Further copies of this booklet may be obtained from:
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101 St Mary Street
Cardiff
CF10 1DX

A Welsh Language version of this booklet is also available on request from the above address.

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1. INTRODUCTION

If you are considering a professional career in health care and would like to know more about the financial support you will get during your training then this booklet is for you.

It provides information and guidance for students who start an NHS funded health professional course from 1 September 2001 onwards, (the increase in Bursary rates and additional allowances also apply to existing NHS funded students). This booklet is for guidance only, it cannot cover all individual circumstances, and you may need to get more details from your college - that is, the institution where you plan to study.

To qualify for NHS financial support, you must be accepted for an NHS funded place on a full or part-time course which leads to professional registration as a:

(i) chiropodist*, dental hygienist**, dental therapist**, dietitian*, nurse (4 year degree course), occupational therapist*, physiotherapist*, radiographer*, speech and language therapist*; (see section 3)

(ii) nurse or a midwife (three year courses) - this includes conversion courses starting at any time for second level nurses (ENs) who have not practised for a year or more (see section 4);

This booklet is about the support you can get if you attend a nursing, midwifery or Allied Health Professional (AHP’s) course,

*these professions are widely known as "AHPs", which is an abbreviation for "Allied Health Professions". These professions were formerly known as PAMs (Professions Allied to Medicine).

**these professions are part of "the Professions Complementary to Dentistry (PCD)"
in Wales, regardless of where you live in the UK (for medical and dental students see "Arrangements for Medical and Dental Students"). If you attend a course in England, Scotland or Northern Ireland, broadly comparable arrangements will apply, but you will need to consult the relevant national authorities (see section 6) for details.

**Arrangements for Medical and Dental Students**

Arrangements for **Welsh domiciled** pre-registration medical students attending the four year graduate entry courses and, **Welsh domiciled** pre-registration medical and dental students who joined their courses from 1 September 1998 onwards, (who qualify for NHS Bursaries from their fifth and subsequent years of study), will broadly follow the arrangements outlined in section 3 of this booklet. If you are domiciled in England, Scotland or Northern Ireland you will need to consult the relevant national authorities (see section 6 and Q12 in section 5 for details).

To be eligible for an NHS funded Bursary medical and dental students must:

i) have been ordinarily resident in **Wales** throughout the three years preceding the first day of the first academic year of their course, other than for the purpose of receiving full-time education;

ii) have settled status in **Wales** within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971 on the first day of the first academic year of their course; and

iii) be ordinarily resident in the **UK** on the first day of the first academic year of their course.
2. GENERAL INFORMATION

Bursaries explained

2.1 A Bursary is a grant awarded to eligible students, and an NHS Bursary is made up of:

a) An allowance to cover day to day living costs, such as accommodation; and

b) Allowances, where applicable, for:

(i) Extra Weeks' Attendance
(ii) Older Students
(iii) Initial Expenses
(iv) Dependants
(v) Single Parents
(vi) Disabled Students
(vii) Two Homes
(viii) Clinical Placement Costs
(ix) Students entering training from care

c) In addition, the NHS will meet, in full, your liability for a tuition fee contribution - normally £1,075 a year - on your behalf.

2.2 You may also be entitled to a student loan to help pay the rest of your living costs, up to a maximum of £1,870 a year (more if you study in London) at current rates. Paragraph 3.9 gives more information.

2.3 Students who find themselves in exceptional financial difficulty may be able to get extra help - see paragraphs 3.12 and 3.13 for more information.
2.4 Your college will assess your non-means tested bursary (see paragraph 2.5a) and the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit will assess your means tested bursary (see paragraph 2.5b).

2.5 There are two types of NHS Bursary:

a) Non-means tested - (Available for three year nursing and midwifery courses). This provides a flat rate basic maintenance grant. No contribution is required from your income or your family’s.

b) Means tested - (Available for all courses other than three year nursing and midwifery). This means that your income, and that of your parents or your spouse will be taken into account, and the amount of maintenance grant will be reduced in proportion to that income, net of allowable deductions. Various sources of income - including, for example, your casual earnings while you are a full-time student - are ignored in whole or in part. Contributions by parents or spouses are calculated on the level of their residual income (normally in the tax year before the start of your academic year) following tax deductible allowances. If your parents or spouse do not complete the necessary forms, you cannot receive an NHS Bursary. Nor can the NHS undertake to make good any defaults in an assessed contribution. If you
are independent of your parents*, (eg because you are at least 25, or have been married for at least 2 years, or have supported yourself for at least 3 years), no parental contribution will be assessed, but a spouse’s contribution may still be applicable.

2.6 You can still get an NHS Bursary, even if you have previously attended a higher education course, or received support from public funds for that purpose.

