Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Eligibility and Funding

1. Who is eligible for CPD funding?

This CPD funding is **only** available for Allied Health Professionals (AHPs), nurses and nursing associates working in Primary Care.

Unfortunately, this means that GPs, healthcare support workers, personalised care roles pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and physician assistants **are not** eligible for this funding

2. Are these CPD offers free?

All of the CPD offers from the TVW Primary Care School are funded by NHS England, but free to eligible professionals.

3. What is the value of my CPD allocation?

CPD allocation of funding is calculated per eligible registrant per year for three years, or £1,000 per eligible registrant every 3 years.

4. Are you able to fund courses that cost more than my CPD allowance?

We recognise that some training, notably university modules, often exceed the three-year CPD allowance. If you have the support of your manager, and the training will benefit your local population, then we would discuss your funding request with you before confirmation.

Please apply via the TVW Primary Care School website.

5. Can CPD funding be used to backfill attendance at training?

No. This funding is an investment solely for CPD and cannot be used for funding backfill or mandatory training.

6. Is there a financial penalty for not completing the course or withdrawing from the course?

We understand that sometimes circumstances mean that you need to cancel your place or withdraw from a course. We ask that you let the TVW Primary Care School and the training provider know as soon as possible if you are unable to attend as we may be able to offer your place to someone on a waiting list.

If non-attendance becomes a pattern, this may affect your entitlement to future CPD funding. Your line manager will be made aware of non-attendance of CPD.

7. What happens if my funding request is not approved?

We will send you an email detailing why your request has been declined, and suggest alternative CPD options, or invite you to have a career development conversation with one of our team.

8. Is there a financial penalty for not completing the course or withdrawing from the course?

We understand that sometimes circumstances mean that you need to cancel your place or withdraw from a course. We ask that you let the TVW Primary Care School and the training provider know as soon as possible if you are unable to attend as we may be able to offer your place to someone on a waiting list.

If non-attendance becomes a pattern, this may affect your entitlement to future CPD funding.

Application process

9. How do I apply for a course?

Interested applicants will need to apply via the TVW Primary Care School website. For most of our providers, there is an application form that you need to complete.

Exceptions are for courses run by J2S and Wessex LMCs in Hampshire and Isle of Wight where applicants will need to apply directly to the providers.

10. Where can I view your funded CPD offers?

All of our funded CPD offers are listed in our course catalogue. It is available to view on our website or you can request a copy from the Thames Valley and Wessex (TVW) Primary Care School (england.primarycareschooltvw.se@nhs.net).

11. How are CPD Courses delivered?

Depending on the course you've applied for, it can be virtual, in-person or a blend of both. ***Please note that the courses require 100% attendance.***

12. Do I need my managers authorisation to apply for a funded CPD course?

Yes. All CPD course applications must be agreed by your manager and will not be processed without their permission.

13. Can I apply for more than one course at a time?

Yes. However, this will depend on both your personal funding allocation, and consideration of the reality of managing more than one course at a time.

14. Why have I been asked to complete a commitment statement?

For some of our more expensive courses, you and your manager are asked to complete a commitment statement. This is to ensure that you understand the commitment you are making to complete the course, considering your time and work commitments, and supports our duty to responsibly manage public funds.

If we do not receive the signed commitment statement we will not fund the training.

Other funded training

15. Can I apply for an independent prescribing (IP) course from CPD funding?

No. IP training is funded via a different source. Please review your options on our IP website pages.

16. I am a new to general practice / newly qualified nurse / nursing associate. What courses are available for me?

The TVW Primary Care School can fund nurses who are newly qualified, or new to general practice, to attend training that covers the core clinical skills essential for nursing roles in Primary Care. Please visit our Nursing in Primary Care web page to see more information and details of how to apply.

17. Can I use CPD funding to complete modules towards my Advanced Practice qualification?

We would strongly advise against this.

We have a separate funding source for Advanced Practice which includes funding for supervisors as well as the education element.

For more details about our supported Advanced Practice route, please view our website.

Support available

18. I am not sure what CPD I should apply for

We recommend you discuss your CPD needs with your line manager and review your appraisal goals. Visiting the provider / course webpages will help to determine if a course is suitable for your needs.

If you cannot find the information you need, email: england.primarycareschooltvw.se@nhs.net.

If you would like a career development conversation, email us with your preferred availability, so our team can arrange a meeting with you.

19. What to do if either the learner or practice / PCN are struggling with the programme of study?

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us for support. There are a range of support mechanisms available, both academic and practical, so please contact the TVW Primary Care School (england.primarycareschooltvw.se@nhs.net).