

East Midlands Office

Westbridge Place
1 Westbridge Close
Leicester
LE3 5DR



27 April 2020

Sent via email to:

Trainees in the East Midlands
Copied to: DMEs, MEMs, and Medical Staffing

Dear Colleague

You will be aware that we recently changed our excess travel and relocation guidance for employers of doctors in training. The purpose of the change was to bring East Midlands in line with the West Midlands and ensure equality of treatment across the region in the interim period before national guidance is produced.

We also hoped that new guidance would have a positive effect by significantly increasing the number of you eligible to claim excess travel and relocation expenses, for example, by increasing the overall cap on expenses from £5,000 (under the previous East Midlands) to £8,000 (under the new guidance).

In addition, the change also resulted in unified guidance for trainees employed by University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust. Previously those in West Midlands training posts (Burton) were considered under different guidance to those in East Midlands (Derby) training posts. The updated guidance for East Midlands was based on the West Midlands document which had previously been negotiated with the BMA.

It has now come to our attention that a minority of trainees may be financially disadvantaged by this change, which was certainly not our intention. Therefore, HEE is willing to review the current situation.

One option is for HEE to recommend to employers that disadvantaged trainees may be permitted to remain under the previous East Midlands version of the excess travel and relocation guidance (including the overall cap on expenses of £5,000) should they wish to do so. However, we need to assess the impact and practicality of operating two travel and expenses policies simultaneously.

We should be grateful if you would review your situation within the next two weeks.

Should you wish to remain under the previous version of the excess travel and relocation guidance, please confirm by sending an email to Relocation.ME@hee.nhs.uk by Monday 11 May setting out the reasons why you consider that you have been disadvantaged by the new expenses guidance.

Please note that, should HEE review its position and allow disadvantaged trainees to remain on the East Midlands version of the excess travel and relocation, only those trainees who confirm that they are disadvantaged to the email above on or before 11 May will be allowed to do so.

As you may be aware, HEE is working with stakeholders in relation to implementing national guidance on relocation and excess travel. This guidance is expected to be published later in the year and may replace existing local guidance.

A copy of this letter has been sent to all Directors of Medical Education, Medical Education Managers and Medical Staffing so that they are aware of this commitment from HEE.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Corne
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