

Ref:PHEM1120

To all Branch Officials

Dear Colleagues,

PNA have been engaging with the Department of Health in relation to student nurse entitlements, pay and allowances.

It has been confirmed that the following supports/entitlements are available for students:

- Access to PUP payment for those students who may have lost part time employment due to COVID-19;
- Enhanced Illness benefit for those students who work part time but have fallen ill with COVID-19;
- Other welfare schemes to assist with financial hardship due to illness, subject to qualifying criteria (*Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Urgent Needs Payment*);
- Access for eligible students to the *National Access Plan* (Contingency Fund) and *Student Assistance Fund*.
- €250 top-up for those in receipt of the SUSI grant or €250 contribution to fees to eligible students.

Additional details on these schemes can be obtained from DEASP and HEIs.

The Department are expecting to conclude the review of allowances by the end of November.

We will keep you updated regarding developments on the above issues.

Your sincerely.



Peter Hughes  
General Secretary