THE TRUTH ABOUT NHS FREE NURSING DEGREES

Your Complete Guide to

Funded Nursing Qualifications

in the United Kingdom

Created by Your HR Ally

Disclaimer

This guide is for information only. Current as of June 2026.

Nursing programmes, funding, visa policies, and NHS recruitment change without notice.

Verify information directly with:
- NHS England official website
- University nursing departments
- UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI)
- Your employer HR department

Your HR Ally assumes no liability for decisions based on this guide.

Myth vs Reality

MYTH: All degrees are free

REALITY: Only NHS-funded degrees are free.

MYTH: Study part-time free

REALITY: NHS degrees are full-time only.

MYTH: Sponsorship = free forever

REALITY: Repay if you leave NHS early.

MYTH: International nurses free

REALITY: NHS-funded for UK/EU settled status.

Which Route is Right for You?

Are you UK/EU settled status?

NO - Pay full fees or seek sponsorship
YES - Continue below

Want to earn while studying?
NO - Traditional University (3 years, student loans)
YES - NHS-Funded or Apprenticeship

Have healthcare experience?
NO - NHS-Funded Degree via UCAS
YES - NHS Apprenticeship (earn + learn)

Nursing Degree Routes Comparison

NHS-FUNDED DEGREE	NHS APPRENTICESHIP	TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITY	
Duration	3 years full-time	5 years	3 years full-time
Cost	FREE	FREE	Student loan 27k+
Earn While Learning	No	Yes - salary	No
Monthly Support	Bursary	Salary	Student loan
Employment	After graduation	Guaranteed NHS	Self-arranged
Best For	School leavers	HCAs	Flexibility

Your Pathway Forward

NHS Sponsorship Includes:

- Full tuition fees covered
- Monthly bursary (1,000-1,500 pounds)
- Guaranteed employment
- Service commitment (2-3 years)

90-Day Action Plan:

- Phase 1 (Decide): Choose route, nursing type, region
- Phase 2 (Prepare): Gain experience, research NHS Trusts
- Phase 3 (Apply): Submit applications, interview

Ready to Take the Next Step?

Get expert support to guide your nursing journey.

Your HR Ally Products & Social

Our Offerings:

- NHS Statement Pro
- From Application to Offer Masterclass
- Band-Specific Interview Prep eBooks
- NHS Scotland Application Guides
- Supporting Statement Playbook
- 1-to-1 Coaching (30-minute session)

Find Us On:

Stan Store: @yourhrally
YouTube: Your HR Ally
TikTok: your.hr.ally
Instagram: your.hr.ally

Book your 30-minute consultation via Stan Store

Your Nursing Journey Awaits

Thousands of UK nurses started
exactly where you are now.

You have the information.
You have the roadmap.
Now take action.