

**National Return to Practice
Team
Nursing & Midwifery Directorate**

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Dear Colleague

Return to Practice Nursing & Midwifery Enhanced Offers 2022/23

Health Education England (HEE) leads the national Return to Practice (RtP) Programme for all branches of nursing and midwifery. The programme has supported over 8,000 nurses since its inception in 2014 and 153 midwives since 2017. We recognise that supporting experienced staff nurses and midwives back into practice is an effective route to strengthen our teams and bring expertise back into our workforce.

In order to support employers, grow their workforce and enable experienced nurses and midwives to return to the NMC register and back into practice HEE will continue to support the Enhanced Offer of an additional £5,000 per returner. This investment is specifically aimed at increasing numbers in the areas of Mental Health (MH), Learning Disability (LD) Nursing, Midwifery and nurses working in Cancer Services through 2022/23. For an employer to be eligible for the enhanced payment returning nurses and midwives must take up an employed post in the NHS or with a non-NHS provider who delivers commissioned NHS services.

In addition to the £5,000, HEE will continue to cover the cost of the university course fee, placement fee and a stipend for the returner to help with the cost-of-living expenses for nurses and midwives undertaking the HEI led RtP programme.

HEE will also fund the cost of the NMC Test of Competence (ToC) for a returner choosing that route.

The ToC route is an attractive option to returners who typically have lapsed their NMC registration in the last 5 years. If you are considering supporting an RtP nurse or midwife through the Test of Competence, it would be helpful if the returners could prepare for their Test of Competence OSCE alongside your overseas recruits. We have found that many NHS

Trusts who have co-opted a returner onto this programme have had a timely and successful outcome from this approach and staff are subsequently recruited into the NHS workforce.

For 2022/23 the £5000 will be paid to the employing organisation through the Education Contract payment schedule and there will be no need to raise an invoice for this payment.

The HEE RtP Team is happy to work with and support any organisation who wishes to support returners back into practice whether it is for a single returner or a cohort. This offer is open to all NHS employers and to non-NHS providers delivering NHS-commissioned services.

Please complete the [Expression of Interest Form](#) to register your interest.

When the EOI has been approved by the HEE MH/LD, Midwifery, and Cancer services lead the Regional RtP Leads will then co-ordinate with your relevant education team.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Radford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Professor Mark Radford CBE
HEE Chief Nurse and Deputy Chief Executive
and Deputy Chief Nursing Officer for England