

Guide to Applying for Study Leave and Claiming Study Leave Related Expenses (Dental)

Update February 2022

PLEASE NOTE:

This is not the full guidelines, but a brief run through of study leave for Health Education England to help with applying for dental study leave. The full guidelines are available on the Dental Study Leave section of the HEE NW's website.

This guide applies to StRs and Dental Core Trainees.

This does not cover GP or Foundation trainees.

How to find the Dental Study Leave section of HEE NW's website

The Dental Study Leave website can be found at: <http://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/dental-study-leave>. The website contains the full guidelines, the application form, details of the application process and contact details for the dental study leave administrators.

CONTACTS

How to get in touch with the Dental Study Leave Section at HEE NW

Dental Study Leave Administrator,
Health Education England,
3rd Floor, Three Piccadilly Place,
Manchester
M1 3BN

Tel: 0161 268 9527

Email: dentalstudyleave.nw@hee.nhs.uk

www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/dental-study-leave

The application process is to approve time off as well as expenses.

This is the part of the process that involves getting approval for the time off and for any funding associated with the leave. **You cannot claim any expenses unless you have had them approved first.**

If you do not need to take time off as study leave but wish to claim expenses, you must still apply for study leave.

There are two parts to the Study leave Process:

1. The Application

This is the part of the process that involves getting approval for the time off and for any funding associated with the leave. **You cannot claim any expenses unless you have had them approved first.** StRs must follow the online system process via formdesk.

2. The Claim

The process involved to be reimbursed expenses associated with the study leave. You can only do this after your application has been fully approved and have been on the course/event.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Study Leave budget years run from 1st April to 31st March each year. The year in which funding will be taken is based on the year in which the 1st day of the study leave falls, not on the year which it was applied for.

The year from which the number of days allowed is calculated runs from 1st October to 30th September each year.

Specialist Registrars and Higher Specialty Registrars (ST3 and above)

Study leave is permitted for a maximum of 30 days per annum.

Post CCST

Study leave is permitted for a maximum of 30 days per annum or *pro rata* when the appointment is for less than a year (for example a maximum of 15 days study leave can be taken by a post CCST appointed for 6 months).

In some circumstances, 15 of the 30 days will be taken for the formal teaching programmes organised by the individual teaching programmes and HEE wide training. Please check with your Training Programme Director. Trainees may be granted up to a maximum of 7 days leave per year for private study.

Trainees who are absent from work on sick leave are not usually eligible for study leave unless there are exceptional circumstances. Those trainees who are on maternity or paternity leave should have access to study leave only in exceptional circumstances. Please see the full guidelines for further details.

THE APPLICATION

Guidance for applying for study leave

Please make sure you have the most recent version of the Study Leave Application form, as it is occasionally updated. This can be downloaded from the Dental Study Leave section of the HEE NW website.

Applications should be submitted to HEE NW at least six weeks prior to the proposed leave. **Retrospective applications will not be considered.** Your local base hospital may require notification of time off further in advance; please check your local trusts requirements.

Applications should be submitted to the correct Dental Study Leave Administrator along with confirmation of approval from your Educational Supervisor and Rota Coordinator (they do not necessarily have to sign the form, an email from them confirming their approval will suffice).

Applications for courses after the period of training will not be considered.

When calculating study leave, all the days approved and carrying a liability for expenses are counted, including weekends and Bank Holidays. Time spent travelling to and from the event is also counted.

If you are presenting at a conference you are applying for, either a poster or orally, please provide confirmation of this when you apply.

Overseas Applications

Overseas study leave can be approved for higher specialist trainees in exceptional circumstances. Overseas is defined as any country outside the UK.

Study leave abroad will not be granted for the purpose of studying for an overseas qualification or to attend examinations overseas.

Generally, only 1 overseas trip will be funded in the whole of your training (not per year).

All Overseas Applications will have to be approved by the Director of Postgraduate Dental Education.

Do not claim for Exam fees from the Study Leave Budget as these will not be reimbursed.

Time off for personal study eg for exam preparation, will not be approved.

Time off for travel to an exam venue can be considered but there is an expectation to sit the diet of the exam closest to your base.

Changes to your approved study leave

You must notify HEE NW of any changes to approved study leave. This includes cancellation, date changes and changes to fees. Failure to do so may cause delays in processing of your claim, or you not be reimbursed the expenses you were expecting.

THE CLAIM

Important things to remember about claiming expenses

Claim forms must be submitted **within** 3 months of the start date of the course, or before the end of the March following the start of the course, whichever comes first (i.e. by the end of the budget year from which the funding will come from).

All claims must be supported by receipts. Certificates of attendance are not acceptable as proof of payment unless they specifically state that you have paid and how much you have paid.

Please make sure you sign and date the claim form.

3

3

Claims cannot be processed until after the first day of the study leave.

Claim Forms should be submitted addressed to: **Dental Study Leave Administrator
Health Education England
3rd Floor, Three Piccadilly Place
Manchester, M1 3BN**

We recommend that you take copies of all receipts being submitted by post as occasionally claims do go missing in the post. We also suggest that you put your name and full address on the back of the envelope incase Royal Mail must return it, for example if not enough postage has been paid.

EXPENSES

What expenses will be reimbursed

A nominal sum of funding per trainee is allocated each budget year.

The allowance for DCT1's is £400.00

The allowance for DCT2's, DCT3's and Specialist Trainees is £805.00

Part time trainees and trainees employed for only part of a budget year's allocation is calculated on a pro-rata basis. Some specialities may have their allocation top sliced. Please check with your Training Programme Director about whether this happens in your speciality.

Additional rules may apply for your speciality please check with your Training Programme Director.

Travel expenses will be paid at **23p per mile**, up to a maximum of a **2nd class** return rail fare from your base hospital to the course/conference venue (unless overseas). Your base hospital is defined as the first hospital on your current rotation.

Accommodation is paid to a maximum of £120 per night (Bed & Breakfast) outside of London and £150 per night for London (Bed & Breakfast), and subsistence is paid to a maximum of £20 per day.

Exams fees will NOT be reimbursed.

