

SAS Doctors Development Funding at HEKSS - Guidance

1. Round 1 development funding bid application will open for one month between April/May annually. Round 2 will open in October subject to demand.
2. SAS funds are to be used in addition to the normal study leave budget of the Trust and are not meant to be a replacement for that.
3. The use of funds can be a combination of HEKSS and Trust-based activities.
4. It should generally be used to fund for specific career development opportunities as opposed to maintaining current professional practice, which should be funded by the Trusts' study leave budget. So conference attendance would not normally be funded.
5. The SAS Doctors funding will be subjected to strict and regular scrutiny measures.
6. The SAS Tutors/ Trust Leads should discuss the priority of allocation of funding with the SAS doctors and any special needs/ developmental requirements should be in keeping with the departmental and Trust objectives. DMEs should be kept up to date with the local requirements.
7. Allocation is not generally for the individual SAS doctors, which allows the funds to be used more flexibly.
8. This funding is to be used for the development of Staff Grade doctors, Specialty Doctors and Associate Specialists who are in substantive posts.
9. This funding is not for locum posts.
10. The SAS Tutors/ Trust Leads, in consultation with the SAS doctors in their Trusts can organise local study days and courses which would be offered to SAS doctors in the region.

Top up training and CESR (Article 14) application support

1. The application from individual doctors requesting support from HEKSS needs to be supported by the local trust and letter of support from DME and Medical Director will be required
2. Letter from the GMC outlining what training requirements are specifically needed will also have to be submitted along with the application.
3. In all cases advice may be sought from the HEKSS SAS advisory group (who will advice on the feasibility of the application). Where required further advice from Head of School may also be sought.
4. Where HEKSS agrees to support, funds can only be released only on the basis of matching funds from the employer (applies to article 14 top up funds only).
5. Funds will always be paid to the employer not to the individual and overseas travel and accommodation will not be funded.

The following categories are usually not funded by HEKSS from SAS developmental funds:

1. Fees for Article 14/CESR applications
2. Travel expenses including subsistence allowances and overseas courses
3. Back fill for posts
4. Courses which are funded centrally by HEKSS
5. ATLS/APLS/Paediatrics life support courses (not an exhaustive list)- these are usually through trust funds
6. MSc courses - the SAS doctor and the trust need to be aware that funding is only for one year. There should not be an expectation that funding will follow in subsequent years as it is subject to the allocation of future funding
7. In accordance to guidance from COPSAS group, Developmental funds are restricted to doctors in the SAS grade, which includes Staff Grade, Associate Specialists and Specialty doctors and cannot be extended to other non-standard grades or trust appointments
8. Leadership courses which are already delivered by HEKSS
9. RCP Educational Supervisor Training (formerly known as QESP) which is delivered in conjunction with HEKSS.

The guidance will be subject to yearly review taking into account national funding policy – April 2015.