



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
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25 May 2020

Deputy Jennifer Carroll MacNeill
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ Ref 4734/20

"To ask the Minister for Health the estimated annual full year cost of providing for full reimbursement of examination costs for all non-consultant hospital doctors".

Dear Deputy Carroll MacNeill

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

Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors (NCHDs) can apply for full reimbursement of examination costs from two separate NCHD funding schemes:

Clinical Course and Exam Refund Scheme

- Expenditure in 2019 totaled €1,767,667
- Details of the scheme are available at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/leadership-education-development/met/ed/resources/clinical-course-examination-refund-scheme-policy-8th-july-2019.pdf>

Training Support Scheme (comprehensive new scheme introduced July 2019)

- Expenditure solely related to reimbursement of examination costs in 2019 was €292,776
- Details of the scheme are available at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/leadership-education-development/met/ed/fin/training-supports-policy-july-2019.pdf>

In July 2019 the Clinical Course and Exam Refund Scheme was changed to allow the full costs of exams to be claimed (previously a cap was in place). The new Training Support Scheme allows for the full costs of repeat exams to be claimed.



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These schemes are demand led and therefore it is not yet known how COVID-19 will impact on the expenditure in 2020.

Yours sincerely

Eddie Staddon
General Manager
National Doctors Training and Planning