



National Doctors Training and Planning
Health Service Executive
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Oiliúint agus Pleanáil Náisiúnta na nDochtúirí
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Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
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Ref: PQ 43150 To ask the Minister for Health the number of training NCHD posts; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) Response

There are 4992 NCHDs in training posts for the July 2021-22 training year. This includes NCHDs undertaking Medical Internship, Basic and Higher postgraduate training programmes, those taking part in the International Medical Graduate Training Initiative (IMGTI) and the permanent establishment of 40 Post CSCST Fellowship posts* across a number of specialties.

There were increased intakes, compared with 2020 intake, across several Basic and Higher training programmes including:

- 33% increase to the Surgical Trainee core training programme intake
- 33% increase to the Psychiatry basic training programme intake
- 13% increase to the Radiology training programme intake
- 10% increase in General Practice training programme intake

These increases were supported by the Minister for Health's increase in approval for increased Training Places in March 2021 <https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/5adc3-minister-for-health-approves-increase-in-number-of-medical-intern-and-postgraduate-training-places/>

**Post-CSCST Fellowships provides a period of additional medical training beyond that available in the national specialist training programmes following completion of a Higher Specialist Training Programme which trainees generally travel overseas to access. Post CSCST opportunities in Ireland benefits our health services and help retains the specialists in the Irish Health System.*

Leah O'Toole
Assistant National Director