2.7 Whatever kind of Bursary you get, it is your responsibility to tell your college or the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit of any change in your or your family’s financial circumstances, so that if necessary your Bursary can be reassessed. You must also tell your college or the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit if you have to terminate or interrupt your studies before the normal completion date. If you abandon your course, you will be required to repay any grant or tuition fee contribution that has been overpaid in consequence.

* Means a student who has:
(i) attained the age of 25 years on or before the first day of the academic year for which a parental contribution is applicable; or
(ii) supported himself out of his earnings for periods before the first academic year of his course aggregating at least 3 years; or
(iii) been married for at least 2 years before the beginning of the academic year for which a parental contribution is applicable, whether or not the marriage is still subsisting; or who has
(iv) no parent living.
(v) Academic years are regarded as the period of 12 months starting on 1 September, 1 January, 1 April or 1 July depending on when your course starts.
3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENTS ON AHPS, PROFESSIONS COMPLEMENTARY TO DENTISTRY AND FOUR YEAR NURSING COURSES

You must ensure that your college has offered you an NHS funded place on one of the courses listed in Section 1.

To be eligible for a means-tested NHS Bursary, you must normally* meet the following criteria:

3.1 You must

- have been ordinarily resident in the British Islands, (ie, the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) throughout the 3 years preceding the first day of the first academic year** of your course, other than for the purpose of receiving full-time education, and

- have settled status in the UK within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971 (if you need advice on your immigration status see section 6) on the first day of the first academic year of your course, and

- be ordinarily resident in any UK country on the first day of the first academic year of the course.

*special arrangements apply to:
- EEA nationals who are employed in the UK and their families;
- refugees and their families;
- people granted exceptional leave to enter or remain in the UK and their families;
- people absent from the UK due to temporary employment abroad and their families.

** Academic years are regarded as the period of 12 months starting on 1 September, 1 January, 1 April or 1 July depending on when your course starts.
3.2 If you are an EU national, you may have your tuition fee liability met, but you will not normally qualify for a maintenance grant.

3.3 You will not be eligible for an NHS Bursary if you are an assisted student. This means that your total income in any year from scholarships and employment (minus income tax and social security contributions) exceeds the maximum Bursary, i.e., total allowances plus tuition fee, that would otherwise be payable. You may, however, still be entitled to a student loan (see 3.9).

3.4 You will not be eligible for an NHS funded Bursary if you are ordinarily resident in one of the British Islands (e.g., the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) and you move to the UK for the purpose of receiving full-time education.

How much is the NHS Bursary?

3.5 The means tested Bursary is made up of an allowance to cover day to day living costs, and appropriate allowances for: longer academic years; dependants; single parents; older students; clinical placement costs; study in London; care leavers and disability.

The basic rates are shown in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE OF STUDY</th>
<th>MEANS TESTED AMOUNT (£) PER YEAR(1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>2,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsewhere</td>
<td>2,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents’ home</td>
<td>1,717</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Reduced rates are payable to members of Religious Orders
Allowances

3.6 An allowance is an extra payment on your Bursary. You may be eligible for payment as follows:

a) **Extra Weeks' Attendance** - most health professional students have longer academic years than other students. You can get an allowance for each extra week above a set limit that you must attend the course in the academic year. The limit is currently 30 weeks. The amount you will get for each additional week is:

- London rate £88.00
- Elsewhere rate £67.00
- Parental home rate £46.00

If you have to attend the course for 45 weeks or more in any continuous 12 month period, you will get an allowance for all 52 weeks of the year.

b) **Older Students' Allowance** - is payable if you have reached the age of 26 before the first academic year of your course. Academic years are defined as the period of 12 months starting on 1 September, 1 January, 1 April or 1 July depending on when your course starts. For example, if your 26th birthday falls on the 24 August 2001 and your course starts on 25 September 2001, then you would be eligible for the allowance as you were 26 before the first academic year of your course, which in this case is 1 September 2001. If your 26th birthday falls on 4 September 2001 and your
course starts on 25 October 2001, you would not be eligible for the allowance as you were not 26 before 1 September 2001, the first academic year of your course. If you qualify for this allowance at the beginning of your course, it will continue to be paid in subsequent years. **It is not payable on top of the Single Parent Addition.** The following table shows the current rates.

### OLDER STUDENTS ALLOWANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGED(^{(1)})</th>
<th>MEANS TESTED AMOUNT (£) PER YEAR(^{(2)})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29+</td>
<td>1,255</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{(1)}\) Age before the first academic year of the course.  
\(^{(2)}\) Allowance covers 52 weeks.

