



**Health Service
Employers Agency**

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Date: **4th September 2002**

To: **Directors of Human Resources / Human Resource Managers
Each Health Board
Each Voluntary Hospital
Each Intellectual Disability Service
Each Specialist Agency**

Re: **Specialist Qualification Allowance – Nurses**

Dear Colleagues

Following a review of the above allowance, agreement has been reached with the Nursing Alliance to extend payment of the Specialist Qualification Allowance to all specialist courses confirmed as Category II or equivalent by An Bord Altranais.

The specialist qualification allowance will be payable to nurses employed directly on duties in specialist areas of clinical practice appropriate to the qualification held, in accordance with Department of Health & Children Circular 112/99.

It will continue to be a matter for the employer to decide whether or not a nurse is engaged in a specialist area on specialist duties.

A nurse can benefit from an allowance in respect of one qualification only.

The effective date for the implementation of this agreement is 1st March 2002.

Yours sincerely

GERRY BELLEW
Industrial Relations Executive

cc: Kieran Feely, Nursing Policy Unit, Department of Health & Children
Sheila Treacy, IR/HR Executive, IBEC