

Circular 151/2000

5th December 2000

Chief Executive Officer
Each Health Board/ERHA

Chief Executive
Each Public Voluntary Hospital
outside the ERHA

Financial Support for Nurses Returning to Practice

I am directed by the Minister for Health and Children to refer to a new initiative announced by him on 29 November 2000 concerning the abolition of fees for back-to-nursing courses.

Under the initiative nurses and midwives undertaking such courses will be entitled to have their fees paid in full and will be paid a salary in return for a commitment to rejoin the public health service following the completion of the course. The level of salary should take account of all previous genuine nursing experience. This measure is effective immediately.

Your non-capital allocation will be adjusted to take account of appropriate additional costs. In this context, please submit detailed costings for 2000 and 2001 to the Nursing Policy Division as soon as possible.

Any queries in relation to this circular should be addressed to the Nursing Policy Division. Telephone enquiries may be made at (01) 635 4056/7.

Bernard Carey
Principal Officer
Nursing Policy Division