



Oifig anStiúrthóir  
An tSeirbhís Náisiúnta,

Foirgneamh Aibhneacha, Crosbhóthar  
Thamhlachta, Tamhlacht,  
Baile Átha Cliath D24 XNP2

Office of the Director  
National Ambulance Service

Rivers Building, Tallaght Cross  
Tallaght, Dublin, D24 XNP2

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](mailto:@hselive)

t 01 4631624/6  
e [director.nas@hse.ie](mailto:director.nas@hse.ie)

Ref: CW/PQ's/221014

13th October 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall,  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 44081/22**

To ask the Minister for Health the steps that he is taking to recruit additional staff into the National Ambulance Service; the number of graduates from Irish paramedic science degree courses that have been recruited into the NAS in each of the years 2015 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The National Ambulance Service (NAS) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the minister for response.

As of September 2022, 25 of the additional 128 WTEs under this funding stream have been recruited. The NAS expects further significant recruitment in the remainder of Quarter 3 and in Quarter 4 2022 and has confirmed that it expects recruitment of all 128 positions to have taken place by the year-end.

For 2023 recruitment planning, NAS has made a submission through the 2023 Estimates process to recruit another 192 Student Paramedics across NAS programmes starting in January and September 2023 as well as growing educational capacity by opening a fourth campus in 2023 in the South of the country. In 2023, recruitment competitions are also planned for 50 Medical Emergency Controllers and 25 Intermediate Care Operatives.

The NAS College delivers the required training to all staff through our Education and Competency Assurance Officers, both within the college and across the service. Our Bachelor of Science Degree in Paramedic Studies is delivered in conjunction with University College, Cork, across our three NAS College campuses in Tallaght, Ballinasloe and Tullamore.

There is no ready supply of paramedics in Ireland and therefore, NAS for the most part must educate our own workforce in our own college. The Paramedic Programme is to a degree level and it takes three years to complete, with the latest group of 62 paramedics qualified at the end of August 2022. These are now taking up new positions across the country in locations no more than 45km from their home address.

NAS are also planning to commence classes of 30 Intermediate Care Operatives in October 2022 and a further 30 in November 2022 at the NAS College for training and a further batch of 30 in the first half of next year. NAS will also be shortly instigating the recruitment of Emergency Call Takers for the National Emergency Operations Centre sites in Tallaght and Ballyshannon, Co Donegal. NAS will be training at least 12 Call Takers at the end of the year to refresh the existing numbers at the centres.





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Course:	Year:	Course Year:	Student Number:	Graduated:
P21	2016	1	19	
P21	2017/2018	2	17	17
P22	2016	1	2 + 3 PDF	
P22	2017/2018	2	1 + 3 PDF	4
P23	2016	1	32	
P23	2017/2018	2	28	28
P24	2016	1	22	
P24	2017/2018	2	22	22
P25	2016	1	22	
P25	2017/2018	2	20	20
P26	2017	1	22	
P26	2017/2019	2	20	20
P27	2017	1	31	
P27	2018/2019	2	28	28
P28	2017	1	20	
P28	2018/2019	2	17	17
P29	2017	1	30	
P29	2018/2019	2	24	24
P30	2018	1	22	
P30	2018/2019	2	22	22
P31	2018	1	29	
P31	2018/2019	2	21	21
P32	2018	1	33	
P32	2019/2020	2	22	22
P33	2018	1	20	





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Course:	Year:	Course Year:	Student Number:	Graduated:
P33	2019/2020	2	23	23
P34	2019	1	14+2PDF	
P34	2019/2020	2	13+2PDF	13+2PDF
P35	2019	1	24	
P35	2020/2021	2	21	21
P36	2019	1	8+4PDF	
P36	2020/2021	2	5+4PDF	5+4PDF
PD01D	2019	1	30	
PD01D	2020/2021	2	22	
PD01D	2021/2022	3	22	TBC
PD02B	2020	1	16+4PDF	
PD02B	2021/2022	2	15+3PDF	
PD02B	2022/2023	3	15+3PDF	TBC
PD03D	2020	1	32	
PD03D	2021/2022	2	28	
PD03D	2022/2023	3	28	TBC
PD04B	2020	1	24	
PD04B	2021/2022	2	21	
PD04B	2022/2023	3	21	TBC
PD05D	2020	1	21	
PD05D	2021/2022	2	17	
PD05D	2022/2023	3	17	TBC
PD06B	2021	1	31	
PD06B	2021/2022	2	27	
PD06B	2022/2023	3	TBC	TBC





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Course:	Year:	Course Year:	Student Number:	Graduated:
PD07D	2021	1	31	
PD07D	2021/2022	2	29	
PD07D	2022/2023	3	TBC	TBC
PD08T	2021	1	31	
PD08T	2021/2023	2	25	
PD08T	2023	3	TBC	TBC
PD09B	2021	1	29	
PD09B	2022/2023	2	17	
PD09B	2023/2024	3	TBC	TBC
PD10D	2021	1	22	
PD10D	2022/2023	2	18	
PD10D	2023/2024	3	TBC	TBC
PD11T	2021	1	26	
PD11T	2022/2023	2	26	
PD11T	2023/2024	3	TBC	TBC
PD12T	2022	1	9+4 PDF	
PD12T	2022/2024	2	TBC	
PD12T	2024/2025	3	TBC	TBC
<b>Paramedic Groups</b>	<b>P21 - P36</b>		<b>Paramedic Degree Groups 01 - 12</b>	<b>Current</b>
<b>Total Starts</b>	<b>359</b>		<b>310</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>Total Qualified</b>	<b>313</b>		<b>TBC</b>	
PDF- Permanent Defence Forces				





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I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

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Colette Walsh  
Assistant National Director, Human Resources  
National Ambulance Service





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