**Healthcare Science: Postgraduate Scientist**

**Training Bursary 2025 Guidance**

1. Please ensure you meet the award criteria for consideration of applications, see **Appendix 1**.
2. You **must** get your line manager and postgraduate supervisors’ agreement to this application before commencing your award application.
3. Applications are through a dedicated [MS Forms Application](https://forms.office.com/e/sdMk4TWp9V) which will guide you through the application process.

**PLEASE NOTE THE MS FORM CANNOT BE SAVED AND RETURNED TO LATER. ENSURE YOU’RE READY TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION PRIOR TO STARTING.**

**Before starting the award application, please make sure:**

* You have the intended programme details.
* You have your line manager and postgraduate supervisor’s details (name, job title & email address) and agreement from both for you to participate in the intended programme.
* If successful you agree to complete the [NTN MS Forms](https://forms.office.com/r/rL4DxBvifv) to register your details with the NES HCS team and receive your National Training Number / update your details as applicable.
* If successful you and your postgraduate supervisor **BOTH** agreeto participate in NES HCS QA processes, including [Quality Assurance surveys](https://www.hcstraining.nhs.scot/quality-assurance/surveys/), [Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP) monitoring](https://www.hcstraining.nhs.scot/quality-assurance/annual-review-of-competency-progression-arcp/), and [Exit Survey](https://www.hcstraining.nhs.scot/quality-assurance/exit-survey/).
* If successful, your department will complete a [Centre recognition of Healthcare Scientist training in Scotland self-assessment](https://www.hcstraining.nhs.scot/quality-assurance/training-centre-recognition/) if not already completed.

More details about our Quality Assurance requirements can be found on our [NES HCS website](https://www.hcstraining.nhs.scot/quality-assurance/). Ensure your supervisor and line manager understand these requirements and agree to complete them prior to completing an application.

**WE SUGGEST YOU COMPLETE A WORD DOCUMENT IN PREPARATION, ANSWERING THE 4 KEY QUESTIONS BELOW, THEN COPY ANSWERS TO THE** [MS Forms Application](https://forms.office.com/e/sdMk4TWp9V)

The final scored section of the applications asks for responses to the below questions, please see **Appendix 2** for the scoring criteria and further guidance notes.

Please keep your answers to each question as concise as possible.

1. Have you explored other avenues of funding for the training programme?
2. How does this training programme align with your personal career aspirations?
3. How does this training programme align with your department's future service delivery plan?
4. Does completing this training programme align to any national strategies within Healthcare Science?

This application is for a contribution by NES to NHS Boards for an in-service NHS Healthcare Science Practitioner (on AfC Band 6 and below) to undertake further development and join the national postgraduate scientist trainee cohort.

This competitive bursary support is limited to a maximum of £3000 and is for the financial year 2025-26. Please note this funding is for one year only, from the commencement of the agreed award programme in the financial year 2025-26. If funding is required for subsequent years of postgraduate study, then please note this must be re-applied for in future financial years, subject to this bursary being available, and is not guaranteed.

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Applications go live on Monday 7th April 2025 and will close on Friday 9th May 2025**.

**Appendix 1**

**Eligibility Criteria for consideration of applications for NES Healthcare Science Postgraduate Scientist Training Bursary 2025**

**Is your profession within NHS Healthcare Science?**

**NO**

**YES**

**These awards are open to HCS staff only**

**Are you:**

* **AfC Band 7 or higher?**
* **employed on a non-permanent contract (i.e. a fixed-term, temporary or honorary contract)?**
* **currently on a NES funded training post (e.g. STP equivalence/HSST equivalence)?**
* **a previously successful applicant with 3 or more such bursary awards?**
* **applying to undertake an undergraduate training programme?**

**YES**

**You are not eligible to apply for this award**

**NO**

**You are eligible to apply for this award**

**Appendix 2**

**Scoring criteria and applicants guide**

**Scoring Criteria (used by NES and external assessors):**

|  |
| --- |
| Think about how you would score your own application; this is how the assessors will: |
| 0 - Application does not address the question |
| 1 - Application makes a weak case in addressing the question |
| 2 - Application makes a credible case in addressing the questions with evidence of effort to develop the applicant professionally |
| 3 - Application makes a credible case, with a clear realistic plan that utilises the educational solutions for the benefit of the applicant and service.  |

Consider the impact of the specific postgraduate programme you have chosen prior to answering the questions in the application. Tell us why the addition of this intended programme impacts your future, your department, your specialty, and Healthcare Science more widely, in order to justify the financial award towards it. A CV, elements of a job description, or a list of the programme modules are not an indication of your specific development plan, or the impact your programme will have. Mandatory training and training which is already a requirement of your role will not be considered in the scoring of this award.

Write your own application. Be concise and brief but make sure you cover the questions asked. Importantly, do not share or recycle text from others or from previous applications.