



Doctoral study opportunity for experienced Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals

'The Clinical Doctorate Programme'

Commencing September 2024

Funding is available for one candidate in NHS Lothian to undertake the Clinical Doctorate at the University of Stirling on a part-time basis. This is the eighth year of funding this opportunity, which is offered by the partnership of NHS Lothian and the Faculty of Health Sciences and Sport at the university.

The Clinical Doctorate Programme is designed for Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals who wish to remain in practice while making a significant contribution to knowledge and the enhancement of person focused care in their field of practice – and beyond. The programme is designed to help candidates:

- tackle complex ideas and challenge established modes of thinking
- develop research and scholarship skills harnessed imaginatively to the field of clinical practice
- prepare to be at the cutting edge of clinical and research practice for your area of expertise
- become familiar with leading-edge research and enhance your ability to redesign the clinical environment and understanding of the research process

The funding is for part-time study and covers all academic fees but not study leave, which must be negotiated locally and agreed as part of the application process.

This is an exciting opportunity for experienced practitioners who seek to enhance their clinical academic career and lead in their field of practice.

Funding support from NHS Lothian/University of Stirling

- All course tuition fees
- Small grant from University of Stirling to support data collection and networking

Anticipated taught study commitment

3 modules of 2x3 study days = 18 days study leave (Autumn 2024, Spring 2025, Autumn 2025)

Additional module commitments

- 2 student-led research modules involving supervision (study leave requirement to be negotiated).
- Final module involves the empirical research study, which will require time for data collection and analysis.

Personal Study Time

- This type of programme requires at least 10 hours personal study per week
- Candidates and managers must discuss and clarify what study leave will be granted from the service and what will be expected to be completed by the student in their own time
- An indicative indication for study leave is proposed as half day per week / day per fortnight (at discretion of manager) but this is not fixed and different arrangements can be negotiated depending on local circumstances – it is essential therefore that the focus of all modules and the empirical research study relate to service priorities.

Information for Candidates

You should discuss your interest in applying with your line manager in the first instance. This should be followed up with discussion and full support from your Associate Nurse Director/Chief Nurse/Midwife/AHP Director. Your rationale for applying for this Programme

should align with national and local service priorities and an agreed commitment by your service to support this level and length of study and the potential study leave commitment.

Further information about the Programme is available on the Faculty website:

[Clinical Doctorates | Find a course | University of Stirling](#)

All potential candidates should contact Dr Kathleen M Stoddart, Programme Director for discussion **before submitting** a funding application k.m.stoddart@stir.ac.uk 01786 466395

Full details of the funding award including application forms can be found at:

[Research Futures \(Doctoral\) Funding – Health and Care Professions Research \(nhslothian.scot\)](#)

An internal application process will be put in place to select the strongest candidates from NHS Lothian. Applications should be submitted to Prof Juliet MacArthur, Chief Nurse Research and Development juliet.macarthur@nhs.scot by **5pm on Friday 28th June 2024**. Interviews will be held **on Wednesday 17th July 2024**.

For further information

Please contact:

Prof Juliet MacArthur, Chief Nurse Research juliet.macarthur@nhs.scot

07792 894760

Andy Peters, AHP Research & Development Facilitator, andy.peters@nhs.scot

07814 764502

9th May 2024