

To Trust and ICB Lead Training Hub Advanced Practice Leads

Via email

London Office
Stewart House
32 Russell Square
London
WC1B 5NN



Dear Colleagues,

Re: Advanced Practice Programmes 2023/24

I am writing to outline our intended approach to commissioning Advanced Practice programmes in 2023/24.

HEE London has the intention, subject to budget signoff, of providing funding for continuing and new Advanced Practitioner trainees where:

- a) this is in line with the service and workforce plans of organisations as well as ICB workforce plans.
- b) where certain conditions are met (please see Appendix for conditions)

Trusts and ICB Lead Training Hubs are now invited to put forward their expressions of interest for Advanced Practice training for potential new learners under the following training pathways:

- a) Advanced Practice Master of Science (MSc)
- b) Advanced Practice apprenticeship (Academic level 7)
- c) Top-up level 7 modules: these will only be supported for conversion of HEE-funded Post Graduate Diplomas to the full MSc. They will be funded by the regional Faculty.

When submitting your demand, you are asked to consider the NHS Long Term Plan and the Spending Review which outlines several areas where Advanced Practice expansion should be particularly sought, including:

- 1) Primary Care
- 2) Mental Health

- 3) Learning Disabilities & Autism
- 4) Community, Rehabilitation, MSK*
- 5) Intensive Care Medicine/critical care
- 6) End of Life Care*
- 7) Cancer diagnostic
- 8) Maternity (including women’s health) *
- 9) Unscheduled and Emergency Care*
- 10) Paediatric
- 11) Long Term conditions including respiratory*, cardiac* and public health.

These are the key areas on the website.

- [Acute medicine](#)
- Autism
- [Community-based rehabilitation: Healthy ageing](#)
- [Community-based rehabilitation: Physical activity for people with long-term conditions](#)
- End-of-life care
- [Learning disability](#)
- [Mental health](#)
- Musculo-skeletal conditions
- Neurological rehabilitation
- [Older people](#)
- Pelvic health
- Public health
- Surgery

In addition, London’s recovery programmes have identified the potential for Advanced Practice roles to aid London’s elective recovery programme. Therefore, it is expected that providers should submit plans which support their respective system’s ambitions for restoration of services, as well as the ambitions of the Long-Term Plan.

Funding (subject to budget sign off)

The 2023/24 funding model is outlined below:

Training pathway	Tuition fees (paid to HEIs)	Supervision fee (paid to employer)
Advanced Practice MSc qualification	Full tuition fees for a period of up to 3 years practice	£2,500 per annum
Advanced Practice Apprenticeship	N/A (paid by the employer through the apprenticeship levy)	£6,000 per annum

Advanced Practice e-Portfolio (Supported) Route and Top-up modules	Tuition fees named modules as agreed between HEE and the employer. Modules must be completed within the academic year and must upskill the individual to fully meet the Multi-Professional Advanced Clinical Practice Framework	N/A
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Tuition fees: Fees will be paid from HEE to London Higher Education Institutions through the HEE Education Contract. For students at Higher Education Institutions outside London, funding will be directed through the relevant Regions Education Contract from 23-24. Please note where students have not been successful in applying for the full pathway, or wish to study something else, we are unable to guaranteed funding on these occasions.

Supervision fees: A £2,500 per annum, per trainee supervision fee is available for those on a full Advanced Practice MSc that is funded by HEE London. This offer is to support organisational costs of supporting an Advanced Practitioner with workplace-based supervision and assessment. For organisations who utilise the apprenticeship levy for funding of programme fees, HEE’s contribution to workplace supervision will be increased to £6,000. This is available for each new and continuing student undertaking a programme of study in the 2023/24 academic year and will be paid to employers after the named individual student has enrolled and started on programme. A data validation exercise will take place between Higher Education Institutions and HEE to confirm enrolled students have started on programme. Where a student expects their programme to be undertaken for a longer period than three years, the student and employer are advised to contact the faculty to discuss this further, as we cannot guarantee the payment of a supervision fee for longer than a three-year period.

Funding for single modules: Only academic level 7 top-up module requests for conversion of HEE-funded Post Graduate Diplomas (PGDip) to the full MSc will be funded by HEE London. Any requests for stand-alone modules that could complete established Advanced Practitioners’ mapping of capabilities against the domains of the Multi-Professional Framework for Advanced Practice would be directed to the national e-Portfolio (Supported) Route process to receive recognition by the Centre of Advancing Practice.

Continuing students: They will be reviewed separately through our monitoring process with HEIs, who will confirm which students are still on their programmes.

Speciality Advanced Practice Programmes: This funding is available where is it clearly demonstrated that the completion of a speciality MSc programme will meet a specific workforce need that cannot be met by current generic Advanced Practice pathways.