(c) **Dependants’ Allowances** - these are payable to you for people who are wholly or mainly financially dependent on you during your time in training. Your husband or wife, your children and other adults can be counted, but your unmarried partner cannot. The income of all your dependants, your spouse and your unmarried partner, net of allowable deductions, is taken into account in deciding if you are eligible for an extra allowance.

Each individual’s circumstances are different, so you are advised to consult the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit for further guidance. The following table shows the current rates.
**DEPENDANTS’ ALLOWANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATE</th>
<th>MEANS TESTED AMOUNT (£) PER YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPOUSE (or other adult dependant, or first child if there are no spouse or adult dependants)</td>
<td>2,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILD Aged (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 11</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>1,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18+</td>
<td>1,740</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Age immediately before the beginning of the academic year, or born during that year

d) **Single Parent Addition** - this allowance, currently £1,075 over 52 weeks, is payable if you are a single student who has a dependent child or children. **It is not payable in addition to the Older Students' Allowance.** You may choose to have a higher proportion of your income ignored instead of receiving dependants’ allowance if this is more favourable to you.

e) **Two Homes Grant** - This allowance, currently £760 over the academic year, is payable if you have to maintain a home for yourself and a dependant, other than your term-time home.
f) **Clinical Placement Costs** – Normal daily travel between your home and college is not reimbursed. However, part of your course will include clinical placements which will involve you training in hospitals or community health services rather than in a classroom. The cost of journeys between your term-time residence and a clinical placement site, which is not part of your college, can be reimbursed, although this may be subject to a travel disregard where your grant entitlement is nil. You can claim the costs within the UK of travel to and from your placement site involving:

- Public transport (including carriage of luggage and bicycles)
- Essential use of your own motor vehicle (including official passengers who must be named NHS Bursary holders)
- Use of your own bicycle, and
- Parking, tolls and ferries.

You should use the cheapest form of transport available for your journeys, taking full advantage of any free and concessionary schemes. If you choose to use your own vehicle, you should claim public transport fares if these are lower. If public transport is unavailable or unsuitable for placement travel, you may use your own motor vehicle. In either case you must get authority, in advance of your placement, from your college to do so. You will also need to get confirmation from your insurers that you have adequate cover for all costs and
claims and that no liability is placed on your college or any NHS body, and notify your college accordingly.

(i) If you incur additional residential accommodation costs while attending a clinical placement, by way of:

(a) retaining the accommodation you use at your college; and

(b) paying for the accommodation you use while on clinical placement,

you may claim the lesser of the costs reasonably incurred instead of the costs of daily travel between your college and placement accommodation. You may also claim the cost of up to one weekly return journey between your college and placement address.

(ii) If you have to move to London or from your parents’ home to lodgings to attend a placement, your basic maintenance grant will also be temporarily increased if appropriate;

(iii) Travel costs you incur in connection with essential study overseas can also be reimbursed.

Your college will advise you on how to claim your clinical placement costs.

g) Disabled Students' Allowances

It is important to let your college know immediately if you have a disability and need extra help or equipment to complete your course. Early notification is recommended, as the processing of claims can take some time. You will be asked to
provide evidence of the nature and severity of your disability and to produce evidence of a recent assessment. If your disability has not recently been assessed, an assessment should be undertaken by a suitably qualified person. You are expected to meet the costs of establishing a claim to disability, but any costs associated with identifying your course-related needs may be met from your Bursary. This information will be treated as confidential. **No contribution will be required from your income or your family’s towards this allowance.**

This allowance is intended to cover the extra costs you incur while training as a result of a disability. It is not intended to pay the disability related costs that you would have incurred in any case.

There are four elements to cover different areas of need:

1. **The non-medical helper’s allowance** - to help you pay for helpers, such as sign language interpreters or note-takers;
2. **The specialist equipment allowance** - for major items of specialist equipment, eg a computer;
3. **The travel allowance** - for travel costs reasonably and necessarily incurred due to your disability;
4. **The other costs allowance** - to cover any costs related to your disability and study, eg Braille paper or books and tapes, that are not covered by the other allowances. It can also be used to top up the other allowances. The following table shows the current rates.
**DISABLED STUDENTS' ALLOWANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATE</th>
<th>MAXIMUM ALLOWANCE (£) PER YEAR (EXCEPT 2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. HELPER</td>
<td>10,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. EQUIPMENT</td>
<td>4,255 (for the duration of the course)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. TRAVEL</td>
<td>actual reasonably and necessarily incurred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. OTHER COSTS</td>
<td>1,420</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Care Leavers Allowance**

You can claim this allowance if you were under the age of 21 on the first day of your course and were in care immediately before you started your course or, were in care for a minimum of three months continuously on or after your 16th birthday. The allowance, of up to £100 per week, is to help you with your accommodation costs during your longest vacation period.

