**NHS Scotland employees – Healthcare Science**

**Financial year 2024-25. IBMS non-accredited degree assessment - application fee support**

**What**

This support is to allow existing NHS Scotland Healthcare Science support staff apply for recognition of their learning and experience (non-accredited degree assessment) by the Institute of Biomedical Science[[1]](#footnote-1). The cost of such recognition is up to £340; support to individuals is capped at this level.

There is a limited fund available during financial year **2024-25** to operate this scheme. Early applications are advised. Once the fund is allocated the scheme will close.

**Why**

The support will yield more registered scientific staff for patient service delivery; it is an opportunity for those staff (particularly in lower pay-bands) deterred from applying for guidance by the Institute on how their qualifications align with future HCPC registration; it is consistent with new work we are undertaking for those working at career framework 2-4; it helps consolidate the identity and pathways to recognition/advancement in the Healthcare Science workforce; it harmonises our approach (NES) with counterpart organisations in the rest of the UK.

**Scope**

This support includes:

1. Applications to professional bodies, such as IBMS, for opinion/assessment of non-accredited undergraduate degree transcripts.

A similar equivalence fund operates for staff applying for clinical scientist recognition by equivalence.

**What this is not:**

This scheme is not for course fees, the cost of additional modules identified by the assessment process, exam charges or registration payment. Awarding of this support is not authorisation that NES will meet any further associated costs of training or registration should this be outcome of the IBMS assessment.

**What we are looking for:**

We need assurance that you are ready to apply for the assessment and that there is plan in place for you to respond to the assessment’s findings. For example, an assessment of a non-accredited undergraduate degree may indicate further modules should be undertaken. Applicants should indicate how such additional courses would be funded.

Applications (below) will be scrutinised by our core team. A follow-up award letter will be issued to successful applicants that will include a NES PO number that can be presented to IBMS in lieu of payment.

**How:** All Applications:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Supervisor email** |  |
| **NHS Board** |  |
| **Department** |  |
| **HCS Strand** |  |
| **HCS Theme** |  |
| **HCS Specialty** |  |
| **Current job/role:** |  |
| **AfC Band:** |  |
| **Highest qualification** |  |
| **Why are you applying for this support?** |  |
| **Expected timescale to achieve registration** |  |
| **Summarise any training or development in post you have done that you think will support the likelihood of a positive assessment outcome.** |  |

Informal discussion regarding this NES scheme is encouraged. Please contact NES Healthcare Science Core team, **HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk** to whom applications should be submitted.

**ANNEX**

**HCS Strand:**

Life Sciences

Physical Sciences

Physiological Sciences

**HCS Themes**

Blood Sciences

Infection Sciences

Cell Sciences

Genetics

Medical Physics

Clinical Engineering

Clinical Pharmaceutical Sciences

Reconstructive Sciences

Cardiac, Critical Care, Vascular, Respiratory and Sleep Sciences

Neurosensory Sciences

Gastro-intestinal and Urodynamic Sciences

**Cross Specialty**

Clinical Bioinformatics (Genomics)

**Specialties within themes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Audiology | Histopathology |
| Bioinformatics | Imaging with Ionising Radiation |
| **Cardiac Science** | Imaging with non-Ionising Radiation |
| Clinical Biochemistry | Neurophysiology |
| Clinical Bioinformatics | Molecular Pathology |
| Clinical Immunology | Ophthalmic and Vision Science |
| Decontamination Science | Perfusion |
|  Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics | Radiation Safety |
| Clinical Measurement and development | Radiotherapy Physics |
| Clinical Microbiology | Reconstructive Science |
| Clinical Pharmaceutical Science  | Rehabilitation Engineering |
| Critical Care Science | Reproductive Science |
| Cytopathology | **Respiratory and Sleep Science** |
| Device risk management and governance | **Vascular Science** |
| **Gastro-intestinal physiology** | **Virology** |
| Genetics | **Urodynamics**  |
| Haematology and Transfusion Science |  |

**September 2023**

1. <https://www.ibms.org/registration/degree-assessment-for-hcpc-registration/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)