



National Doctors Training and Planning
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MEMO

To: All NCHDs

From: National Doctors Training & Planning

Date: 07th April 2020

Re: Once Off Allowance for the Rollover of NCHDs TSS Balances

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you are keeping well and safe during this time.

Firstly, NDTP would like to extend our gratitude to all our NCHD colleagues and other healthcare workers who are working tirelessly on the front line providing quality care to the public during these challenging times. We would also like to thank all our other colleagues, who are not working on the front line, but are providing support and essential services for the efficient running of our healthcare system.

In order to prepare for the potential impact that the Covid-19 pandemic will have on the Training Support Scheme (TSS), the terms of the TSS policy have been reviewed in light of this current unprecedented situation.

As per the current TSS policy, you will be aware that the rollover of funds from one training year to the next is not permitted. This means that at the end of every training year, all TSS balances are reduced to zero and a new TSS allocation is then awarded to eligible NCHDs from the start of the next training year.

However, due to circumstances beyond our control, many of the courses/conferences/exams that you had scheduled to attend in the coming weeks or months, may now have been cancelled or rescheduled well into the next training year. Without training events proceeding, you may not have the ability to use the remainder of your TSS balance during this training year, and will most likely incur additional costs during the next training year. **To address this issue, a once-off rollover of remaining TSS balances from the current training year (July 2019-July 2020) will be permitted and these funds will be carried into the following training year (July 2020-July 2021) provided you are still eligible for TSS. This approach has been discussed and agreed with Corporate Employee Relations and the Irish Medical Organisation.**

Please note the following scenarios which may arise due to the one-off rollover of TSS balances:

1. NCHDs with a remaining 2019-2020 TSS balance will have this rolled over and added to next year's TSS entitlements (dependent on grade and contract duration) should they remain eligible for TSS.

Example: A Registrar, that is eligible for TSS in July 2020, has €250 remaining from the 2019-2020 training year. This will now be rolled over in July 2020 and added to their 2020-2021 entitlement of €1250 giving them a total of €1,500 for the 2020-2021 training year.

2. NCHDs with no remaining 2019-2020 TSS balances will have no rollover of TSS funds and will be awarded their new TSS entitlement only from 13th July 2020, provided they are still eligible for TSS.

3. NCHDs that commence HSE employment earlier than expected due to Covid-19 are eligible for pro-rata TSS funds from their start date, provided they will be employed for at least 12 weeks in duration.

Example: An Intern that takes up employment from 25th May 2020 will undertake 7 weeks of employment in the July 2019-July 2020 training year. Therefore they will be due an additional €101 for this duration ($750/52*7$).

Interns will receive a TSS balance of €851 ($750 + 101$) on the 25th May 2020.

4. NCHDs that leave employment in July but return at some stage during the 2020-2021 training year will be entitled to a pro-rata TSS entitlement based on their contract duration. Also if they have a remaining balance from July 2019-July 2020 training year they will also be entitled to this.

Example: An SpR that leaves in July but has a remaining balance of €200 from July 2019-July 2020 then returns in January 2021 – July 2021 will be entitled to their remaining balance from 2019-2020 i.e. €200 plus their 2020-2021 TSS entitlement pro-rata.

Please note, that the rollover of TSS balances is a once off exception that will only occur in July 2020 due to the unforeseen circumstances.

Further information regarding the above will follow in the coming months.

Kind Regards

Aimee Maguire