

South East Endoscopy Clinical Endoscopist Funding 2025/26

Information for NHS organisations on how to access this funding, including the application process.

For any queries about this funding or details within this document, please contact the **NHS England South East Cancer and Diagnostic Programme**, part of the **Workforce, Training & Education** directorate, england.canceranddiagnostics.se@nhs.net

Key Messages

This document details the 2025/26 offer for **Clinical Endoscopists**.

The funding offer is designed to fund training for Clinical Endoscopists who are new or existing.

This funding is available to Endoscopy units in NHS Trusts and CDCs within South East Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) Kent & Medway, Sussex, Surrey Heartlands, Frimley, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire & Berkshire West and Hampshire & Isle of Wight.

Funding could be used to support:

- Trainee Clinical Endoscopists to train in their first or second modality (Upper GI or Colonoscopy) of the Clinical Endoscopist Training Programme
- Upskilling grants for current Clinical Endoscopists, or those planning on training as Clinical Endoscopists in the next 2 years for academic modules or training that will increase the individual's independence of practice

Deadline for funding applications

- The application window for the Clinical Endoscopy Programme 2025/26 is rolling, with applications being invited from 17 March 2025.
- Applications will only be accepted when received via the online application form [link available below.]

Please note:

- If approved, funding will be paid directly to employer organisations via the NHSE Education Funding Agreement Schedule.
- Funding must be spent and fully utilised by 31 March 2026. All chosen courses and education must start by 31 March 2026 also. The funding model will be dependent upon the cohort start date.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Response
Eligibility	
Who can submit application	We are unable to accept applications from learners or prospective learners themselves. All applications must be submitted on behalf of a named or prospective learner, e.g by a line manager, education lead, etc.
Can I submit a funding application if I don't have a confirmed name for the trainee clinical endoscopist?	Yes, applications can be submitted if details are still to be confirmed. If the application is approved in principle, funding would not be paid to the organisation until these details are confirmed and a successful personal development planning meeting for the individual has been completed. It is often simpler to fill out the application once an individual has been identified.
When can I apply for this training grant?	<p>Funding or specific criteria is not yet confirmed for these training grants. However, we are opening applications based on 2024/25 funding/criteria so that we are able to progress applications at pace if funding is confirmed.</p> <p>The application window will be rolling from 17 March 2025 throughout 2025/2026, until all spaces are filled.</p>
Which professional groups can utilise this funding?	Adult Nurses (NMC registered) or Allied Health Professionals (HCPC registered) with support of their Endoscopy Units.
When must the clinical endoscopist have started on their programme?	Between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026
Can this funding be used for courses which don't finish in 2025/26?	Yes. The colonoscopy programme last 18 months, and the gastroscopy programme lasts 12 months. Both programmes can be started at any point in the year. The important date to note is that the learner must have started on programme before 31 March 2026.
Can I use the funding to support more than one trainee clinical endoscopist or clinical endoscopist?	No, if the original named learner is no longer able to take up the place on programme, the application will be withdrawn and closed. You will be able to apply for a new grant in the next application round if funding is available.
Funding and financial management	
What do I need consider?	Before any funding can be formally paid, assurance will be required that the organisation is happy to receive the funding and that this can be fully spent and utilised by 31 March 2026. Please link with your relevant finance lead to discuss and agree this, ideally before an application is submitted.
Has funding been formally confirmed for these training grants?	Applications are being invited but funding will not be confirmed until national funding is in place.
What is the funding period?	1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026
What is the funding available for this training grant?	A training grant totalling £14,000 [TBC - this is based on 2024/25 funding total and therefore may be subject to

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	change for 2025/26]. Depending on the cohort start date, this training grant may be paid across two financial years.
How will this funding be paid?	The funding will be paid to the employing organisation of the trainee clinical endoscopist via the NHSE Education Funding Agreement Schedule.
Can this funding be used to support 'overhead' costs	No, in line with other NHSE education payments we are unable to provide funding for any overhead additional costs. This position should not have a negative impact on the salary of the learner or on the quality of the training and supervision they receive.
Can funding be used next financial year if we cannot spend it this year?	No, all funding provided by NHSE needs to be managed in the year of issue, no deferral will be agreed. NHSE is not able to carry forward any commitments into the next financial year and any remaining balances would have to be withdrawn and lost to your organisation. There are no exceptions allowable and no agreements to defer can be made by anyone representing NHSE.
Utilisation of funding	
What is the aim of this funding?	<p>This fully funded intensive training programme (both academic and clinical education and training) is to train and upskill existing healthcare staff to become proficient clinical endoscopists, increasing capacity to allow consultants to perform more complex cases (including screening).</p> <p>The funding will support Endoscopy Units to train clinical endoscopists in their first or subsequent modalities.</p>
What can funding be used for?	<p>Training grants should be used by employers to support and facilitate their learners completing the South East Clinical Endoscopist Training Programme. The funding can be used flexibly and is intended to help the department with further training costs associated with hosting and supervising trainees. This could be used to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trusts to release trainees • Clinical Supervision facilitating clinical teaching, education mentorship, coaching and supervision • Academic Module fees (Education provider of Trust's choice) • JAG Certification fee
What can't the funding be used for?	The funding cannot be used for salary: Training grants are not intended to cover salary costs of the learner which would need to be met by the employer.
Employer requirements of accepting this funding	
Reporting	All reporting requirements, including updates against learner status, will be met.
Financial	All funding will be managed appropriately in line with individual organisation's financial management and assurance processes.
Access to training	Managers will support their staff to access training and release them to attend

Overview

Since April 2023, the South East Endoscopy Training Academy (SEETA) has been overseeing delivery of the Regional Clinical Endoscopy Programme for the South East Region.

