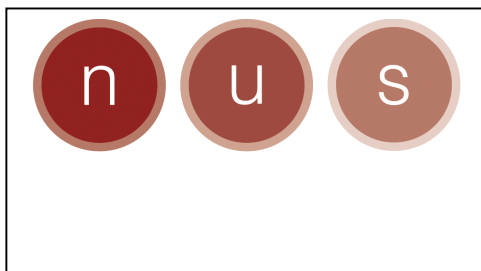


**NHS BURSARY SCHEME (ENGLAND)
STUDENT BULLETIN**

**Bulletin Number 02/2007
Date: 16 January 2007**



**NHS BURSARY SCHEME
STUDENT BULLETIN (NO. 02/2007, 16 JANUARY 2006)**

**CHANGES TO THE NHS BURSARY SCHEME IN ENGLAND FOR
STUDENTS WHO BEGIN THEIR TRAINING FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 2007**

The introduction of the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations has meant that the rules of the NHS Bursary Scheme have had to be reviewed and changed to ensure that entitlements to NHS funded support do not discriminate on the basis of age.

The existing NHS bursary allowances that are calculated or awarded on the basis of age will be removed. This means that from 1st September 2007, **new** students entering NHS funded health professional courses at English universities will have their NHS bursary and other allowances calculated using new rules. There will be no change to existing students entitlements, this will only affect new students from the 1st September 2007.

The Department of Health has reviewed and agreed all of the rule changes with a wide range of stakeholders including UNISON, the Royal College of Nursing, the Royal College of Midwives, the British Medical Association, the Allied Health Professionals Federation, the National Union of Students, Strategic Health Authorities and Universities. The objective has been to ensure that the changes made will have a minimal impact on students by redistributing funds within the NHS Bursary.

Who will be affected by these changes?

The changes to the NHS bursary will affect **new** students who start their training on or after 1 September 2007.

Existing and other NHS funded healthcare professional students who begin training before the 1st September 2007 are **not affected** by the rules changes, provided they are in attendance on a NHS funded course on the 31st of August 2007. They will continue to receive the NHS bursary with the current allowances until they complete or drop out of their current training course.

What are the changes to the NHS Bursary Scheme?

The main changes are:-

- An increase in the basic allowance of £244
- The introduction of a new Parents' Learning Allowance (by extending the single parent learning allowance to all parents).
- The removal of the age related element of the dependants' allowance.
- A change in the definition of independent status.
- An increase in the 'independent' threshold.

A summary of the changes is outlined in this bulletin.

The NHS Student Grants Unit is currently revising and updating information on the changes to the NHS Bursary Scheme and more detailed information will be available in March 2007 within "Financial Help for Health Care Students" and a bursary calculator that should be available on line. Please do not contact the Student Grants Unit until this information is on their web site at: www.nhsstudentgrants.co.uk

For further advice and information students may wish to contact:

UNISON web site www.unison.org.uk/healthcare
Gail Adams Head of Nursing UNISON email gail.adams@unison.co.uk
Kevin Russell Assistant National Officer UNISON email
r.russell@unison.co.uk

National Union of Students

Students go to www.nusonline.co.uk
Union Student Officers go to www.officeronline.co.uk

BMA

<http://www.bma.org.uk/students>

Royal College of Nursing

www.rcn.org.uk

Royal College of Midwives

<http://www.rcm.org.uk/>

Allied Health Professionals Federation

www.baot.co.uk

Footnote:

Students and prospective students should not rely on the current NHS bursary rules and allowances when planning for subsequent academic years these may be subject to review in the future and as a result may be liable to change. Further information about the NHS bursary will be posted on the Student Grant Unit website (www.nhsstudentgrants.co.uk) as and when it is made available. Students are advised to check the website on a regular basis. The Department of Health and NHS Student Grants Unit will accept no responsibility for loss of any type however suffered by students who have relied on current rules and allowances in altering their circumstances (including but not limited to financial circumstances) whether for the current academic year, academic year to begin or indeed for subsequent academic years.

Summary of Changes at 2006/07 NHS Bursary rates

	Increase in the basic NHS bursary
Who is eligible?	All students beginning training from the 1 st September 2007
How much?	<p>Degree students (means-tested awards for 30 weeks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Living in the parental home £2,180 ▪ Living away from the parental home and studying in London £3,152 ▪ Living away from the parental home and studying outside London £2,611 <p>Diploma students (non-means tested awards for 45 weeks)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Studying outside London £6,227 ▪ Studying in London and not living in the parental home £7,274 ▪ Studying in London and living in the parental home £6,227
How is it paid?	In monthly instalments directly into the students' bank account.
What does this mean?	An extra £244 has been added to each of the awards under the basic NHS bursary, above.

