

Circular 29/2003

28th May, 2003

Chief Executive Office
Each Health Board / ERHA

Chief Executive
Each Public Voluntary Hospital
Outside the ERHA

Financial Support for Nurses Returning to Practice

I am directed by the Minister for Health and Children to refer to Circular 151/2000 concerning Financial Support for Nurses Returning to Practice. Details of this Circular have been revised and are set out below.

Under the initiative nurses and midwives undertaking such courses will be entitled to have their fees paid in full and will be paid a salary in return for a commitment to rejoin the public health service following the completion of the course. In order to streamline the administration of this initiative, the following procedures will apply.

- A commitment to rejoin the public health service following completion of the course.
- The salary for the period while undertaking the return to practice course shall be paid on completion of the course when a contract of employment has been entered into.
- The usual arrangement for granting incremental credit will apply once the person has commenced employment, including the period while undertaking the course.
- Health Agencies providing the course will give each participant a certificate on completion of the course.

The salary for the period while undertaking the course will be paid by the employing agency and will be triggered by the Completion Certificate and Employment Contract.

Any queries in relation to this Circular should be addressed to the Nursing Policy Division. Telephone enquiries may be made to (01) 6354039.

Kieran Feely
Principal Officer
Nursing Policy Division