



Circular 01/2022

27 January 2022

HSE Chief Executive Officer

HSE National Director of HR

Chief Executive Each Voluntary Hospital

Each Higher Education Institute

Each Health Agency Student Allocations Officer

Re: Payment of Clinical Placement Allowances to Undergraduate Supernumerary Nursing and Midwifery Degree Students

1. I am directed by the Minister to refer to Circular no .9/2004 on the payment of clinical placement allowances payable to Student Nurses and Midwives and to Circular 46/2004 which, among other things, identifies that there is no provision for payment of allowances to students undertaking their internship placement. I now wish to inform you of a revision to the accommodation allowance.
2. **Accommodation Allowance**

The vouched accommodation allowance cap has been increased to **€100** weekly and this will apply for the duration of the supernumerary placement **where it is necessary for the student to obtain accommodation away from their normal place of residence**, on the basis of receipts certified by the student and the Student Allocation Officer (SALO) in the health service. The revised rate will take effect from the start of the 2021/2022 academic year.

This allowance is intended as a contribution toward the cost of attending a supernumerary clinical placement. It is not intended to meet the full-cost of an undergraduate nursing/midwifery degree student's accommodation where incurred.

3. **Travel Allowance**

A supernumerary student on the undergraduate nursing/midwifery degree programme continues to be entitled to a refund of the cost of transport on the basis



of receipts certified by the student and the SALO in the clinical partner site. **Public transport should be used wherever possible.**

Where public transport is not available a supernumerary student is entitled to a refund of the cost of private transport, payable on the basis of receipts certified by the student and the allocations officer in the health service. In such cases, all reasonable measures shall be taken to ensure that the most economical option is availed of, including sharing transport facilities and using available public transport for portions of a journey.

It should be noted that the Allocations Officers in the higher education institutes, in partnership with the health care agencies, should place supernumerary undergraduate Nursing/Midwifery degree students in clinical sites as near as possible to their third level institutions.

Managers must ensure that limited funds are applied in a cost-effective manner in accordance with value for money principles.

Queries in relation to the administration of this circular should be referred to the Chief Nursing Officer's Office at CNO's_Office@health.gov.ie

Eddie O'Reilly
Principal Officer
Office of the Chief Nursing Officer