**The NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit can advise you on how to claim.**
How do I receive payment of my Bursary?

3.7 When you have been offered an NHS funded place, your college will advise the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit of the offer. Once the information is received, the Unit will send you an initial application form. On receipt of your completed initial application form, you will be sent a financial assessment form in order that your Bursary entitlement can be calculated. Once this has been completed you will be sent a grant notification letter advising you of the level of your award, any parental or spouse contribution and any contribution to travel.

3.8 The payment of bursary will be made directly to you by your college at the beginning of each term. Your college will be able to give you more detail about the timing and method of payment.

Other Help

Student Loans

3.9 You may be entitled to a student loan to cover the balance of your living costs. NHS means tested Bursaries are not intended to meet all your maintenance requirements, so you are encouraged to consider carefully whether you will need a loan to avoid hardship during your course. You should apply, via your Local Education Authority (LEA), for a loan before the course starts. The LEA will tell the Student Loans Company the maximum loan to which you are entitled. You can then decide how much of the available loan, if any, you want from the Student Loans Company. Your LEA will be happy to give you more detailed advice.
3.10 Part-time students on courses leading to professional registration are not currently eligible for student loans.

3.11 Students starting their courses on or after 1 September 1998 will repay their student loans entirely on the basis of their level of income after they graduate. For most graduates, repayments will be collected by the Inland Revenue from the start of the tax year (6 April) after their course has finished. You will only start repaying your loan when your income is above the income threshold of £10,000 a year. If your income ever falls below this level, your repayments will be suspended.

The following table shows the current rates:

**STUDENT LOANS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Maximum rate (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full year</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students living away from parental home in London</td>
<td>2,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elsewhere</td>
<td>1,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>living at home</td>
<td>1,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final year</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students living away from home in London</td>
<td>1,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elsewhere</td>
<td>1,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>living at home</td>
<td>1,045</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A period of residence outside the UK throughout the year is paid at the "elsewhere" rate.
Hardship Loans

3.12 If, having taken up your full entitlement to a Bursary and loan, you find you are still in financial difficulty, you can apply to your college, or to your students’ union, for information on help from Hardship Loans.

NHS Hardship Grant

3.13 If you have exhausted all other sources of financial help, and still find yourself in serious financial difficulty, you may, exceptionally, be eligible for an NHS Hardship Grant. All holders of means tested NHS Bursaries, except EU nationals holding fees only awards, are eligible. Payments will not be made to you if you have chosen not to take up your full student loan entitlement. Applications should be made to your college.

Council Tax and Benefits

3.14 Full-time students are either exempt from Council Tax or are entitled to discount disregards. In exceptional circumstances, you may be eligible for Council Tax Benefit, Housing Benefit and social security benefits. You should seek advice about this from your local authority or Benefits Agency office.

3.15 The tables below give examples of the contribution that would be expected from your parents, or husband or wife (the amount under ‘Contribution’ is the amount by which your maximum bursary would be reduced).
Parental Contribution

The assessed parental contribution is calculated at £45 plus £1 for every £9.50 of residual income. For residual incomes below £20,000, no contribution is assessed. For residual incomes above £82,187, the assessed contribution is £6,591.

Spouse’s Contribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residual Income</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
<th>Residual Income</th>
<th>Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under £17,200</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td>£45,000</td>
<td>£3,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£20,000</td>
<td>£395</td>
<td>£48,000</td>
<td>£3,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£23,000</td>
<td>£770</td>
<td>£50,000</td>
<td>£4,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£25,000</td>
<td>£1,020</td>
<td>£53,000</td>
<td>£4,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£28,000</td>
<td>£1,395</td>
<td>£55,000</td>
<td>£4,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£30,000</td>
<td>£1,645</td>
<td>£58,000</td>
<td>£5,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£33,000</td>
<td>£2,020</td>
<td>£60,000</td>
<td>£5,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£35,000</td>
<td>£2,270</td>
<td>£63,000</td>
<td>£5,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£38,000</td>
<td>£2,645</td>
<td>£65,000</td>
<td>£6,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£40,000</td>
<td>£2,895</td>
<td>£69,568</td>
<td>£6,591</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The assessed spouse’s contribution is calculated at £45 plus £1 for every £8.00 of residual income. For residual incomes below £17,200, no contribution is assessed. For residual incomes above £69,568, the assessed contribution is £6,591.
4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR STUDENTS ON THREE YEAR NURSING AND MIDWIFERY COURSES

You must ensure that your college has offered you an NHS funded place on a three year course leading to registration as a nurse or a midwife. This includes a course starting at any time which leads to conversion from a second (EN) to a first level nurse, if you have not worked as a nurse for a year or more.

