

14th June 2023

Dear Colleagues,

RE: Developing the radiography workforce: Expression of interest (EOI) for funding support – Apprenticeships in Radiography

Please ensure this offer is shared with your relevant contacts. If you are an NHS trust, please ensure that it's shared with your Trust lead AHP/Chief AHP

To help grow and transform the radiography workforce, NHSE is offering a limited number of training support grants to NHS Trusts of £10,400 (per student) for the following apprenticeship programmes if started between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024 (this includes radiography bridging/top-up courses for existing assistant practitioners):

- **Therapeutic Radiographer Degree Apprenticeship**, level 6 (some HEIs offer this apprenticeship at level 7 where the apprentice already holds a first degree – see attached provider course details for more detail)
- **Diagnostic Radiographer Degree Apprenticeship** level 6 (some HEIs offer this apprenticeship at level 7 where the apprentice already holds a first degree – see attached provider course details for more detail)
- **Assistant Practitioner Apprenticeship**, level 5 (contextualized to Radiography)
- **Mammography Associate Apprenticeship**, level 4
- **Sonographer Apprenticeship**, level 6
- **Business Administrator Apprenticeship**, Level 3 (contextualised to cancer care navigator / administrative and clerical cancer support roles)

Although the below apprenticeships are in development, employers are asked to indicate demand for the following should they become available mid-year:

- **Senior Healthcare Support Worker Level 3** (Diagnostic Imaging pathway) – this apprenticeship is not yet approved for delivery, predicted for late 2023
- **Enhanced Clinical Practitioner** (contextualised to imaging and radiography) – this pathway is not yet available, providers predicted to start in Sep-2024. **Please note that there are separate comms relating to our 23/24 Enhanced Practice offer.**

The overarching aims of the offer is to:

- Support Trusts in developing the radiography workforce and develop the pipeline of individuals along the career pathway
- Support existing staff to develop in their roles and along the career pathway (this includes existing radiographer support workers, assistant practitioners, and aspiring radiographers) Grow the number of assistant practitioners and radiographers
- Increase access to and provide new routes into the radiography through supporting the apprenticeship pathways

This proposed support, would be available as a pro-rata payment in the current financial year (2023/24) and carried over to 2024/25. The grant could be used by employers (in addition to the apprenticeship levy) to support and facilitate their members of staff completing a recognised apprenticeship training programme. The training grant is to support trainees commencing the programme within this current financial year and this NHS England funding must be expended in the financial year 2023/24.

Please ensure that you have read the employer funding guidance document and provider catalogue which accompanies this email before starting to complete the EOI survey.

You can complete the EOI survey via this link -

<https://healtheducationyh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/developing-the-radiography-workforce-apprenticeship-initi>

Please complete the expression of interest survey by 14th July 2023.

Please note: The data being gathered via this survey will be used to assess the level of demand for apprenticeships that will be used to develop the imaging workforce. Demand data will be collated and shared with the Regional NHSE Cancer & Diagnostic Programme Lead. **Neither you (the employer), nor NHSE, are committing to anything at this point in time. Employers are advised to wait for confirmation from NHSE as to which training posts will be awarded funding before enrolling candidates on programme.**

Development of the Imaging and Radiography workforce Apprenticeship Information Session – Date TBC (You will receive a separate meeting invite for this webinar)

You are invited to meet with NHS England South East (SE) Apprenticeship, Allied Health Professional & Cancer & Diagnostic team members for an information session Webinar on this funding offer.

This will be a chance to ask any questions you may have about next steps, as well as network with other employers across the South East.

If you have any queries, please email them to canceranddiagnostics.se@hee.nhs.uk, where it will be responded to by the most appropriate member of the team.

Best Wishes

Chika Alfred

Project Manager – Cancer and Diagnostics, NHSE South East