To provide this assurance, the employer, supported by the ICB, will be required to submit a business case outlining the workforce development plan, the speciality training need of the Advanced Practice workforce as well as outlines of job descriptions confirming the roles available to trainees on completion of their speciality programme that fully map to the domains of the Multi-professional Framework for Advanced Clinical Practice. The employer will also be required to attend one of the drop-in sessions that will be made available during the demand process, to discuss the request with the faculty.

The requests for funded training places will be prioritised in the following order (please see table below), with each subsequent level of prioritisation only supported where budgetary capacity can support demand:

Priority	Description
1	Places on Centre-accredited Advanced Practice programmes (standard or apprenticeship MSc's)
2	Places on non-accredited legacy Advanced Practice programmes (MSc or apprenticeship)
3	Top-up modules required to convert a HEE-funded Advanced Practice PGDip to a full MSc.
4	Places on non-standard HEI programmes that fulfil a specific Advanced Practice workforce development need and whose curricula can be mapped against the four pillars of advanced practice.

What to do next

Please complete the Demand Template for all new trainees for whom you wish to seek funding for programmes beginning in 2023/24.

1. The Template must be completed in full. Where information is missing requests will not be considered.
2. Please submit applications in the order in which you would like requests to be prioritised. If demand exceeds funding capacity, places will be allocated in the order in which requests were received.
3. Following submission of your applications, HEE will review the indicative demand/ applications against the criteria outlined in this letter and the application template.
4. HEE will then provide drop-in sessions via MS Teams for providers, where necessary, to discuss requests and answer any queries. Equally, should Advance Practice leads require a discussion to discuss planned submissions, do contact us at the faculty to arrange one of these drop-in sessions.
5. Funding will be confirmed by email to Advanced Practice leads as submissions are approved by the team, during the year. A funding letter will be sent to all employers together with a list of students confirmed on programme, following the validations with the universities.

Please see the [demand and allocations flow chart](#) for further clarification of pathway from expression of interest to final acceptance of students.

If you have any questions, please refer to the [HEE London Advanced Practice handbook](#) in the first instance. If your question is not answered in the handbook or you would like any additional information, please contact ACPenquirieslondon@hee.nhs.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Sullivan

Regional Faculty Lead for Advancing Practice, HEE London

Appendix

HEE conditions for Advanced Practice funding are as follows:

Learners:

- Funding is provided for programmes of accredited academic study for staff who are already registered as nurses, midwives, pharmacists or AHPs to train as Advanced Practitioners.
- This is a specific offer to develop the Advanced Practice workforce. It cannot be replaced by an equivalent offer of funding for other activity.
- The Advanced Practice trainee should be undergoing training in line with the [HEE Multi-Professional Advanced Clinical Practice Framework](#).
- For new Advanced Practice trainees, a full pathway (standard or apprenticeship MSc) should be undertaken rather than single modules.
- Staff supported by this funding must be academically eligible and ready to start a course in the 2023/24 academic year.

Employers:

- Should be able to articulate *a clear case for the Advanced Practice role*, demonstrating that it is an organisational priority in line with their workforce transformation plans and service requirements.
- Should, wherever possible, be able to articulate how new Advanced Practice numbers connect to system level recovery priorities.
- Should be able to provide assurance that there will be *an Advanced Practice post on completion of training*. This is necessary to avoid investing in the upskilling of staff who cannot then put their advanced skills into practice.
- Must *identify an appropriately trained supervisor* who will be able to apply the Principles of the Workplace Supervision for Advanced Clinical Practice Framework and the [Minimum Expected Standards of Supervision](#).
- The expectation is that Advanced Practice trainees will be provided with supervision over the course of their training adhering to the principles of the [HEE Quality Framework](#), Multi-Professional Advanced Clinical Practice Framework and [The Minimum Expected Standards for Supervision](#) for all learners. This should include provision of a suitable workplace-based learning environment and opportunities to gain competence at advanced level across the 4 pillars of advanced practice (clinical practice, leadership/management, research, and education).
- Must provide sufficient study leave for university training. It should not be expected that Advanced Practice trainees take unpaid or annual leave for dedicated training days.
- Should encourage trainees to complete HEE's [National Education and Training Survey \(NETS\)](#)
- Should ensure that the supervision funding reporting form 2023/24 is fully completed and returned to HEE (this will be sent later in the year).

Where these conditions are not met, funding may be discontinued. In the unlikely event of recurrent failures to provide Advanced Practice Practitioner trainees with appropriate support, future Advanced Practice funding may be fully withdrawn from the employer.

Readiness Checklist (incl. Primary care Readiness Checklist):

- Trainees on Advanced Practice pathways require regular educational and workplace supervision, opportunities for work-based learning across the 4 pillars of Advanced Practice and adequate study leave throughout their educational programmes.
- Workforce planning is essential to ensure the success of Advanced Practice training and reduce the risks of attrition from academic programmes or workforce.
- In order to support organisations with their workforce planning, HEE have developed two [Readiness Checklists](#) to assist you in considering the infrastructure needed to fully support Advanced Practice trainees. [Primary Care Readiness Checklist](#)