4.1 If you are accepted for an NHS funded place you are eligible for an NHS non-means tested Bursary. If your course starts before 1 November 2001 you will not have to meet any UK residence requirement, regardless of your country of origin, but it is for you to ensure that you have any necessary immigration clearance.

4.2 If your course starts during the period 1 November 2001 to 31 August 2002 you will have to satisfy the residence criteria unless your application was received by the Nursing and Midwifery Admissions Service (NMAS) or your college, on or before 30 June 2001.

4.3 If your course starts after 31 August 2002 you will have to meet the residence criteria unless your application was received before the date these changes were announced, 8 May 2001.

4.4 In order to meet the residence criteria

You must

- have been ordinarily resident in the British Islands, (ie, the UK, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) throughout the 3 years preceding the first day of the
first academic year of your course, other than for the purpose of receiving full-time education, and

- have settled status in the UK within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971 (if you need advice on your immigration status see section 6) on the first day of the first academic year of your course, and

- be ordinarily resident in any UK country on the first day of the first academic year of the course.

4.5 If you are an EU national, you may have your tuition fee liability met, but you will not normally qualify for a maintenance grant.

4.6 You will not be eligible for an NHS Bursary if you are an assisted student. This means that your total income in any year from scholarships and employment (minus income tax and social security contributions) exceeds the maximum Bursary ie total allowances plus tuition fee, that would otherwise be payable.

4.7 You will not be eligible for an NHS funded Bursary if you are ordinarily resident in one of the British Islands (ie, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man) and you move to the UK for the purpose of receiving full-time education.
How much is the NHS Non-Means Tested Bursary?

4.8 The basic rates for 2001/02 are shown in the following table:

**NON-MEANS TESTED BURSARY RATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLACE OF STUDY</th>
<th>NON-MEANS TESTED AMOUNT (£) PER YEAR(1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>6,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsewhere</td>
<td>5,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents' home</td>
<td>5,305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Allowances**

4.9 An allowance is an extra payment on your Bursary. You may be eligible for payment as follows:

a) **Extra Weeks' Attendance** - Your basic Bursary rate is already set on the assumption that you will be required to attend for 45 weeks a year. However, if you have to move to London to attend a clinical placement, your basic maintenance grant will be temporarily increased by £16.00 a week.

b) **Older Students' Allowance** - is payable if you have reached the age of 26 before the first academic year of your course. Academic years are defined as the period of 12 months starting on 1 September, 1 January, 1 April or 1 July each year depending on when your course starts. For example, if your 26th birthday falls on 24 August 2001 and your course started on 25 September 2001, then you would be eligible for
the allowance as you were 26 before the first academic year of your course, which in this case is 1 September 2001. If your 26th birthday falls on 12 January 2002 and your course starts on 15 January 2002, you would not be eligible for the allowance as you were not 26 before 1 January 2002, the first academic year of your course. If you qualify for this allowance at the beginning of your course, it will continue to be paid in subsequent years. **It is not payable in addition to the Single Parent Addition.**

The following table shows the 2001/02 rates.

### OLDER STUDENTS' ALLOWANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGED(1)</th>
<th>NON-MEANS TESTED AMOUNT (£) PER YEAR(2)(3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LONDON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 or over</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Age before the first academic year of the course.
(2) Payable to students attending accelerated programmes for graduates, regardless of age.
(3) Allowance covers 52 weeks.

**c) Dependants' Allowances** - These are payable to you for people who are wholly or mainly financially dependent on you during your time in training. Your husband or wife, your children and other adults can be counted, but your unmarried partner cannot. The income of all your dependants, your spouse and your unmarried partner, net of allowable deductions, is
taken into account when deciding if you are eligible for an extra allowance.

As each individuals' circumstances are different, you are advised to consult your college for further guidance.

The following table shows the 2001/02 rates.

**DEPENDANTS' ALLOWANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPENDANT</th>
<th>AMOUNT (£) PER YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPOUSE (or other adult dependant, or first child if there are no spouse or adult dependants)</td>
<td>1,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILD Aged(^{(1)})</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 11</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>1,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18+</td>
<td>1,470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{(1)}\) Age immediately before the beginning of the academic year, or born during that year

d) **Single Parent Addition** - This allowance, currently £910 over 52 weeks, may be payable to single students who have a dependent child or children. **It is not payable in addition to the Older Students' Allowance.**
e) **Initial Expenses Allowance** - This is a one-off payment of £55, made at the start of your course.

f) **Clinical Placement Costs** – Normal daily travel between your home and college is not reimbursed. However, part of your course will include clinical placements which will involve you training in hospitals or community health services rather than in a classroom. The cost of journeys between your term-time residence and a clinical placement site, which is not part of your college, can be reimbursed. You can claim the costs within the UK of travel to and from your placement site involving:

- public transport (including carriage of luggage and bicycles)
- essential use of your own motor vehicle (including official passengers who must be named NHS Bursary holders)
- use of your own bicycle, and
- parking, tolls and ferries.

