recommended multi-year intake target for the BSc Paramedic Education programmes covering Academic Year (AY) 2023-24, 2024-2025 and 2025-26. This letter reaffirms to the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) the Scottish Government's (SG) recommended intake target for these programmes in AY 2025-26.

The total overall recommended intake target to paramedic education programmes will continue to be 335 Scottish domiciled students. Whilst this letter advises the SFC of SG's student intake recommendation for AY 2025-26, Ministers reserve the right to review and alter this intake target should it be required.

I have set out below the Universities and intake targets for each institution. I note that over recruitment has occurred for four consecutive years and it is therefore important to stress to institutions that they should ensure they recruit students within the limits of their intake target.

**Table 1**

University	Intake target for AY 2025-26
Glasgow Caledonian University	67
Queen Margaret University Edinburgh	67
Robert Gordon University	67
University of Stirling	67
University of the West of Scotland	67

As agreed, in AY 2025-26, SFC will model the required number of funded places for each new intake and for the continuing cohorts of eligible students. Subject to confirmation of the number of funded places each year, SG 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.

We anticipate that performance monitoring of the delivery of the education programme will also be conducted by NHS Education Scotland (NES) as part of their commitment to provide leadership for the delivery of high-quality education, training and workforce development and to improve the range, quality and granularity of workforce data. NES will continue to collect information from universities on an annual basis, the results of which shall be reported to the SG. We will work collaboratively with NES and HEIs to continue to improve the reporting requirements.

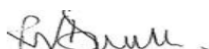
SFC should recover funds for under-enrolment against funded student places and impose a penalty for over recruitment against the consolidation number. In doing so, SFC should recover funds from universities who under-recruit eligible students against funded places by more than 3% and apply penalties 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 must discuss any recruitment above the intake target with NES, the Scottish Ambulance Service and placement providers.

I would be grateful if the SFC can now make the necessary arrangements for the 2025-26 intake, including to continue to work closely with SG, CNOD officials and those within SG 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 and Justice, Director of Learning and Director for Lifelong Learning.

Yours sincerely,



Rachael Dunk  
**Deputy Director**  
**Chief Nursing Officer Directorate**  
**Scottish Government**