

National Garden Scheme Professional Development Grants – Hospice Staff

Guidance and criteria

The National Garden Scheme (NGS) Professional Development Grants for hospice staff aim to improve the quality of care given to patients, their carers and families. The programme is generously funded by the NGS.

Please read through this page to find out what is and what is not eligible before you apply.

Individuals can apply for a maximum of **50% of course or module fees**, up to £1,500 in any one year – subject to funds being available.

General criteria

NGS PDGs are open to all staff employed within hospices other than doctors.

Applicants need to demonstrate how the course will improve patient outcomes.

Applications must be received at Hospice UK at least one month before the start of the course or module.

A list of eligible courses is provided in the table below.

Professional Development Grants (PDGs) must be claimed within twelve months of the award being made. Hospice UK reserves the right to withdraw funding on PDGs older than 12 months.

Applications can be made for individual modules or a particular year of multi-year courses. A new application form must be submitted for each subsequent year or module and must be received by the Grants Team at least a month before the start of the next year or further modules.

We encourage matched funding to be committed by the hospice or raised from another funding source.

Member hospices (both adult and children's) in the UK are eligible for funding.

Once the budget for the NGS PDG programme has been fully allocated we will cease to award any further PDGs, until such a time as additional funds have been raised.

Examples of eligible courses

Professional Development Grants are offered towards the costs of course fees for accredited courses. **Example** courses could include those listed in the Tables below. If your course is not included, contact the Grants Team at Hospice UK to discuss eligibility for funding before you apply.

Table 1	
Dementia Care	Advanced Communication Skills
Social and Therapeutic Horticulture	Understanding Loss and Bereavement
Spiritual Care at the End of Life	Arts and Complementary Therapies
Breathlessness and Fatigue Management	

If you have any queries regarding the course you intend to undertake and its eligibility for funding, please contact the Grants Team at Hospice UK to discuss this further.

What is not eligible?

The following are not eligible for funding:

- any course that is not listed in the tables above – please contact the Grants Team to discuss your proposed course if it is not listed in the tables.
- any course that has already started or taken place
- applications to attend conferences unless you have a poster or oral presentation accepted
- one-day study courses
- applications from employees of the NHS and Macmillan Cancer Relief
- courses that are termed as update or refresher courses
- subsistence, travel and accommodation costs incurred whilst attending courses
- courses already subsidised by Hospice UK
- in-house training. We cannot fund applications to attend courses organised by the employing hospice unless they are externally accredited, and no more than 25% of participants should be staff from the host hospice
- applications for courses where fees are under £200
- costs towards research funding
- leadership and management courses. Hospice UK offers the [Strategic Leadership Programme](#) - further details of which are on our website.
- applications from outside the UK
- applications to study outside of the UK
- applications from organisations that are not a member of Hospice UK.

Statement of Support

Please note, the application must be endorsed by a relevant manager of the applicant's employing organisation with a statement (no more than 200 words) explaining why this course is significant in improving the applicant's own personal skills and development and the services offered by the employing organisation.

Further information

Please contact the Grants Team at Hospice UK with any questions about this programme at the contact details below.

Email: grants@hospiceuk.org

Website: www.hospiceuk.org/grants

Telephone: 020 7520 8219

Address: Grants Team, Hospice UK, 34-44 Britannia Street, London, WC1X 9JG

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