

Appendix 6 FAQs

How and when can I apply for the programme?

Information for this campaign will be advertised on <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/jobs/job-search/nursing/phn-sponsorship/>

You must apply for sponsorship through the Postgraduate Application Centre (PAC) on <https://v2.pac.ie/institute/8>

What documentation do I need to submit?

The documentation you need to submit will be shown on <https://v2.pac.ie/institute/8>

I am experiencing technical difficulties with my PAC application – who do I contact?

You must email the Postgraduate Applications Centre's helpdesk: pachelp@pac.ie

How do I update my personal details after the closing date?

To update your personal details after the closing date, email the PHN Sponsorship Recruitment team: recruitment.phnsponsorship@hse.ie

Where are the sponsorship places located?

You will be advised of the sponsorship locations at a later date.

How many HSE LHO areas can I apply for?

You can apply for a maximum of 3 geographical (LHO) areas.

How many Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) can I apply for?

You may include up to three Higher Education Institution (HEI) choices in your application. Rank your choices in order of preference 1- 3. You are advised to choose only the HEI locations that you would accept an offer to, should you be offered a placement.

What is the salary of a Student Public Health Nurse?

<https://healthservice.hse.ie/staff/benefits-services/pay/pay-scales.html>

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Where can I get information about the course and sponsorship agreement?

You may get information about course content, entry requirements, duration, terms of agreement and terms and conditions on the advance notice on the HSE Website and when advertised on [PAC](#).

Will my application be considered if it is submitted after the closing date?

No. You must ensure to complete and submit your online application on PAC no later than **12 noon on Friday 10th February**.

Will my Irish language proficiency be assessed?

Yes. Posts requiring Irish language proficiency will be offered, based on merit, to candidates passing an Irish language assessment. This assessment is on a pass/fail basis. It does not disturb marks awarded in the selection process. Candidates will be notified should some sponsorship placements require Irish language proficiency.

What is the interview format?

It is a competency-based interview. Competencies are taken from the job specification

How student PHN sponsorships are allocated

- First criterion - order of merit on the interview panel.
- Second criterion - sponsorship place available in your chosen geographical area (you can identify a maximum of 3 geographical areas).
- Third criterion - your choice of HEI. For student PHN's without a midwifery qualification the number of maternal & child module placements is directly related to the availability of a placement in the maternity service aligned to each of the 3 HEI's (see relevant appendix on PAC landing page).
- If you are successful, you will be offered your highest preference placement.
- If your highest preference is not available, you will be offered your next identified preference (if available).
- This process will be repeated until all your preferences are exhausted.
- Please note that the option to defer sponsorship is not available.

Please note: to maximise your prospect of securing a sponsorship, you should identify more than one geographical area and more than one HEI.

Residual panel

- Candidates on a panel that do not receive a sponsorship offer are placed on a residual panel, in order of merit.
- Candidates who decline a sponsorship placement do not retain their panel placement and move to the bottom of the residual panel
- If a candidate declines a sponsorship placement, an 'expression of interest' is issued to candidates on the residual panel. The person highest placed, who expresses an interest, will be offered the sponsorship placement.
- Candidates' original preferences are not considered at this stage.
- Occasionally, new sponsorship places may be identified at a later stage in the programme and may be offered to those on the Residual panel.

When does the sponsorship start?

The course start dates for UCD/UCC/UG will be end of August/beginning September 2023. This will be confirmed when the post goes live.

What happens at the end of my sponsorship?

The HSE will offer permanent employment to nurses who successfully complete the Public Health Nursing course.

Successful candidates must commit to an 18 month full-time, or pro-rata part-time, assignment in their sponsoring geographical area