



National Doctors Training and Planning
Health Service Executive
Sancton Wood Building, Heuston South Quarter
St John's Road West, Dublin 8

Oiliúint agus Pleanáil Náisiúnta na nDochtúirí
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Sancton Wood Building, Ceathrú Heuston Theas
Bóthar Eoin Thiar Baile Atha Cliath 8

Tel: (01) 7959924
E-mail: doctors@hse.ie
www.hse.ie/doctors

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Deputy Louise O'Reilly,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ Ref 18059/20

"To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of expanding the specialist training fund for higher specialist trainees scheme for general practitioners in first and second year giving €500 per year as is the case for third and fourth year trainee general practitioners".

Dear Deputy O'Reilly

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

The estimated cost of expanding the specialist training fund for higher specialist trainees scheme for general practitioners in first and second year giving €500 per year would be €194,500 per annum. Please note that year 1 and 2 of GP training are not at Higher Specialist Training (HST) level so they are not eligible for the scheme. If the HST fund was to be expanded to all trainees that were at the stage of basic specialist training (BST) the cost would be €802,500 per annum.

The HSE introduced the Training Support Scheme in July 2019 that provides €1,250 annually to BSTs including GP trainees in Years 1 and 2. Further details on this scheme are available at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/leadership-education-development/met/ed/fin/>

Yours sincerely

Eddie Staddon
General Manager
National Doctors Training and Planning