



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Office of the National Director of Human Resources
Health Service Executive
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Louise O'Reilly T.D.

8th April, 2021

PQ12957/21 To ask the Minister for Health the number of students who undertook work experience or internships with State and semi-State agencies under his aegis in 2019; the cost in terms of wages and allowances; and the estimated numerical capacity of State and semi-State agencies to provide work experience and internships on an annual basis - Louise O'Reilly

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question above which was sent to the HSE for reply.

Internship Placements are arranged with Third Level Academic institutions for students in Nursing, Health & Social Care Professions and with Medical Schools.

Nursing

The 'Arrangements for undergraduate Nursing/Midwifery Students Undertaking the Continuous Thirty Six Week Internship', as detailed in HSE Circular 020/2009, outline the rights and entitlements in place for 4th year student nurses and midwives on internship placement. It should be noted that these students are employees of the health service.

Student Nurses and Midwives in years 1-3 of their studies are supernumerary students on clinical practice placement and are not employees. This status is critical to enable the student engage fully in the clinical learning experience.

This blend of the opportunities afforded by the design of the undergraduate nursing and midwifery programme facilitates both the engagement in clinical educational experience as a supernumerary student whereby the focus is solely on the educational experience / opportunities of the practice placement, alongside the direct employment/clinical practice experience offered during paid internship.

Health & Social Care Professional Trainees

Other classifications of students that undertake paid and/or unpaid placements within the health service are Health & Social Care Professional trainees. During the course of their training Health & Social Care Professionals, from 13 disciplines obtain unpaid placements during the duration of their Degree Programmes. These placements are unpaid and students are placed from their colleges. As per HSE HR Circulars 06B/2008 and HR Circular 016/2014 Student Medical Scientists receive paid placements.

Medical Students

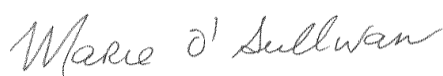
In 2019 734 individuals completed a medical internship in Ireland. The costs, in terms of salaries, allowances, and costs associated with the provision of Intern training through each of the six Intern Networks amounted to €32,732,313.26.

The table below shows the minimum & the maximum and monthly average numbers of staff returned through the 2019 Health Service Personnel Census (HSPC) in the following categories of staff : work placement, undergraduate, student, trainee and Nursing & Midwifery interns:

Grade/ Grade Group	Average	Max	Min
E.E.G./ E.C.G. Technician, Student	1.2	2	1
Environmental Health Officer, Trainee	15.6	29	1
Medical Scientist, Student	48.3	73	7
Perfusionist, Student	1.8	2	1
Pharmaceutical Technician, Student	1.0	1	1
Pharmacist, Student	12.8	15	2
Phlebotomist, Trainee	11.1	16	6
Physicist, Graduate Trainee	3.3	5	1
Respiratory Technician, Student	1.0	1	1
HSCP Trainees/ Students	89.8	120	56
Work Placement (Management Admin)	12.6	20	7
Work Placement (OP&CC)	7.9	11	5
Work Placement (Support Services)	13.0	13	13
Student Children's & General Nursing Intern (pre-registration)	41.9	79	2
Student General Nursing Intern (pre-registration)	611.7	801	109
Student Intellectual Disability Nursing Intern (pre-registration)	106.0	136	28
Student Midwifery Intern (pre-registration)	82.8	112	17
Student Psychiatric Nursing Intern (pre-registration)	201.3	254	45
Pre-registration Nurse/ Midwife Intern	1,043.8	1,347	280
Psychologist, Trainee Clinical	177.3	205	169
Total	1,344.3	1,652	576

*The table above includes S38 agencies. The table is not costed as the costing information is not readily available and would have to be sought from both the HSE and S38 agencies

Yours sincerely,



Marie O'Sullivan
National HR