

Northern Ireland Future Nurse Future Midwife Non-HSC Organisations Supporting Students Frequent Asked Questions

Have you considered supporting nursing or midwifery students in your organisation?

What are the benefits of students in your organisation?

- People in the receipt of your services will be able to influence the nursing and midwifery registrants of the future and be cared for by individuals who are developing their knowledge and skills.
- You will be able to advertise your organisation as an Audited Practice Learning Environment for students with recognised university links
- Students will have the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the essential role of the Registered Nurse or Midwife in Non HSC environments.
- Students who have experienced working in your organisation may be recruited as future employees.
- Students will have been introduced to the most recent research and evidence based care which they can share with staff.
- Students working in your organisation encourages staff to think about their practice and keep their skills up to date, improve team work and inspire staff to look at new ways to improve care.
- Registered nurses or midwife who support students can use this experience as part of their NMC Revalidation Process.

Do I get paid for supporting a student?

- The student will be supernumerary. Although not employed by your organisation, they will work as an integral part of the team.
- You will not need to pay the student nor will you be paid for facilitating a student to have a practice learning experience in your organisation.

Who will insure and offer indemnity for the student while in the Home?

- Each university provides indemnity for the student while on placement.
- The indemnity which the university offers provides a commitment to your organisation that the university's insurance will cover damages arising from any injury to the student or other persons or damage to property caused by the student provided this was not due to the negligence of the practice learning organisation.

What hours will the student work?

- The student will work 37.5 hours per week while on placement and will work a range of shift patterns (day and night duty) to experience all aspects of life for people in receipt of your service.

Will the student need to have an Access NI undertaken?

- The university will have completed the Enhanced Access NI check prior to the student commencing the course.

What supervision arrangements need to be provided?

- The nursing student will need to be supervised at all times and will require a practice supervisor to be allocated.
- The practice supervisor will be allocated by the nominated person e.g. Registered Home Manager or team leader. The Registered Home Manager may act as practice supervisor were they have the appropriate qualifications and preparation for the role. Additional support can be sought from the link lecturer/practice tutor/academic assessors.
- Supporting students is every Nurse and Midwife's role as outlined in the NMC Code (2018).
- Further details on the role, responsibilities and qualifications of Practice Supervisors and Practice Assessors will be provided by the university.

What is the cost of accessing the training for staff to support students?

- There will be no charge for training your staff to support and supervise students.

What resources are available to support students in your organisation?

- Each audited practice learning environment will have a nominated link lecturer/practice tutor from the university who will visit the student while on placement and provide support.
- There are a wide range of resources, including a range of information leaflets available on the Northern Ireland Practice and Education Council (NIPEC) website <https://nipec.hscni.net/service/fnfm/>

How long will a student be placed within your organisation?

- The length of time a student will be placed within your organisation will depend on the experience which can be offered and which learning outcomes can be achieved in the area.

Do I need to provide a uniform?

- The student will wear the uniform provided by the university.
- The wearing of uniform will also need to comply with your organisation policy.

What will the student be able to do when on placement?

- The three universities will use the same Northern Ireland Practice Assessment Document which will outline what to expect from a nursing student at each stage of their programme. This document will provide information on what knowledge and skills the nursing student will have already achieved, and also the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) proficiencies the nursing student will need to achieve.
- Midwifery students will use the Northern Ireland Midwifery Ongoing Record of achievement (MORA) which will outline what is expected at this stage of their programme. This document will provide information on what knowledge and skills the midwifery student will have already achieved, and also the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) domains the midwifery student will need to achieve.
- Students will bring their relevant documentation to the practice area for the practice supervisor.

The learning the student will gain while in your organisation will depend on the services you provide as each area is unique e.g. within a Nursing Home the student would experience:

- Nursing students will have the opportunity to value the unique contribution and the professionalism of staff working with older people who may have a wide range of complex conditions.
- The nursing student will work alongside the registered nurses in a Nursing Home. This is a highly skilled role, requiring an in-depth knowledge of long-term conditions associated with ageing, managing complex multiple needs and frailty.
- Nursing in a Registered Nursing or Residential Care Home is diverse - nursing students will observe nurses practicing autonomously, liaising with many health and social care professionals, as well as building long-term relationships with residents, relatives and significant others.
- The nursing student will provide a person- centred approach to care, recognising that it is the person's own home, as well as a place of care.

While on placement the nursing student would be exposed to a wide range of experience, for example:

- Age awareness communication skills
- Admission and assessment
- Clinical skills (e.g. Wound care management, venepuncture, personal care, PEG management)
- Activity therapies (e.g. Reminiscing therapy)
- Supporting individuals through re-enablement
- Supporting individuals through to end of life care.

Next Steps?

If you are interested in exploring how to facilitate nursing students in your organisation, please contact any of the following people:

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