**F.A.O. Scottish Care** Date: 12th May 2021

Our Ref: NES/GDipICN2021

E-mail: [postreg.nmahp@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:postreg.nmahp@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

Dear colleague

**Funded places for the Graduate Diploma in Integrated Community Nursing September 2021 Intake**

We are pleased to announce the funding and application arrangements for the next intake of the Graduate Diploma in Integrated Community Nursing (GDipICN).

This 2-year part-time work-based programme is designed for nurses working at level 5 of the Career Framework for Health (Agenda for Change Band 5 equivalent). Funded places will be allocated to nurses working in prison healthcare, district nursing teams, care homes, and General Practice settings. We have written to the leads in each of these groups separately. If you would like to discuss an integrated approach to nominating staff for the programme, we suggest that you contact the District Nursing Lead in your NHS Board area. Please contact us if you would like contact details.

NES has commissioned two universities to deliver the programme; Queen Margaret University (east and north regions) and the University of the West of Scotland (west region). The programme commences in September 2021, with the recruitment process starting now in preparation for this. Please see Appendix 1 for NHS Boards associated with each region.

We welcome your list of nominations for the September 2021 intake plus any nominations for intakes in 2022 to give us an indication of the likely demand for places in future. NES will review nominations and confirm the number of funded places by 1st July. A spreadsheet is attached for you to complete with details of all individual nurses who require funding.

Funded places will be allocated equitably across Boards. Details on how to register for a place with a university will be provided upon notification of a successful funding application. Places may also be funded by the employer after all funded places are allocated.

More information about the programme is available at the **NHS Education for Scotland** webpages

<https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/our-work/community-nursing-graduate-diploma/>and at **Appendix 2.**

**Please return the completed spreadsheets by Friday 25th June 2021 at the latest to** [postreg.nmahp@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:postreg.nmahp@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

Please do not hesitate to contact [postreg.nmahp@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:postreg.nmahp@nes.scot.nhs.uk) if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

Jane Harris  
Head of Programme

**Appendix I**

**Graduate Diploma in Integrated Community Nursing**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Region** | **University Provider** | **Health Board area** |
| North | Queen Margaret University | NHS Grampian NHS Highland NHS Orkney NHS Shetland NHS Western Isles |
| East and Central | Queen Margaret University | NHS Borders NHS Fife NHS Forth Valley NHS Lothian NHS Tayside |
| West | University of the West of Scotland | NHS Ayrshire & Arran NHS Dumfries & Galloway NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde NHS Lanarkshire |

**Appendix 2**

**Graduate Diploma in Integrated Community Nursing**

This is a new 2-year part-time practice-based programme designed for nurses working at level 5 of the Career Framework for Health (Agenda for Change Band 5 equivalent) in district nursing, care home nursing, prison health and general practice nursing.

The programme is suitable for:

* experienced or newly qualified nurses
* nurses new to the community setting or experienced but with limited community specific CPD
* with or without a first degree

The gradate diploma will equip community nurses with the range of skills and knowledge they need to work flexibly across the integrated community nursing team.

It forms the foundation element of NES's integrated education pathway and will enable nurses to continue their studies at postgraduate level to qualify as specialist, advanced and consultant nurses in district nursing, care home nursing, prison health and general practice nursing.

**How to apply**

If you are interested in applying for this funded education programme, as an individual community nurse, you should first speak with your line manager. There is a process to follow (please see below for flowchart) to ensure your organisation is aware and supports your application for funding before you can proceed to apply to the university.

The qualification is available through Queen Margaret University and the University of the West of Scotland and you can find more information at these addresses.

[Queen Margaret University](https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/2020-postgraduate-courses/graduate-diploma-in-integrated-community-nursing/)

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/2020-postgraduate-courses/graduate-diploma-in-integrated-community-nursing/>

[University of the West of Scotland](https://www.uws.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-course-search/integrated-community-nursing/)

<https://www.uws.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/postgraduate-course-search/integrated-community-nursing/>

NHS Education for Scotland

<https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/our-work/community-nursing-graduate-diploma/>

Applicants should be mindful that, although this course is free for you to attend, the Scottish Government has funded your place from public resources and that there is the expectation that applicants who are successful in gaining a place on the course will complete the programme.

**Please see below for a flowchart of the application process.**

**Flowchart of application process**