**FAQ’s (12.10.22)**

1. **Where should we direct queries about the inclusion of the GPA role in the additional roles scheme?**

Please direct all queries to england.primarycareworkforce@nhs.net.

1. **Where should we direct staff members who would like to take up the accredited training offer?**

Please direct them to transformation@hee.nhs.uk.

1. **What funding is available for the GPA roles and training?**

Primary Care Networks are able to claim reimbursement for the **salaries and some on costs** of GPAs hired through the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme. Details of the scheme, and available levels of funding can be found in the [Network Contract DES](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/5s3LCpklwHqPEpOiPKtlm?domain=england.nhs.uk).

For those wishing to also undertake the accredited training programme, **individual course fees will be covered**, and you will need to register your interest with transformation@hee.nhs.uk.  We intend to expand the structured, accredited, training route based on PCN demand, and cohorts are unlikely to come online until next year.

1. **Can individual GP practices claim Additional roles reimbursement for GPAs?**

The [Network Contract DES](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/5s3LCpklwHqPEpOiPKtlm?domain=england.nhs.uk) sets out that ‘Additional Roles must: i. be embedded within the PCN’s Core Network Practices and be fully integrated within the multi-disciplinary team delivering healthcare services to patients’

Staff can be employed either by the PCN (if it has set itself up as an organisation, rather than a collaboration of practices) or by individual practices within the PCN. Reimbursement for staff flows through a ‘nominated payee’ (either the PCN, if an organisation, or a lead practice within it). As such, the PCN will be able to claim and distribute reimbursement to GP practices within their network.

1. **Is there a plan to commission further training centrally or will this need to be planned and commissioned at a local level?**

Due to the recent inclusion of GPAs as part of the ARRS scheme, we intend to expand the structured, accredited, training route based on PCN demand.  This is currently under review, and it is anticipated that national training cohorts are unlikely to come online until next year.

Therefore, there will be no requirement to plan and commission training at a local level and we request that if you wish to register your interest in the accredited training route or have any further queries, please contact transformation@hee.nhs.uk.

1. **Can I receive ARRS funding from Oct onwards for a GPA who is currently studying on the accredited programme?**

Yes. GPAs were not included in PCN baselines. As such, PCNs are able to employ GPAs, and claim reimbursement for their salaries as with any other additional role, if staff meet the requirements outlined in the Network Contract DES.

1. **Once the GPA has completed training and moves from Trainee GPA to GPA, are they still eligible for funding?**

Yes

1. **Is back dated funding available for GPA who has already passed the accredited programme and hired into the role?**

No, PCNs can only claim reimbursement for GPA salaries from the point at which the role is introduced in the Network Contract DES. It is not possible to claim funding for back dated salaries prior to that date.

1. **Is there a cap on numbers for Trainee GPAs?**

No, recruitment is not capped.

1. **Can non-accredited GPAs move between practices?**

Yes, hiring decisions are made by individual PCNs, which hold responsibility for ensuring that staff meet the requirements of the DES.

1. **Can each practice interpret what the job role will be, or will there be a requirement for them to choose either a non-clinical or ‘hybrid’ role (clinical and non-clinical)?**

PCNs practices can choose how to deploy staff in this role, within the outlines of the competency framework and role description.

1. **Is there any support offered/monitoring of progress or will this be down to the GP practice? How will learners complete if no evidence has to be submitted?**

GPAs can choose to take part in the formal accreditation programme. If they do not, they will be expected to develop competencies, under the supervision of a GP, in line with the competency framework.

1. **What are the implications on indemnity and public liability insurance and/or arrangements?**

GPAs will operate under the contract, guidance and supervision of GPs, as with other ARRS roles. GPs hold responsibility for services delivered under their contract.