You should use the cheapest form of transport available for your journeys, taking full advantage of any free and concessionary schemes. If you choose to use your own vehicle, you should claim public transport fares if these are lower. If public transport is unavailable or unsuitable for placement travel, you may use your own motor vehicle. In either case you must get authority, in advance of your placement, from your college to do so. You will also need to get confirmation from your insurers that you have adequate cover for all costs and
claims and that no liability is placed on your college or any NHS body, and notify your college accordingly.

(i) If you incur additional residential accommodation costs while attending a clinical placement, by way of:

a) retaining the accommodation you use at your college; and

b) paying for the accommodation you use while on clinical placement,

you may claim the lesser of the costs reasonably incurred instead of the costs of daily travel between your college and placement site. You may also claim the cost of expenditure of up to one weekly return journey between your college and placement address.

(ii) If you have to move to London to attend a placement, your basic maintenance grant will also be temporarily increased if necessary;

(iii) Travel expenses you incur in connection with essential study overseas can also be reimbursed.

Your college will advise you on how to claim your clinical placement costs

g) **Care Leavers Allowance**

You can claim this allowance if you were under the age of 21 on the first day of your course and were in care immediately before you started your course, or were in care for a minimum of three months continuously on or after your 16th birthday. The
allowance, of up to £100 per week, is to help you with your accommodation costs during your longest vacation period.

Your college can advise you on how to claim a care leavers allowance.

How do I receive payment of my Bursary

4.10 When you have been offered an NHS funded place, your college will calculate your bursary. Payments will normally be made in 12 monthly instalments, the first by cheque via your college and the remainder by credit transfer. It would therefore be to your advantage to open a bank account before your course starts. Payment of clinical placement costs will normally be added to the next monthly instalment of your bursary. Advance payment may be made where you expect substantial expenses in a given period and hardship might otherwise result.

Other Help

4.11 Full-time students are either exempt from Council Tax or are entitled to discount disregards. In exceptional circumstances, you may be eligible for Council Tax Benefit, Housing Benefit and social security benefits. You should seek advice about this from your local authority or Benefits Agency Office.

You are not currently eligible for
- Student Loans
- Disabled Students' Allowances
- Hardship Loans
- NHS Hardship Grants.
5. YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q1 What happens if my circumstances change?

A1 You should report any change in your financial circumstances (or your family’s, where a parental or spouse contribution applies) to your college or the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit as soon as it occurs. Your Bursary will be immediately reassessed to take account of any impact on your requirements, for example, your spouse leaving the family home, the birth of a child, or the death of a dependent. It is also your responsibility to tell your college or the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit if you have to leave or interrupt your course before the normal completion date.

Q2 Why do three year nursing students receive a larger bursary than four year nursing students?

A2 The majority of entrants to nursing follow three year programmes. The Assembly has decided to maintain current Bursary levels to safeguard recruitment. In addition, four year nursing students are eligible for loans, but three year nursing students are not.

Q3 Am I entitled to unsocial hours and extra duty payments?

A3 No. Your status will be that of a student, not an employee. But you may be eligible for help with clinical placement costs.
Q4 Is there any help with childcare costs?

A4 Childcare provision may be available at your college or at your clinical placement site. You will be responsible for meeting any childcare costs. Depending on your circumstances, additional financial help with your overall living costs may be available by way of a student loan, Hardship Loan or an NHS Hardship Grant.

Q5 Are postgraduate courses funded by the NHS?

A5 Yes. Graduates who wish to attend courses at DipHE, degree or postgraduate level which lead to professional registration are eligible for NHS Bursaries. However, those attending part-time courses and three year nursing and midwifery courses, are not currently eligible for student loans.

Q6 What qualifications will I need to enter nursing, midwifery and AHPs education?

A6 For information on qualifications needed to enter nursing, midwifery and AHPs education you should contact the relevant professional body or, for information about nursing and midwifery, the Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting (WNB). Alternatively, you can contact your local college, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS), or the Nursing and Midwifery Admissions Service (NMAS) (see section 6 for addresses and telephone numbers).

Q7 Where do I go to find further information about three year nursing and midwifery courses?

A7 Further information can be obtained by contacting the WNB, NMAS, or the college of your choice.
Q8 What are the differences between nursing diploma and degree courses?

