

19 February, 1998

## **Nursing Registration/Diploma Programmes**

Dear

I am directed by the Minister for Health and Children to say that he has approved a number of improved financial supports for student nurses participating in the Nursing Registration/Diploma Programmes. Details of these are set out below:

### **Annual Maintenance Grant**

An increase of £500 in the non-means tested maintenance grant, from £2,500 to £3,000 per annum, with effect from 1 March, 1998.

The appropriate financial adjustment will be included in your Board's revised determination which will be issued shortly.

### **External Clinical Placement Allowance**

The introduction, with effect from 1 March, 1998, of an external clinical placement allowance of £20 per week. This allowance is to be paid to a student undertaking an external clinical placement for the duration of that placement in any case where-

- (a) it is necessary for the student to find accommodation away from his/her normal place of residence, and
- (b) the health board/hospital/agency is not in a position to provide such accommodation.

An external clinical placement is a period of clinical experience during which the student is assigned to a health facility other than where they are normally based for the purpose of gaining specialised clinical experience.

### Travel Pass

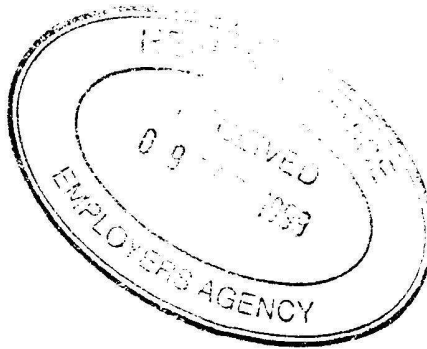
The provision, with effect from 1 March, 1998, of a travel pass to a student undertaking an external clinical placement who does not require accommodation.

It should be noted that a student undertaking an external clinical placement is to receive either the £20 allowance or a travel pass, but not both.

Please furnish as a matter of urgency detailed costings in relation to the payment of an external clinical placement allowance of £20 per week or the provision of a travel pass to student nurses undertaking external clinical placements. Full particulars of the external clinical areas to which student nurses are assigned and the duration of such placements should be given. On receipt of this information, a further appropriate adjustment will be made to your Board's financial allocation for 1998.

Yours sincerely,

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Bernard Carey  
Nursing Policy Division



DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH AND  
CHILDREN

AN ROINN  
SLÁINTE AGUS LEANAÍ

Shaping a  
Healthier Future

8 February 1999

Ms Sonia Shortt  
Health Services Employers Agency  
63/64 Adelaide Road  
Dublin 2

**Re. Nursing Registration/Diploma Programmes**

Dear Ms Shortt

I refer to the annual maintenance grant payable to nursing students participating in the above programmes.

I am to inform you that the Minister has approved an increase of £250 in the rate of this grant, from **£3,000 to £3,250**, with effect from **1 April, 1999**.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Walsh  
Nursing Policy Division