

Postgraduate Nursing Education Funding

Policy Statement:	Postgraduate nursing education prepares the Waitaha Canterbury nursing workforce for the future. The Nursing Workforce Funding ¹ funds approximately 160 education papers per year in the Waitaha Canterbury region.
Purpose:	Nursing Workforce Funding supports postgraduate nursing education that will enable registered nurses (RNs) to improve health outcomes and disparities of New Zealanders ² . This funding is administered by the Nursing Workforce Development Team, Te Whatu Ora Waitaha Canterbury.
Audience / Scope:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Directors of Nursing, Nursing Directors and Nurse Consultants• Nursing Line Managers, senior nurses and other key stakeholders• Registered Nurses employed by Te Whatu Ora Waitaha health region• Registered Nurses employed in Public Health Organisations, Non-Government Organisations in primary care, aged care and community-based nursing services.
Key Dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Education Fairs are held in August each year.• Applications open for the following academic year (both semesters) in August and close in October each year. Dates will vary between years.• Applicants are advised in writing via email of their application outcome.• Registered Nurses must take individual responsibility for academic institution enrollment and adhere to enrolment cut-off dates.
Process for applying for HWD-funded places:	Applications must be submitted via online application form. There is a separate form for Te Whatu Ora Waitaha and non-Te Whatu Ora Waitaha nurses. The online application form will be open on the Postgraduate Nursing Education website on each year's date specified Postgraduate Nursing Education webpage .
Eligibility for funding:	The Ministry of Health Postgraduate Nursing Training Specification provides additional information about eligibility criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RNs must be permanent employees and NZ citizens or residents. Te Whatu Ora Waitaha nurses must be working 0.5 FTE or greater.• Except for those in designated senior nursing roles, Te Whatu Ora Waitaha and Pegasus applicants must have successfully completed a PDRP portfolio³ prior to application• Charge Nurse Manager and Nursing Director/Consultant endorsement of applicants is required.• Applicants must have completed an Individual Career Plan⁴. A copy of the career plan is not required with the application for funding, however it must be produced if requested.

1 Nursing Workforce Funding, previously called Health Workforce Directorate [and formally known as Health Workforce New Zealand (HWD)]

2 Paraphrased from Preamble of the HWD Postgraduate Nursing Training Specification.

3 Participation includes those at Competent or Proficient or Expert level.

4 Required by [the previous] Health Workforce New Zealand for all trainees funded from 2019.

Please note – investment in individual nurses through funded postgraduate education comes with the expectation of ongoing commitment and completion of all study requirements.

Continuation of funding for Te Whatu Ora Waitaha and Pegasus employed RNs is contingent on ongoing participation on the PDRP.

Associated Documents:

- Te Whatu Ora Waitaha Career planning documents for nurses, [Postgraduate Nursing Education webpage](#)

Definitions and Notes:

Health Workforce Funding	This is allocated annually
Study Leave	Health Workforce Funding enables trainees to attend the compulsory course study days. On-line papers are allocated an equivalent amount of study time.
Tuition Fees	These are paid directly to the educational provider on your behalf by CDHB.
Travel	Travel reimbursement is available (at the discretion of the DON) for speciality qualifications not available within the Canterbury region. If approved, accommodation subsidy is reimbursed up to \$100 per night. Funding for travel and accommodation is capped at \$1,000 per 30-point paper.
Withdrawal from HWD funded Study	The Director of Nursing, Nursing Director or Nurse Consultant, and the CDHB Postgraduate Nursing Education Office are informed in writing if nurses withdraw from a course. The funding may then be allocated to another nurse on the waitlist.
Waitlist	A waitlist of applicants who have not been funded, is utilised when funding later becomes available.
Senior Nurses	Senior Nurse is defined in the MECA as “a nurse who is appointed by the DHB into a designated senior nurse position
PG Nursing Education Forum	Te Waitaha stakeholder group meets three times a year and is informed by te Whatu Ora National Workforce Strategy to support allocation of Nursing Workforce education funding within the Canterbury region.
Associated Programmes	
Professional Development and Recognition Programme (PDRP)	A nursing professional development framework designed to enhance client care through the development and recognition of nursing knowledge and expertise. Te Whatu Ora Waitaha and Pegasus RN applicants for PG funding must have completed PDRP and developed a career plan.
Nurse Practitioner & RN prescribing practicums	This funding is available to RNs embarking on the Prescribing Practicum as part of the Nurse Practitioner (NP) preparation pathway or the RN prescribing practicum. Applicants need the support of their Director of Nursing. Their training may be included in a business case to ensure organisational congruence.
Gerontology Acceleration Programme	This year-long programme involves clinical rotation, postgraduate study and mentorship. It has been designed to give nurses working in aged care a career pathway and provide potential for leadership and management development. For more information: Contact arcnursing@cdhb.health.nz
Child Health Acceleration Programme	This year-long programme involves clinical rotations, postgraduate study and mentorship. It has been designed to give nurses working in the child health sector a career pathway and provide potential for leadership and management development. For more information: Contact Tracey.Bruce@cdhb.health.nz