A8 Both courses lead to the same level of registration as a nurse (Adult, Child, Learning Disabilities or Mental Health). There may be differences in content and method of delivery and in how some learning outcomes are achieved. These should be discussed with the college of your choice. The UKCC set minimum statutory educational requirements for entry to pre-registration nursing programmes. Each institution is responsible for deciding whether a qualification meets its criteria (provided it is not below the statutory minimum) and these criteria may differ between diploma and degree programmes. You should seek advice on admissions policy from individual institutions.

Q9 How do I apply for a place on one of the four year nursing or AHPs education courses?

A9 For information on AHPs and four year nursing courses contact UCAS, your local college, the WNB or NMAS.

Q10 Will I be eligible for an NHS Bursary if I have already had public funding for higher education?

A10 Yes. If your course leads to a registrable qualification and your place is funded by the NHS you will be able to get an NHS Bursary. If you have previously had an NHS Bursary and wish to switch professions, you will be eligible - but Bursaries are not intended for first level nurses and midwives seeking a second registration in nursing or midwifery, or for post registration training. You can get a Bursary for a course starting at any time which leads to conversion from a second (EN) to a first level nurse, if you have not worked as a nurse for a year or more.
Q11 Will I still be eligible for a bursary if I am attending a part-time course?

A11 Yes. Reduced rates of Bursary are payable to students accepted for part-time NHS funded courses. For three year nursing and midwifery students, this will be the appropriate proportion of the full-time rate. For part-time degree level students the bursary will be at 75% of the full-time rate. Any additions for disability will be paid in full and clinical placement costs will be paid as appropriate.

Q12 How will the new arrangements affect students on medical and dental courses?

A12 For the first four years, support for Welsh domiciled students on undergraduate medical and dental courses will be on the same basis as for other higher education students, through their Local Education Authority (LEA). In the fifth year of study and beyond, students will not have to pay tuition fee contributions, and non-repayable bursaries, assessed against the income of the student and his family, will be available towards maintenance. Students receiving NHS bursaries will have access to student loans for the balance of their maintenance costs.

For Welsh domiciled students on four year graduate entry medical degree courses, means tested Bursaries, help with tuition fees and student loans are available from year two of the four year course. In year one of the course, students will not receive help with tuition fees but will be entitled to apply for a student loan through their LEA.
Q13  What if I live in Wales and want to attend a medical or dental course in Scotland, England or Northern Ireland?

A13  The arrangements described in Q12 will apply to you, regardless of where you study in the UK. The NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit will assess and pay your Bursary.

Q14  What if I live in Scotland, England or Northern Ireland and want to attend a medical or dental course in Wales?

A14  You should consult the relevant national authorities (see section 6 for details).

Q15  What if I live in Wales and want to attend a nursing, midwifery or AHPs course in Scotland, England or Northern Ireland?

A15  Broadly comparable arrangements to those described in this booklet will apply, but you will need to consult the relevant national authorities (see section 6 for details).

Q16  What if I live in Scotland, England or Northern Ireland and want to attend a nursing, midwifery or AHPs course in Wales?

A16  The arrangements described in this booklet will apply to you, regardless of where you live in the UK.

Q17  Where do I find further information about funding for medical and dental courses?

A17  You should contact the University of your choice.
Q18 Am I obliged to work in the NHS when I qualify?

A18 No. You will be encouraged and supported to develop at least some of your career in the NHS or in the social care services, but the decision is yours.

Q19 What if the place I am offered is not NHS funded?

A19 For courses, other than medical or dental ones, student intakes are planned and agreed between the NHS and colleges to reflect future workforce demand. So this will only happen where admissions exceed planned requirements. In that event, you will not be eligible for an NHS Bursary. But that will not affect any entitlement you may have to the support available to other higher education students. For further advice, contact your Local Education Authority.

For medical and dental courses, if you are a Welsh domiciled student:

   a) in the second year of study, or above, of a pre-registration four year graduate entry degree course; or

   b) in the fifth year of study, or above, of a pre-registration undergraduate course which started on or after 1 September 1998, and you have been in receipt of, or were eligible for, support from your Local Education Authority (LEA) from the start of your course, then you will be eligible to apply for an NHS means-tested Bursary for the remainder of your course.

These are just some of the questions you may be wishing to ask. If you have a question that hasn’t been answered here you should contact your college or the NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit.
6. **FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE**

You can obtain further information on NHS funded programmes from your college. Enquiries about financial support may be directed:

if you plan to study in **Wales**, to
NHS (Wales) Student Awards Unit
2nd Floor
Golate House
101 St Mary Street
Cardiff
CF10 1DX
Tel: 029 2026 1495
Fax: 029 2026 1499

if you plan to study in **England**, to
The NHS Student Grants Unit
Room 212c Government Buildings
Norcross
Blackpool
FY5 3TA
Tel: 01253 338729 – for diploma level enquiries
Tel: 01253 333314 – for degree level enquiries

if you plan to study in **Scotland**, to
The Students Awards Agency for Scotland
Gyle House
3 Redheughs Rigg
South Gyle
Edinburgh
EH12 9HH
Tel: 0131 476 8212
if you plan to study in **Northern Ireland**, to
Department of Higher and Further Education Training and
Employment
Student Support Branch
4th Floor
Adelaide House
39-49 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8FD
Tel: 028 9025 7777

If you plan to study medicine or dentistry in any UK country, contact your Local Education Authority about financial support for the first four years of study, and the appropriate national authority above for the country where you live about subsequent years.

