Nursing Apprenticeship 2027 – 28 NHSE x DHSC Training Grant

Lancashire & South Cumbria PRIMARY CARE TRAINING HUB

This document was created 18 November 2026 for general practice employers within Lancashire and South Cumbria only.

Employers, we are delighted to share the following information and instructions with you following the announcement of the NHSE x DHSC 2027-28 Nursing apprenticeship training grant. The details within this document cover how to apply for both the training grant and the programme.

1. Apply for the NHSE x DHSC 2027-28 Nursing Apprenticeship Training Grant 1

1.a - Key Training Grant Details 1

1.b - NHSE Funding Announcement and Instructions 2

2. Apply For a Nursing Apprenticeship Programme 4

2.a - First Steps 4

2.b - Full Nursing Programme (3-4 years) Update 4

1. Apply for the NHSE x DHSC 2027-28 Nursing Apprenticeship Training Grant

For the second year of a three year initiative, NHSE and DHSC are offering a substantial training grant for employers wanting to develop their employees to become registered nurses through the nursing apprenticeship.

1.a - Key Training Grant Details

Programme	Nursing apprenticeship (full programme and top-up route)
Relevant intakes	01 April 2027 – 31 March 2028
Amount	£17,079 per year, per apprentice
How to apply	Please read and follow the full details within section '1.b NHSE Funding Announcement and Instructions' of this document (pages 2 and 3). Employers are to complete the NHSE's application form (EOI form). Please note that NHSE led webinars are being arranged to provide employers with further guidance, tips and support on how to apply – dates will shortly be announced. *If you would like us (your training hub apprenticeships team) to notify you directly of these, please request this by emailing us at mbpcc.apprenticeships@nhs.net*
Deadline to apply	5pm on Monday 14 December 2026
Queries	Email michael.mcnamee@nhs.net and cc mbpcc.apprenticeships@nhs.net

1.b - NHSE Funding Announcement and Instructions

From: MCNAMEE, Michael (NHS ENGLAND) <michael.mcnamee@nhs.net>
Sent: 17 November 2026 3:09 PM
To:
Subject: Re: NHSE & DHSC 2K Nurse Apprenticeship Funding EOI 2027/28 - Email to Employers 17.11.26

Re: NHS England 2K Nurse Apprenticeship Funding EOI 2027/28 - Email to Employers 18.11.26
Cc : Regional NHS employer apprentice leads , NHSE NW system Workforce Planning & performance leads , NHSE regional lead for Nursing & Midwifery , NW Primary care training hub apprentice leads , Apprenticeship network leads (Please circulate wider with network contacts)

Dear all

As you will be aware the DHSC in partnership with NHSE announced employer funding to support 2k Nurse degree apprenticeships in England over 3 yrs in 2026. (Press release attached).

In total 19 ICB's nationally were identified as part of this apprenticeship initiative , with all 3 ICB's in NW region being included.

Following the success of Year 1 (2026/7) for this funding offer , we are pleased to now invite NW employers to submit an individual organisational EOI to access funding for 2027/2028 period . (This covers any starts on programme from the 1st April 2027 to 31st March 2028)

Below is a short summary of the offer and I advise that you read this carefully before considering submitting an EOI.
Please note: This funding offer is separate to any previous NHSE ETAP employer support funding.

Summary of the funding offer including the EOI process:

1. Eligible Employers: (There is no min/max limit on the number of apprentices an organisation can ask for with the EOI submission)

- NHS Trusts
- Any Independent and/or charitable organisation contracted to provide NHS services or any other providers of NHS services
- Public Health services including local authorities
- Primary Care organisations
- Integrated Health & Care , Social Care organisations

NB Employers are required to have an Education Funding Agreement in place.

2. Funding covers the following pathways (All Training providers selected as part of the EOI must be approved to deliver - check status with the Salisbury Apprenticeship Procurement Framework: https://future.nhs.uk/SalisburyApprenticeshipEF)

1. AP/NA to RNDA (Top up 18mth/2yrs)
2. Full RNDA (3/4yr)

3. Funding available (Any funding awarded will follow current NHSE requirements i.e. The employer will need a EFA (Education Funding Agreement) in place and be subject to reporting & monitoring processes.

- £17,079 per apprentice per year of the course
- Includes AP/NA top up route & full RNDA
- Funding can be used for placement costs , onboarding , supervision and backfill (* as this is an apprenticeship - this funding cannot be used for course fees - which are covered separately by the levy funding)
- Funding will be available to cover the full length of the programme

4.EOI process:

- EOI form link: 2,000 more nursing apprenticeships: 2027/28 expression of interest form - national offer – Fill in form
- The EOI is now open and will close at 5pm on **14th December 2026**
- Following the EOI deadline , all submissions will be reviewed nationally by a panel and employers will be contacted on the outcome in January 2027.

Any queries regards the above or EOI form please contact me directly via email - michael.mcnamee@nhs.net

Thanks in advance for your help and support
Kind regards
Mike

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My personal pronouns are : (he/him/his)

2. Apply For a Nursing Apprenticeship Programme

2.a - First Steps

To start the process of applying for an apprenticeship via the training hub, please first complete our apprenticeship form.

You will find useful information and resources to help you with this, and throughout the application process, on the following:

- Apprenticeships Comparison Tool - home of our programme overviews, which include brief overview information on a wide range of apprenticeship programmes and apprenticeship units.
- Apprenticeships Process (Employer Guide) - detailed step by step enquiry and application guidance.
- Apprenticeships Main Page – various information and updates, including employer feedback on our service, funding announcements, employer case studies, and the home for accessing our Process and Comparsion Tool.

2.b - Full Nursing Programme (3-4 years) Update

Many employers are aware that over the last few years it has not been possible to progress with applying for the full programme, due to application numbers not meeting the education providers minimum intake numbers. Employers were still able to develop their people by utilising the alternative Nursing pathway - which consists of the Nursing Associate or Assistant Practitioner (nursing) apprenticeship followed by the Nursing top-up apprenticeship.

Although at present we will still need to make individual enquiries with education providers on intake options, as and when we receive enquiries from employers wanting to apply for the full programme, please note the following updates:

- Some of our universities may be able to accept applications. This may be in the form of a dedicated cohort for apprentices (subject to minimum numbers) - as some trusts are starting to apply again now, or for individual apprenticeship requests - as some universities are starting to offer the option of apprentices completing the teaching element with traditional learners.
- Primary Care organisations are still unable to apply for the Open University's full programme.
- We will continue liaising with education providers, L&SC strategic trust partner group, and NW Primary Care Training Hub colleagues on this matter in order to continue providing you with realistic options.

If you have any questions, please contact us (your training hub apprenticeships team) on mbpcc.apprenticeships@nhs.net