Guidelines for Funding Nursing and Midwifery Service Improvement Innovation Initiatives 2019

Introduction
A key function of the ONMSD / NMPDU / CNME is to support the professional development of nursing and midwifery practice. Funding for Nursing and Midwifery Service Improvement Innovation initiatives may be available from the Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Units (NMPDU) in 2019. A completed application form for each initiative should be submitted to the NMPDU. Only fully completed application forms which demonstrate compliance with the general principles and conditions outlined below will be considered for funding.

Funding Principles:

- The initiative supports an innovation that brings about new service improvement in nursing and midwifery practice
- The initiative supports Slainte Care, the Health Service Executive’s (HSE) delivery plan, and is linked to the strategic themes of the HSE National Service Plan 2019
  - Improving population health
  - Delivering care closer to home
  - Developing specialist hospital care networks
  - Improving quality, safety and value
  - Enabling our strategic objectives
- The initiative supports National/Regional/Organisational Delivery Plan and/or priorities of the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD) three year Plan.
- The initiative demonstrates anticipated measurable outcomes through evaluation as a result of the service improvement
- The initiative objectives are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-framed (SMART)
- The initiative contributes to the development of the knowledge, skills and attitudes of the nurses and midwives involved, leading to improved/better patient/service user care
- The initiative contributes to the development of nursing/midwifery research
- The initiative supports nursing/midwifery role development including preparation and establishment of a new advanced practice nursing/midwifery service (outside of the Department of Health Demonstrator Project) within an organisation or across organisations.
- The sustainability of the initiative / change in practice is considered.
- The initiative is designed to support shared learning in practice
- Collaborative initiatives that will enable integrated care and multidisciplinary working will be considered
Conditions of funding

1. All expenditure in relation to these initiatives must comply with the HSE National Financial Regulations which are available on the HSE website at http://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/Resources/Financial%20Regulations/ and also with public procurement policy www.procurement.ie and www.etenders.gov.ie

2. Funded initiatives are made available to other regions/services on a national basis as appropriate

3. Funded initiative details may be made available on the ONMSD/NMPDU website

4. The initiative is delivered as described in the application. If it is proposed to vary the initiative in any way, i.e. if it cannot be delivered as outlined in the submission and it is proposed to use the funding to deliver an altered or an alternative initiative, written approval must be obtained from this office prior to any commitment being made. Where an initiative has not met its projected targets a full rationale is provided and funding returned as appropriate.

5. If the initiative extends into the next financial year, an end of year report will be provided by the service to the NMPDU and arrangement will be agreed at local level (where possible) for accrual of funds.

6. A final evaluation report must be provided.

7. There must be acknowledgement of the financial support provided by the NMPDU in all documentation/presentations related to the initiative.

8. Quotations/ invoices/ receipts in relation to all expenditure on approved initiatives must be retained on file by the service and produced to the NMPDU on request for audit purposes.

9. If the NMPDU fund the delivery of a Conference, all nurses and midwives employed in HSE and voluntary (Section 38) organisations will be entitled to attend free of charge.

10. For the development of Advanced Practice Nursing/Midwifery services, a maximum of €12,500 will be awarded as a once only payment, per each eligible advanced practice nursing/midwifery service developed. Applications for funding will be considered from:

- Organisations to support the development of a business case for an advanced practice service to the senior management team for approval and sign off.
- Organisations that have senior management team approval to develop an advanced practice service in line with service needs analysis.

Out of Criteria

Innovation funding is not available for:

- Normal service delivery
- Any capital works
- On-going in-service programmes
- Locum cover/replacement of staff to attend conferences and programmes
- Photocopying or other equipment
- Administrative support (except to support research processes)
- Travel expenses and subsistence