



Scottish Funding Council  
Comhairle Maoineachaidh na h-Alba

## Intake Targets for Pre-registration Nursing & Midwifery AY 2021-22

**SFC Announcement**

Issue Date: 6 April 2021

## Intake targets for the controlled subject of Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery in universities for AY 2021-22

Issue date: 6 April 2021

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Summary: Announcement of intake targets for the controlled subject of Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education in universities for Academic Year 2021-22.

FAO: Principals / Chairs of Scotland's universities

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## **Intake targets for the controlled subject of Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery in universities for AY 2021-22**

### **Purpose**

1. I am writing to announce the intake targets for the controlled subject of Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education in universities for Academic Year (AY) 2021-22.

### **Background**

2. SFC receives annual guidance from the Scottish Government's Chief Nursing Officer's (CNO) Directorate, providing recommended intakes for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education. The CNO Directorate's guidance for AY 2021-22 is provided in Annex A.
3. From 2015-16, the guidance from the Scottish Government has provided SFC with intake targets for all Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education. This includes the '36 month' courses which are funded through a Scottish Government ring-fenced grant, places which were previously part of some universities' core grant and were used for Honours Nursing provision (referred to as four years honours), and courses offered through the Open University in Scotland.

### **Intake targets for AY 2021-22**

4. The overall intake target for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education in AY 2021-22, as recommended by the CNO Directorate, is **4,449** students; an increase of **5.8%** to the overall intake target from AY 2020-21. This equates to an additional 243 students. The profession and field increases are: midwifery 6.3%; adult nursing 5%; mental health nursing 13%.
5. The intake target includes students with 'Home Fee' status, students from the rest of the UK (rUK), and students from the Republic of Ireland (RoI). Of this:
  - An intake target of 3,994 students has been allocated to the seven universities who were previously commissioned and provide '36 month' courses.
  - An intake target of a further 425 students has been allocated to the seven universities delivering four year honours provision.
  - An intake target of 30 students is still to be allocated.
6. We have split out the intake targets for AY 2021-22 according to field of practice, as set out in the CNO's guidance to SFC. Universities should give regard to the split of intakes between the four fields of practice and midwifery

when recruiting for AY 2021-22.

7. Starting in AY 2021-22, SFC will be funding provision for Pre-Registration Nursing and Midwifery Education at the Open University in Scotland (OUIs). Previously, this was funded directly by Scottish Government. The Scottish Government will provide the associated transfer of resource to SFC and SFC will allocate this funding directly to OUIs.
8. We recognise that as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic AY 2020-21 was an extremely challenging year and that this was reflected in student recruitment to Nursing and Midwifery Pre-registration programmes. In AY 2021-22 however, it is our expectation that universities should make every effort to recruit to the intake targets in this letter.
9. SFC may recover funds from universities who under-recruit eligible students against funded places by more than 3% and apply penalties to universities who over-recruit and exceed their 'consolidation number' by more than 10%, subject to the consideration of any mitigating evidence presented by the university. Specific allocations of funded places will be provided in the final university funding announcement for AY 2021-22.

### **Rest of UK students**

10. In January 2017 the CNO Directorate wrote to inform SFC that, following a decision from Scottish Ministers, the reciprocal arrangements with other UK administrations which allow students from those areas to access financial support for their Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education studies, was to come to an end from AY 2017-18. This decision applied to new rUK students only. SFC will continue to monitor the overall fundable student population based on changes in rUK numbers in consultation with institutions. The intake targets set out in the table below are for all students eligible for 'Home fee' status, rUK, and RoI students.

### **European Union students**

11. As a result of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union (EU) and the transitional period ending in January 2021, EU students without 'Home Fee' status, starting their courses in AY 2021-22 are not eligible for funding by SFC. RoI students will also be ineligible for funding but will have access to a tuition fee loan via Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) up to £9,250 each year. Continuing EU students will continue to receive SFC funding. Students should be classified according to guidance provided by SAAS, which can be found at [SAAS: Brexit guidance](#).

## **Indexing of Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery students**

12. In addition to SFC's data collections, universities are also required to index Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery students with NHS Education for Scotland (NES).
13. In response to concerns regarding the consistency of data submitted to NES and SFC, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is attached at Annex B. This document includes information on intake targets, funded places, SFC's consolidation number and when students should be indexed with NES.

## **Tuition fees**

14. From AY 2021-22 tuition fees for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery will be administered in a similar manner to other programmes. Students with 'Home Fee' status should apply to SAAS for their tuition fees, as SFC will no longer fund Nursing and Midwifery places at the gross teaching price. Continuing EU students will continue to be funded by SFC for both tuition fees and teaching grant until the completion of their programme.

## ***Previous study***

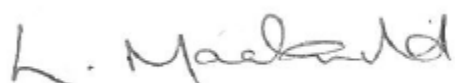
15. In circumstances where students have already received UK or other EU public funds for a higher education course before, and it was not to study nursing or midwifery, they can apply for support to study a nursing or midwifery course. Students on pre-registration masters nursing or midwifery programmes will continue to be eligible for funding. More information on funding for nursing and midwifery students can be found on [SAAS's website](#).

## **Funded places**

16. SFC will contact universities to share our AY 2021-22 funded places modelling for Pre-registration Nursing and Midwifery Education, in advance of the funded places and funding being confirmed in the final funding announcement.

## **Further information**

17. Please contact Duncan Condie, Senior Funding Policy Officer, Finance Directorate, tel: 0131 313 6671, email: [dcondie@sfc.ac.uk](mailto:dcondie@sfc.ac.uk).



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**Table 1:****Intake targets for Pre-Registration Nursing & Midwifery Education in AY 2021-22**

<b>University</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Children &amp; young people</b>	<b>Learning Disability</b>	<b>Midwifery</b>	<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Intake target for 4-year Honours Degree (included in total)</b>
Abertay University					65	<b>65</b>	65
University of Dundee	396	56			90	<b>542</b>	
University of Edinburgh	59					<b>59</b>	59
Edinburgh Napier University	415	100	55	81	112	<b>763</b>	
Glasgow Caledonian University	490	102	89		91	<b>772</b>	66
University of Glasgow	58					<b>58</b>	58
Open University in Scotland	58	5	7		40	<b>110</b>	
Queen Margaret University	82					<b>82</b>	82
Robert Gordon University	266	54		74	68	<b>462</b>	40
University of Stirling	270				86	<b>356</b>	55
University of the Highlands & Islands	129				30	<b>159</b>	
University of the West of Scotland	731			102	158	<b>991</b>	
To be allocated				30		<b>30</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,954</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>4,449</b>	<b>425</b>

Note: 30 places for Midwifery are still to be allocated.