

Healthcare Science Guidance Document

STP, HSST and ETP Request for Funding and Commitment to Train

The NHS England Healthcare Science portal is now open to receive your organisation's request for funding and commitment to train for STP, HSST and ETP training posts commencing in September 2025. Your funding request is your organisation's commitment to host and support a trainee in their respective healthcare science discipline through to completion of their training programme.

In recent years, withdrawals of requests following submission on the portal has increased. We appreciate that financial and staff pressures on organisations have increased and planning for training is more challenging. In turn, this has created the undesired result of under-utilisation of training numbers as these are based on demand expressed in the portal. Your request should reflect what your organisation is effectively able to deliver, and NHS England encourages collaboration with your regional leads and ICBs to assist you in submitting a request which also meets your future workforce needs.

All funding requests are reviewed by NHS England's regional panels and submission of a request does not guarantee the offer of a training place or funding.

We have listened and acted on feedback received following the two-stage process in 2024. This year will be a single stage submission where we will gather:

- Information relating to the post(s) you are requesting for trainee(s) commencing in September 2025
- Indicative demand for the chosen specialism in the years 2026-2027 through to 2029-2030. It is important for you to note that the demand for these years is indicative and we do not see this as your confirmation of requests for training places. You will be given the opportunity to review this demand when the portal opens to recruit for those years (e.g. for September 2026 starters, the portal is expected to open in June 2025)

Please see below the timeline for the 2025-2026 process:

Date	Action
8 July 2024	Portal opens to receive request for funding and commitment to train for September 2025 starters.
31 August 2024	Portal closes
2 September – 20 September	NHS England regional panels held to review requests for funding.
November 2024	Organisations informed of outcome for 2025 posts by way of intention to fund letter (this is subject to funding being confirmed to NHS England which occurs between quarter four of 2024/25 and quarter one of 2025/26 financial years)
November 2024	NHS England recruitment commences
June 2025	Confirmation of funding for trainees commencing in 2025.

If there are any changes to your request for funding, we ask that you undertake to contact your local regional or national commissioning colleagues (Please see accompanying letter for contact details).