

## Student Services news





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If you're from a university, college or assessment centre that works with students who are eligible for NHS or social work bursaries or students who may be eligible for the new Learning Support Fund, please subscribe to Student Services News for quarterly updates.

Email us at **nhsbsa.studentservices@nhs.net** with your full contact details and we'll add you to our distribution list.

### Introduction

from Louisa Ruman, Head of Student Services



Welcome to this edition of Student Services News! Once again I am happy to report that we are in a strong position with all our KPIs being achieved and student applications are being processed efficiently.

I am pleased to confirm that last week the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) published the Social Work Bursaries funding allocations for the 2018 academic year.

Information for HEIs and Students can be found on the **GOV.UK website**. If you have not done so already you will soon be receiving your capping form, attendance data spreadsheet and supporting guidance notes.

You will see in the operational update later in this newsletter an update on the new Learning Support Fund (LSF). These volumes represent registered accounts and applications for students attending Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professional programmes at HEIs in England for courses that started on or after 1 August 2017. These numbers are significantly below expectation and the number of students in training across England on these programmes. Information on LSF can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/LSF">www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/LSF</a>, please can you help us in promoting LSF to your students? We are nearing the end of the first round of LSF on Tour which has provided a great opportunity for us to speak to students first hand and promote LSF. We are starting to get bookings for September during freshers/induction weeks so if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity please contact us on <a href="mailto:nhsbsa.studentservices@nhs.net">nhsbsa.studentservices@nhs.net</a>.

Louisa Ruman
Head of Student Services

## **Operational update**

#### **NHS Student Bursaries**

All NHS students who are eligible to apply for a bursary must make an online application every year through their Bursary Online Support System (BOSS) account. For more information about reapplying and about BOSS, please visit our website at website.

Your students can find the application window tables on our <u>website</u>. These tables show students when they can apply/reapply for their NHS Bursary and what their deadline is. Other useful guidance on making a bursary application is also provided on these web pages.

Invites should have been sent to all continuing students inviting them to make an application for their 2018/19 Academic year.

Please encourage your students to apply for an NHS Bursary as soon as possible rather than waiting until close to their application window deadline date. This ensures we do not get a bottleneck of applications just before the deadline and helps us to assess applications and set up payments in a far more timely manner, ready for the start of their academic year.

#### **Social Work Bursaries**

The bursary application window deadline for autumn term 2018 starters opened on 1 March 2018 and will close 1 November 2018

The bursary application window for January 2018 intakes has now closed.

Social Work Bursary application forms for the 2018/19 academic year can be found on our website.

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has now published the Social Work Bursary allocations for the 2018 academic year. You can find more information on their **website**.

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## **Operational update**

#### **Learning Support Fund**

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Below is the latest position for the Learning Support Fund (LSF). The work on hand for LSF is divided into three streams, Child Dependants Allowance (CDA), Travel and Dual Accommodation (TDAE) and Exceptional Support Fund (ESF).

| Number of LSF accounts registered | 10,812 |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Number of non loan students       | 535    |

| Work Stream      | Applications<br>Received | Applications<br>Approved | Applications<br>Rejected | Applications<br>On Hand | Applications<br>Pending |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| CDA Application  | 5,074                    | 3,749                    | 276                      | 24                      | 1,025                   |
| TDAE Application | 2,717                    | 2,175                    | 86                       | 51                      | 405                     |
| ESF Application  | 137                      | 69                       | 46                       | 6                       | 16                      |

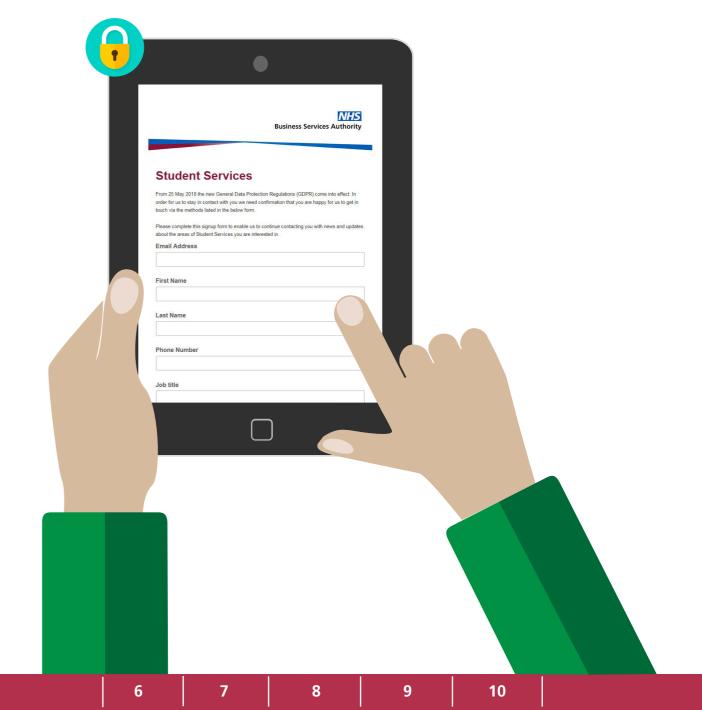
Our data suggests there are many TDAE claims still to be sent by students to claim reimbursement of excess expenditure incurred when attending placement(s). Please remind your students to send these in a timely manner to avoid delays in processing and to receive swift reimbursement.



### **GDPR**

Last week we contacted you to ask that you complete on online form to ensure we can continue to contact you once the **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)** come into effect next month. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete the form to let us know which areas of Student Services you would like us to keep you updated on.

If you haven't yet completed the <u>online</u> <u>subscription form</u> please do so as soon as possible to ensure you continue to receive all the latest news and any important updates from our team. Please also share this with your colleagues and ask them to complete if they would like to be updated.



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# Learning Support Fund update

As we approach the end of year 1 for our first LSF students, we are aware some students have already started thinking about reapplying for Child Dependents Allowance for next year.

To avoid any confusion, we will be opening up year 2 applications from the 1st of the month that applies to the course, i.e. 1 September, 1 January, 1 March etc. Students will need to send in their student finance letter for their year 2 funding. The same approach will apply for year 3.

Once students have sent in their student finance letter and reapplied, they will receive payment within 10 working days of their application being approved.

Students applying for Travel and Dual Accommodation Expenses (TDAE) or Exceptional Support Fund (ESF) in years 2 or 3 can do so once they have resumed their course. They will also need to send in a copy of their student finance letter for the year they're applying for.

We have updated our website to let students know and will be posting reminders and updates across our social media channels.

Students applying for Travel and Dual Accommodation Expenses (TDAE) or Exceptional Support Fund (ESF) in years 2 or 3 can do so once they have resumed their course.



## Reporting concerns of fraud

Do you have any suspicions of bursary fraud happening in your university?

Suspicions can be reported in confidence to the NHS Counter Fraud Authority.

**Telephone:** 

0800 028 40 60

(Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm)

Online: www.cfa.nhs.uk (anytime)



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### Your dedicated

## helplines



If you have a query and can't find the answer on Ask Us, our online self-help enquiry system, you can call our advisors on:

**NHS Student Bursaries** 



**©** 0300 330 1372

**Social Work Bursaries** 



**©** 0300 330 1342

**Learning Support Fund** 



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