If you need advice about your **immigration status**, contact:
Immigration Policy Directorate
Home Office
Apollo House
1101 Wellesley Road
Croydon
CR9 2RR
Tel: 0870 606 7766
Other Contacts

Welsh National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting
Golate House
101 St Mary Street
Cardiff
CF10 1DX
Tel: 029 2026 1400
Fax: 029 2026 1499
www.wnb.org.uk

Student Loans Company Ltd
100 Bothwell Street
Glasgow
G2 7JD
Tel: 0800 40 50 10
Fax: 0141 306 2005
www.slc.co.uk

UCAS
Rosehill
New Barn Lane
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL52 3LZ
Tel: 01242 227788
Fax: 01242 544960
www.ucas.com
Nursing and Midwifery Admissions Service
Rosehill
New Barn Lane
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL52 3LZ
Tel: 01242 544949
Fax: 01242 544962
www.nmas.ac.uk

NHS Careers
0845 60 60 655

Professional Bodies

The Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists
1 Fellmongers Path
Tower Bridge Road
London
SE1 3LY
Tel: 020 7234 8620
Fax: 020 7234 8621

College of Occupational Therapists
Education and Practice Department
106/114 Borough High Street
Southwark
London SE1 1LB
Tel: 020 7450 2344
Fax: 020 7450 2367
The Society of Radiographers
207 Providence Square
Mill Street
London
SE1 2EW
Tel: 020 7740 7200

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
14 Bedford Row
London
WC1R 4ED
Tel: 020 7306 6666
Fax: 020 7306 6611

British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists
Sir James Clark Building
Abbey Mill Business Centre
Paisley
PA1 1TJ
Tel: 0141 561 7217
Fax: 0141 561 7218

British Dental Association
64 Wimpole Street
London
W1G 8YS
Tel: 020 7935 0875
Fax: 020 7487 5232
British Dental Hygienists’ Association
13 The Ridge
Yatton
Bristol
BS19 4DQ
Tel: 01934 876 389

British Dental Therapists’ Association
64 Wimpole Street
London
W1G 8YS
Tel: 020 7935 0875
Fax: 020 7487 5232

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
2 White Hart Yard
London
SE1 1NX
Tel: 020 7378 1200
Fax: 020 7403 7254

The British Dietetic Association
5th Floor Elizabeth House
148-149 Great Charles Street
Queensway
Birmingham
B1 1HT
Tel: 0121 200 8080
Fax: 0121 200 8081
British Orthoptic Society
Tavistock House North
Tavistock Square
London
WC1H 9HX
Tel: 020 7387 7993
Fax: 020 7383 2584

Royal College of Nursing Welsh Board
Ty Maeth
King George V Drive East
Cardiff
CF14 4XZ
Tel: 029 2075 1373

Royal College of Midwives
15 Mansfield Street
London
W1M OBE
Tel: 020 7312 3535

UNISON
1 Mabledon Place
London
WC1H 9HA
Tel: 020 7388 2366
Fax: 020 7551 1354
Higher Education Institutions

North East Wales Institute of Higher Education
School of Health and Community Studies
Plas Coch
Mold Road
Wrexham
LL11 2AW
Tel: 01978 293331

Dental Auxiliary School
University Dental Hospital
Heath Park
Cardiff
CF14 4XY
Tel: 029 2074 4251

University of Wales Bangor
School of Radiography
Archimedes Centre
Wrexham Technology Park
Wrexham
LL13 7YP
Tel: 01978 316205

University of Wales Bangor
School of Nursing and Midwifery Studies
Fron Heulog
Ffriddoedd Road
Bangor
LL57 2EF
Tel: 01248 383134
University of Wales College of Medicine
Heath Park
Cardiff
CF14 4XN
Tel: 029 2074 2027

University of Wales Institute, Cardiff
Western Avenue
Cardiff
CF5 2SG
Tel: 029 2041 6010

University of Glamorgan
School of Care Science
Pontypridd
CF37 1DL
Tel: 0800 716 925

University of Wales Swansea
School of Health Science
Singleton Park
Swansea
SA2 8PP
Tel: 01792 518531