	Introduction of a Parents' Learning Allowance by the extension of the Single Parent Allowance to all students who have dependent children
Who is eligible?	All students beginning training from the 1 st September 2007 with dependent children
How much?	Degree students, up to £1,211 Diploma students, up to £1,026
How is it paid?	As a means-tested addition to the NHS bursary. The allowance is a single payment each year that does not depend on how many dependent children the student has.
Why do this?	This help was previously only available to single parents. We are extending this allowance to all students beginning training from 1 st September 2007 who are parents.

	Change to Dependants' Allowance
Who is eligible?	All students beginning training from 1 st September 2007 with dependants.
How much?	<p>Degree students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spouse, partner or civil partner or first child, up to £2,453 ▪ Other dependants, up to £500 each <p>Diploma students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Spouse, partner or civil partner or first child, up to £2,080 ▪ Other dependants, up to £500 each
How is it paid?	As a means-tested addition to the NHS bursary
Why do this?	Dependants' Allowances were previously calculated on the basis of the ages of the students' children. We have removed the age-related element of this allowance.

	Change in the definition of independent students
Who is affected?	All students beginning training from 1 st September 2007.
What has changed?	Being aged over 25 will no longer be one of the conditions to determine if you are independent of your parents
What are the new rules?	You will be classified as being independent of your parents if any one of the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ You have care of a child or children on the first day of the academic year in which you are applying for a bursary ▪ You have been married or have entered into a civil partnership before the start of the academic year for which you are applying for a bursary ▪ You have no living parents ▪ You have supported yourself for at least 3 years before the start of the first academic year of your course ▪ Your parents cannot be traced or it is not practical or possible to contact them ▪ Your parents live abroad and an assessment would put them in danger (this may apply if you are a refugee) ▪ You are permanently estranged from your parents ▪ You are in the care of a local authority or voluntary organisation, or are under a custodianship order on your 18th birthday or immediately before your course if you are not 18 when it begins
Why do this?	A student's age will no longer be one of the criteria to determine the independent status of a student.

	Increases in the level of income a student's spouse, partner or civil partner can earn before it affects the NHS bursary & other allowances.
Who is affected?	All students beginning training from 1 st September 2007.
What has changed?	The amount of income a student's spouse, partner or civil partner can earn before it affects the level of bursary and other allowances awarded has been increased from £19,409 to £22,561 in line with the parental income allowed.

