

GNC for Scotland (Education) Fund 1983 and Margaret Callum Rodger Midwifery Award

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2026-27

- **I am currently not working in a health and social care setting and wondered if I would be eligible to apply to the Fund?**

Yes - The Fund is open to any registered nurse or midwife living and working in Scotland in any setting, however, you must demonstrate in your applications how the development opportunity will benefit patients and service users. The Fund does not support applications for full time study/career breaks.

- **Does the Fund cover backfill/staff costs?**

No - The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship opportunities to support educational and development opportunities which inform nursing, midwifery or community and health practice. Under conditions of the Fund there is no flexibility to provide backfill/staff costs.

- **Can the Fund contribute towards the costs of completing a degree or undertaking continuous professional development?**

Yes – However, you must clearly demonstrate how this learning will benefit your patients and service users. Please note, the Fund will only support a maximum of 60 credits in one academic year of any programme. Also, if you are successful in gaining funding from the GNC for Scotland (Education) Fund 1983 and Margaret Callum Rodger Midwifery Award, you cannot re-apply for further funding for the same programme. As stated above, the Fund will not support full time study.

- **Does one application cover costs for more than one person?**

No. Under the terms of the Fund there **cannot** be a collective application for funding. **Each person must complete and submit their applications separately with their own expected professional/personal benefits clearly demonstrated.** Each application will be considered separately, and any funds awarded on merit. Please note that the disbursement panel cannot guarantee that each individual application will be successful.

- **I'm not sure my proposal meets the fund criteria – what should I do?**

Please contact gnc@nes.scot.nhs.uk for further discussion.

- **What will not be funded under conditions of the Fund?**

Under the conditions of the Fund, we are **not able to pay** for the following:

- equipment (including books)
- backfill to release staff/applicants' staff costs
- educational opportunities that are linked to the delivery of services i.e. non-medical prescribing, return to practice etc.

- **What happens if I do not complete every section within the application?**

All sections must be completed including detail of risk assessment, equality and diversity and plan of dissemination of learning as the disbursement panel will review this detail as part of the assessment criteria of the quality of the application. **No funding will be approved without this level of detail being supplied.** Please ensure you review your application thoroughly prior to submission. If you require support in completing any aspect of your application, please email us on gnc@nes.scot.nhs.uk

Any use of Generative AI (GAI) within a project or research work must be acknowledged and referenced appropriately and you must adhere to your learning institution or employer guidance. The use of GAI to create your application form is not permitted and will be rejected.

- **Does the Fund pay for educational activity that I have already started before the Fund opens?**

No. However any educational activity that commences in-between the Fund opening on the 20th October 2025 and closing on the 23rd January 2026, will be considered by the disbursement panel. **It should be noted that this is done at the applicant's own risk as the panel may not deem the application appropriate for funding.**

- **How will my information be used?**

Application forms and personal information are shared only with the General Nursing Council for Scotland (Education) Fund 1983 and Margaret Callum Rodger Midwifery project team and members of the team's disbursement panel for purposes of assessment of applications against acceptance criteria. All information held within NHS Education for Scotland (NES) for the purposes of the disbursement of the Fund comply with [NHS Education for Scotland privacy and data protection guidance](#).

All application forms are stored securely in line with NHS Education for Scotland information governance policy. Applicants are asked to confirm agreement to this using the NES consent form that accompanies the application form.

Successful applicants' name, role, workplace, email address and learning activity detail (except financial detail) will be shared with your organisation's Practice Learning Lead. This will ensure support, coordination and raising awareness of your learning and its impact on patient/client care at a strategic level. All personal information will be held and used in accordance with GDPR principles and the General Nursing Council for Scotland (Education) Fund 1983 and Margaret Callum Rodger Midwifery Privacy Policy.

- **How will my final report be used?**

Your final report will be shared with both the General Nursing Council for Scotland (Education) Fund 1983 and Margaret Callum Rodger Midwifery Fund Trustees and your Practice Learning Lead. It may also be shown on the Fund's website. Consent for this is part of your application process.

Please note: non-submission of the required final report will be followed-up within your organisation.

If you have any further questions that have not been addressed, please contact: gnc@nes.scot.nhs.uk