

1 PURPOSE

Funded by Health Education England, the Diaspora Volunteering Bursaries for Health Partnerships programme (DVBHP) seeks to enhance the links between diaspora members of the NHS workforce in England with their countries of origin to broaden networks and develop bi-directional learning. DVBHP aims to provide bursaries to existing NHS health partnerships with at least one member of a diaspora in a leadership capacity, to deliver volunteering support for training and capacity development of LMIC health workers or those training them in their country of origin.

[HEE aims to support](#) health partnership activity which enables NHS staff to develop as professionals, supports NHS employers with their staff engagement and organisational development, and play a role in tackling shared global health challenges.

These bursaries are designed for health partnerships with a history of implementing capacity development projects, having identified a specific area for capacity development in a health delivery institution which could be supplemented through volunteers. Although the focus of the capacity development will be identified between the LMIC and UK institutions, THET advocates the wellbeing of health workers and would encourage applications with projects that consider how placements can positively impact this. Partnerships can bid for bursaries of up to £10,000 for volunteering placements of three to six months.

The partnership must be able to show that the volunteers will add value and help achieve outcomes and benefits for the health partnership, and the volunteers themselves. We wish to encourage the pursuit of bi-directional learning thus, we urge applicants to evaluate the impact of their programmes towards both UK and LMIC partners.

2 GRANT PARAMETERS

This is a closed call that your NHS Trust has been invited to apply for. Each bursary can be a maximum of £10,000 in value. Trusts can submit multiple applications but each Trust will be awarded a maximum of £10,000 in total.

If a Trust would like to submit more than one application, they are encouraged to coordinate these applications and align their budgets accordingly to reach the £10,000 benchmark. THET will review each application and ensure it meets the eligibility criteria and provide recommendations where improvements might be made.

Bursaries are available from 1st August 2022 for a time bound project that must be complete by 31st January 2023.

3 REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

CORE REQUIREMENTS:

- A minimum of 3 NHS volunteers should be key to the delivery of project.
- At least one of these volunteers must be a member of diaspora acting in a leadership capacity, in whose country of origin the project will be implemented. For the purpose of this grants call, as per THET's recent publication, [Experts in our Midst](#), our definition of modern diasporas is: "*ethnic minority groups of migrant origins residing and acting in host countries but maintaining strong sentimental and material links with their countries of origin*". We would particularly encourage those who have trained and/or worked in the LMIC health system.
- Applications must be made by the UK and LMIC leads within an existing health partnership that have implemented projects together previously in the facility in which the volunteer will be placed.
- NHS Volunteers must support a not-for-profit LMIC health delivery institution
- Volunteers must have clear terms of reference with clear objectives and activities aligned to the partnership or project's aims. These objectives and activities should lead to clear results and generate lessons learnt and good practice.
- Volunteer objectives should be linked to LMIC health workforce and health system development.

- Partnerships must be able to demonstrate relevant processes and policies to support volunteers and provide adequate duty of care.
- The project should demonstrate clear benefit back to the NHS (e.g. staff development, engagement and satisfaction, recruitment and retention).

If the core requirements are met, applicants should aim to meet following criteria:

- The bursary is time-bound, and the proposed activities are deliverable by 31st January 2023
- The partnership clearly demonstrates a need for a volunteer and how this type of intervention will result in measurable outcomes for the partnership.
- The approach to the project is appropriate and relevant to the local context
- The partnership shows how they will evidence the volunteer's contribution to the project and partnership, as well as their own personal and professional development or the NHS more widely. Please refer to the HEE Toolkit for Evidence for ideas: <https://www.thet.org/resources/toolkit-collection-evidence-knowledge-skills-gained-participation-international-health-project/>. These could include: individual personal development such as improved communication, pedagogical and leadership skills; staff engagement and well-being; and staff recruitment and retention.
- The project demonstrates value for money
- The project may be conducted in-person but must include virtual elements

4 GRANT HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Signing the volunteer bursary contract with THET
- Receiving bursary funds and managing them in accordance with the contract
- Maintaining financial records
- Reporting on finance and bursary activity to THET, at the end of the project, through a narrative report. The report will consist of 3 main sections: project progress, volunteer engagement, and health worker details.
- Ensuring grant finances are audited as part of the institution's annual audit
- Taking responsibility (as laid out in the contract) for all security, insurance and registration matters related to those travelling/working on behalf of the project
- Demonstrating safeguarding compliance, including having or developing a safeguarding policy and ensuring that volunteers have read and will abide by it.
- Please note that all NHS Volunteers must complete a pre and post volunteer questionnaire provided by THET, and will be offered the opportunity to contribute to research on the wellbeing impact of volunteering.

5 FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

VOLUNTEER BURSARIES WILL FUND:

- Local and international travel and associated costs, e.g. national economy class travel, travel insurance (if not already covered by a central institution policy), accommodation and subsistence. International flights will only be covered for travel of periods over 3 days in order that the project benefits sufficiently from the environmental impact.
- Bank charges for transfer of funds
- Monitoring, evaluation and learning costs related to the volunteer placement
- Communication and meeting costs (refreshments, transport, teleconferencing, video conferencing, etc.)
- Reasonable project and volunteer management staff and admin costs, e.g. recruitment, induction and communications
- Reasonable medical equipment and consumables
- Reasonable digital equipment costs

VOLUNTEER BURSARIES WILL NOT FUND:

- Backfill funding for UK volunteers
- Staff salaries for permanent staff, including any hired as a consequence of the project (but see above with regard to volunteer management and support costs)
- Volunteer per diems
- Entertainment costs
- Costs relating to the delivery of health services
- Sitting allowances (for individuals to attend training)
- First or business class travel
- Capital costs

6 APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Please read the below outline for THET's selection process carefully.

End May	Call for applications launched
24 th June	Application submission deadline
End June	Review by selection group and grants awarded
July 2022	Contracts issued and signed
August 2022	Grants begin

Applicants should complete their project outline and budget collaboratively and submit to grants@thet.org by **17:00 (BST) on Friday 24th June 2022**. Applications received after this date will not be considered. If you do not receive an acknowledgement from us within 2 working days, please assume we have not received your application and re-submit.

All information should be included in the body of the project outline and budget. Additional documents or footnotes will not be considered by the selection panel.

Applications will be reviewed by the Programmes Team against the eligibility criteria and grant requirements listed above, and applicants will be informed of the outcome within four weeks of the application deadline.

Project development is a consultative process with THET. Applicants must be willing to engage in this process.