<p>What are the new rules?</p>	<p>The new rates are:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="699 315 836 383"><u>Residual Income</u></th> <th data-bbox="879 277 1075 311"><u>Contribution</u></th> <th data-bbox="1118 277 1256 344"><u>Residual Income</u></th> <th data-bbox="1283 277 1479 311"><u>Contribution</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 423 820 495">Under £22,561</td> <td data-bbox="954 423 995 456">Nil</td> <td data-bbox="1118 423 1240 456">£55,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 423 1434 456">£3,461</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 495 820 528">£22,561</td> <td data-bbox="954 495 995 528">£45</td> <td data-bbox="1118 495 1240 528">£57,500</td> <td data-bbox="1331 495 1434 528">£3,725</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 528 820 562">£25,000</td> <td data-bbox="943 528 1007 562">£302</td> <td data-bbox="1118 528 1240 562">£60,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 528 1434 562">£3,988</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 562 820 595">£27,500</td> <td data-bbox="943 562 1007 595">£565</td> <td data-bbox="1118 562 1240 595">£62,500</td> <td data-bbox="1331 562 1434 595">£4,251</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 595 820 629">£30,000</td> <td data-bbox="943 595 1007 629">£828</td> <td data-bbox="1118 595 1240 629">£65,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 595 1434 629">£4,515</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 629 820 663">£32,500</td> <td data-bbox="932 629 1018 663">£1,091</td> <td data-bbox="1118 629 1240 663">£67,500</td> <td data-bbox="1331 629 1434 663">£4,778</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 663 820 696">£35,000</td> <td data-bbox="932 663 1018 696">£1,355</td> <td data-bbox="1118 663 1240 696">£70,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 663 1434 696">£5,041</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 696 820 730">£37,500</td> <td data-bbox="932 696 1018 730">£1,618</td> <td data-bbox="1118 696 1240 730">£72,500</td> <td data-bbox="1331 696 1434 730">£5,305</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 730 820 763">£40,000</td> <td data-bbox="932 730 1018 763">£1,881</td> <td data-bbox="1118 730 1240 763">£75,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 730 1434 763">£5,568</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 763 820 797">£42,500</td> <td data-bbox="932 763 1018 797">£2,145</td> <td data-bbox="1118 763 1240 797">£77,500</td> <td data-bbox="1331 763 1434 797">£5,831</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 797 820 831">£45,000</td> <td data-bbox="932 797 1018 831">£2,408</td> <td data-bbox="1118 797 1240 831">£80,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 797 1434 831">£6,095</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 831 820 864">£47,500</td> <td data-bbox="932 831 1018 864">£2,671</td> <td data-bbox="1118 831 1240 864">£82,500</td> <td data-bbox="1331 831 1434 864">£6,358</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 864 820 898">£50,000</td> <td data-bbox="932 864 1018 898">£2,935</td> <td data-bbox="1118 864 1240 898">£85,000</td> <td data-bbox="1331 864 1434 898">£6,621</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="715 898 820 931">£52,500</td> <td data-bbox="932 898 1018 931">£3,198</td> <td data-bbox="1107 898 1251 931">£92,700+</td> <td data-bbox="1331 898 1434 931">£7,432</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Residual Income</u>	<u>Contribution</u>	<u>Residual Income</u>	<u>Contribution</u>	Under £22,561	Nil	£55,000	£3,461	£22,561	£45	£57,500	£3,725	£25,000	£302	£60,000	£3,988	£27,500	£565	£62,500	£4,251	£30,000	£828	£65,000	£4,515	£32,500	£1,091	£67,500	£4,778	£35,000	£1,355	£70,000	£5,041	£37,500	£1,618	£72,500	£5,305	£40,000	£1,881	£75,000	£5,568	£42,500	£2,145	£77,500	£5,831	£45,000	£2,408	£80,000	£6,095	£47,500	£2,671	£82,500	£6,358	£50,000	£2,935	£85,000	£6,621	£52,500	£3,198	£92,700+	£7,432
<u>Residual Income</u>	<u>Contribution</u>	<u>Residual Income</u>	<u>Contribution</u>																																																										
Under £22,561	Nil	£55,000	£3,461																																																										
£22,561	£45	£57,500	£3,725																																																										
£25,000	£302	£60,000	£3,988																																																										
£27,500	£565	£62,500	£4,251																																																										
£30,000	£828	£65,000	£4,515																																																										
£32,500	£1,091	£67,500	£4,778																																																										
£35,000	£1,355	£70,000	£5,041																																																										
£37,500	£1,618	£72,500	£5,305																																																										
£40,000	£1,881	£75,000	£5,568																																																										
£42,500	£2,145	£77,500	£5,831																																																										
£45,000	£2,408	£80,000	£6,095																																																										
£47,500	£2,671	£82,500	£6,358																																																										
£50,000	£2,935	£85,000	£6,621																																																										
£52,500	£3,198	£92,700+	£7,432																																																										
<p>Why do this?</p>	<p>The income tables for spouses, partners or civil partners have been set at the same level as those used for parents.</p>																																																												

END

This Bulletin has been sent to:

UNISON

BMA

AHP Federation

RCN

RCM

NUS

British Dental Association

NHS Careers

UCAS

NMAS

All universities and FE colleges in England:

University and College Principals and Vice Chancellors of Higher Education

Institutions and Further Education Colleges in England (*Distributed via NMAS/UCAS, CoDs, SCOP and the AoC*)

Higher Education Institutions Admissions Officers (*distributed via NMAS/UCAS*)

Eve Jagusiewicz, Executive Secretary, Universities UK

Paul Turner, Executive Officer, The Council of Heads and Deans of Nursing and Allied Health Professions

CHMS and Dental Schools

Medical Deaneries

Steve Philips, SCOP (Standing Conference of Principals)

Dr John Brennan, Association of Colleges

National Association of Student Money Advisers (NASMA)

Association of Managers of Student Services in HE (AMoSSHE)

Research and Welfare in SUs (RAWS)

Strategic Health Authorities in England

Wales

Scotland

Northern Ireland

All UK MPs

Nursing and Midwifery Council

General Medical Council

General Dental Council

Health Professions Council

CHRE

NHS Employers

Chief Professional Officers within the Department of Health:

Chief Medical Officer

Chief Nursing Officer

Chief Scientific Officer