

ALS/eALS and Study Leave for F2 doctors

The ALS has changed to be **not mandatory**, as per the GMC and the new Foundation curriculum from August 2021. F2 doctors can still achieve their FPCC if they do not have the ALS/e-ALS.

However, it remains valued and recommended, to the extent that The NI Foundation School at NIMDTA **will continue to provide funding** for those F2 doctors who arrange to do it.

As per NIFS study leave guidance:

The 30 days Study Leave is utilised as follows:

- 10 Days = Regional Generic Skills Programme (mandatory)
- 8 Days = GP Weekly Teaching Programme (if in a GP Placement)

These days do not require a study leave application

An additional 2 Days can be used for ALS /e-ALS as detailed below however you are required to submit a Study Leave application for this course

- **2 Days = ALS / e-ALS (optional)**

The maximum funding allowance for ALS/e-ALS is £300. Please note that we are not in a position to fund courses in excess of this amount. You must submit an expense claim form (www.nimdtg.gov.uk) with receipts for any ALS/e-ALS course to business.management@hscni.net. **Only one attempt during foundation training will be reimbursed. (during F2 year).**

For those who choose to do ALS during their Foundation training, not only is funding available but it is also a useful piece of evidence that can be linked to up to three FPCs, although is primarily associated with FPC2: **Clinical prioritisation:** recognise and, where appropriate, initiate urgent treatment of deterioration in physical and mental health.

In addition:

- NI Foundation doctors may complete ALS /eALS during F1 if they wish to, however if they do so it must be in their own annual leave or free time as Study Leave is not available for F1 doctors. **They will not be reimbursed until they have started F2 training.**
- Only evidence done during a specific training year can be used as evidence for that training year, so for example, ALS done in F1 can only be used as evidence for completion of F1 training year and cannot be used for F2 evidence.
- If a Foundation doctor chooses to complete a course provided by an external company, they will only be reimbursed the amount of funding described above, regardless of whether the cost of the course provided exceeds this.

SUMMARY

1. It is now **NOT mandatory**, but remains valued and recommended
2. **Funding of up to £300 is available for one ALS/e-ALS course only during the entire 2 years of NI Foundation training**
3. **ALS/e-ALS certificate is a useful piece of evidence that can be linked to 3 FPCs**