GI endoscopic procedures, traditionally carried out by doctors, are being performed increasingly by nurses and other non-medical registered practitioners, known as clinical endoscopists (CEs) or previously known as non-medical endoscopists (NMEs). To address the increasing demand for endoscopy services, SEETA is working with senior medical and clinical endoscopists, the Joint Advisory Group in GI Endoscopy (JAG), Academy Hub Sites, and Universities to deliver this programme.

There are currently training offers in the following modalities:

- Upper GI Training: 30-52 weeks
- Colonoscopy Training: up to 78 weeks

Below is a brief overview of the SE Clinical Endoscopy programme:

- The majority of hands-on training will be at the trainee's base hospital;
- All trainees will complete an academic module relevant to their modality;
- For some trainees, SEETA will recommend an academic study skills module is completed initially
- All trainees will complete a Basic Skills Course (modality relevant) at one of the SEETA training locations in the region.
- All trainees will be able to attend Endoscopic Non-Technical Skills (ENTS) Courses
- Digital Resources for theoretical knowledge and Academic writing skills are available
- Trainees will join the South East Clinical Endoscopist Trainee Network

Work is taking place to explore opportunities to train in Bowel Cancer Screening. More details should be available in the coming months.

The funding offer

The NHSE SE Cancer & Diagnostics Programme, via the South East Endoscopy Training Academy is looking to provide training grants of up to £14,000 **[NOTE: this is based on 2024/25 funding, and therefore may be subject to change]** in 2025/26 that can be used to support:

- Trusts to release trainees to attend relevant teaching & training
- Clinical Supervision facilitating clinical teaching, education mentorship, coaching and supervision
- Academic Module fees (Education provider of Trust's choice)
- JAG Certification fee

Suitable candidates could include:

- NMC Adult Nurses
- Registered Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)

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If funding is agreed, depending on the cohort start date, training grants may be paid across two financial years. If for any reason the learner needs to withdraw from or is unable to complete their programme, funding will need to be returned. Payments will be made via the NHSE Education Funding Agreement schedule to the employing Trust and will not be made until an apprentice name and further details relating to their programme is provided.

How to access this funding

As a reminder, **funding is yet to be confirmed for 2025/26.**

Trust Endoscopy management are asked to review the offer and submit applications on behalf of their units. Applications can be put forward on behalf of Registered Healthcare Professionals who have the support of their Trust to provide training lists, clinical supervision, time to study and service lists to be allocated on completion. Please note, as part of the application, high-level training plans are required.

Please note that applications must not be submitted by individual learners themselves; all applications must be submitted on behalf of the named learner e.g., by a line manager / head of department / education lead etc.

If interested in applying for this funding offer:

- **Completion of application form** – Please complete an application form. Application forms can be downloaded here:
For **colonoscopy**: <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2025/03/Template-SEETA-CE-Colon-application-form-25-26-v1.docx>
For **gastroscopy**: <https://wessex.hee.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2025/03/Template-SEETA-CE-Upper-Gi-application-form-25-26-v1.docx>
- **Deadline** All applications must be through this online application form. Please note, there is no specific deadline to submit an application as a rolling approach is being taken for 2025/26.

All applications will be reviewed by the NHSE SE Cancer and Diagnostics Programme team [Workforce, Training and Education]. Depending on the number of applications, not all may be able to be supported. A review and prioritisation exercise will take place by the Cancer and Diagnostic programme team including other colleagues where required.

Expectations of organisations upon application of funding

- If approved, all investment will be subject to reporting requirements (outlined below).
- If approved, that all funding is managed appropriately in line with individual organisation's financial management and assurance processes.

Reporting and monitoring investment

NHSE SE are required to provide full details of the use of this funding to the national NHSE Cancer and Diagnostics programme so that investment can be appropriately reported. Where funding has

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been used to support an individual, the national Programme team may keep a database of participant details (to include role, Trust, HEI/training provider).

Organisations receiving this funding will be required to submit regular updates regarding financial utilisation and learner progress. Organisations receiving this funding will be responsible for ensuring that trainees and clinical educators provide regular updates on trainee progress to the South East Endoscopy Training Academy (SEETA) Team. These updates will be provided by the trainee during catch up meetings at month 1, month 3 and then 3 monthly until the programme is completed. If there are any concerns about the trainee's progress from the organisation, the SEETA team must be contacted by the organisation as a matter of priority.

Who to contact if you have any queries on this offer?

The NHSE SE Cancer and Diagnostics Programme england.canceranddiagnostics.se@nhs.net

Other Information

NHS Long Term Workforce Plan (2023)

The [NHS England Long Term Workforce Plan](#) was published in 2023, outlining the case for change for all NHS workforce to deliver more patient care than ever before. This plan focuses on three priority areas of Train, Retain and Reform, which aims to make sustainable progress on core priorities for patients.