

Office for  
Students

The logo for the Office for Students, featuring a dark blue square with a yellow square in the top right corner containing the letters 'OfS' in white.

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# Strategic Interventions in Health Education Disciplines

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# Office for Students - Who we are

- The independent regulator for higher education in England
- We aim to ensure that every student, whatever their background, has a fulfilling experience of higher education that enriches their lives and careers
- Our work covers all students:
  - undergraduate or postgraduate
  - young or mature
  - full-time or part-time
  - studying on a campus or by distance learning
  - regardless of nationality.

# Our objectives

Every student, whatever their background, has a fulfilling experience of higher education that enriches their lives and careers.

## Participation

### Objective 1

All students, from all backgrounds, with the ability and desire to undertake higher education, are supported to access, succeed in, and progress from higher education.

## Experience

### Objective 2

All students, from all backgrounds, receive a high quality academic experience, and their interests are protected while they study or in the event of provider, campus or course closure.

## Outcomes

### Objective 3

All students, from all backgrounds, are able to progress into employment, further study, and fulfilling lives, and their qualifications hold their value over time.

## Value for money

### Objective 4

All students, from all backgrounds, receive value for money.

# Aim and objectives of SIHED programme

## AIM

Strengthen the provision of small specialist health disciplines in England to improve sustainability of delivery of these disciplines

## O B J E C T I V E S

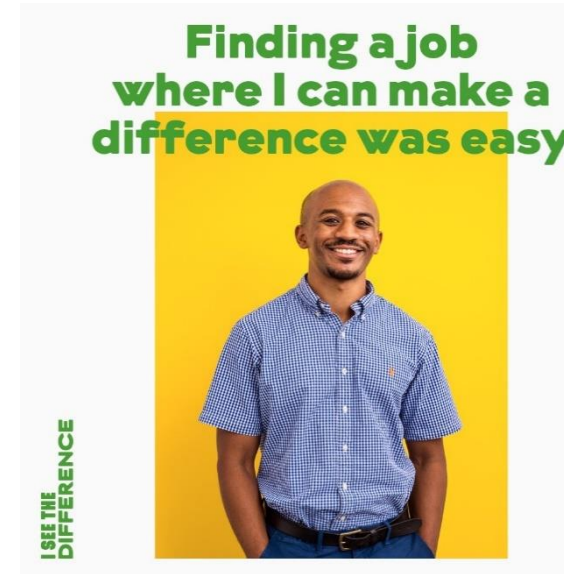
- Increase awareness of allied health disciplines
- Increase understanding of, and demand for, higher education courses in small specialist allied health disciplines:
  - therapeutic radiography
  - podiatry
  - orthoptics
  - prosthetics and orthotics.
- Strengthen and diversify the delivery of the small and specialist disciplines covered by this initiative
- Develop a better understanding of the student market for nursing, midwifery and allied health courses, including mature and male participation

# Why is the OfS funding this programme?

- Part of the transitional support we have put in place for the nursing, midwifery and allied health funding reforms
  - This is a 3 year programme with a budget of £1m per year
  - Timespan: 2018, 2019, 2020
- Response to a requirement from the Department of Education that we support small specialist disciplines
  - Risks linked to size
  - Other vulnerabilities

# Workstrands

- AWARENESS RAISING
  - I see the difference campaign
    - <https://www.iseethedifference.co.uk>
  - Outreach
- STIMULATING INNOVATION IN DELIVERY
  - Challenge Fund 1 and 2
- RESEARCH
  - Mature students
  - Male students
- EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION
  - For providers of the four priority target disciplines
  - Broader dissemination



# Timelines and initial outcomes

Campaign and outreach	Stimulating innovation	Research on the student market
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 725,000 people have seen our adverts (Facebook, Instagram, Student Room)</li> <li>12,000 people have visited our website</li> <li>Outreach officers have attended over 40 career events, including two major career fairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenge Funds               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 SIHED events, 1 additional poster presentation</li> <li>6 planned publications (one paper accepted, 4 submitted, one being drafted)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Workshadowing project (orthoptics)</li> <li>P&amp;O project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment of mature students to nursing, midwifery and allied health</li> <li>increasing male participation in higher education healthcare courses</li> </ul>
<p>Scheduled to continue until December 2020</p>	<p>Challenge Fund 1: projects to be completed December 2019            Challenge Fund 2: projects to be completed December 2020            P&amp;O and Orthoptics projects to complete by March 2020</p>	<p>Mature student study: to be published early March 2019            Male student study: tender live, report expected in autumn 2019 for publication late 2019 or early 2020</p>

## Monitoring, evaluation and dissemination

- External monitoring and evaluation commissioned from SQW, published report expected in spring 2021
- Dissemination events: twice a year for providers of the 4 small specialist subjects, 1 larger event planned for autumn 2020

# Challenge Fund 1: Podiatry and Therapeutic Radiography

- Lessons learned
  - Appetite for innovation
  - Need to incentivise interdisciplinary approaches specifically
  - Longer deadlines

## Early outcomes and deadlines

- 5 out of 6 projects on track
- Dissemination
  - Presentations
  - Publications

## Funded projects

Radiotherapy escape rooms to improve retention (BCU)

Pop-up podiatry: Developing an online and hands-on approach to student recruitment (Brighton)

Developing learning through simulation: Using virtual environments to reduce clinical placement pressures (Liverpool)

Male therapeutic radiographers: Understanding and addressing barriers to higher education recruitment (SHU)

Increasing the diversity of podiatry placements to support the future of podiatry education (Salford, Brighton, MMC, East London)

Enabling clinical supervisors to better support and nurture students to achieve their full potential: Improving retention in therapeutic radiography (UWE, City)



# Learning from Challenge Fund round 1 bids

Take account of wider sector initiatives to articulate activity and avoid duplication

- Bids need to take account of other SIHED workstreams
- It is useful to take account of other initiatives (e.g. HEE)

Drafting bids

- Give evidence of what the problem is you are trying to solve
- Involve students and service users, where possible and useful
- Explain how you will evaluate the project, including measurable outcomes
- Consider transferability to/collaboration with other areas of provision
- Weave aims and objectives throughout the bid – internal coherence

# Challenge Fund round 2

## Theme: Innovations in recruitment to, and delivery of, healthcare courses

- Up to £400,000 available to support innovative projects relating to healthcare courses
- This call is open to all existing providers of pre-registration higher education in nursing, midwifery and allied health
- New providers may be considered if their projects meet the criteria
- Approved (fee cap) providers on the OfS register as at 24 April 2019 can bid for a maximum of £50,000 as individual institutions, or as lead institutions in a collaborative project
- It is expected that providers, and where applicable their partners, will contribute resources, funding, or both to the project

# Challenge Fund round 2

Bids should address **at least two** of the following criteria:

- a. Be led by a provider, or prospective provider, of higher education in:
  - Therapeutic Radiography,
  - Podiatry,
  - Orthoptics, or
  - Prosthetics and Orthotics,

**AND** one of those disciplines is central to the bid.

- b. Propose an interdisciplinary approach to recruitment or delivery involving at least one other healthcare discipline, either at the same provider, or as part of a collaboration with another provider.
- c. Propose new ways to attract and retain mature students or students from other underrepresented groups, including men.
- d. Propose development of novel delivery approaches – for example distance or blended learning. **NB** Apprenticeship development is **not** within the scope of this call.

# Challenge Fund project requirements

- Explain how innovations piloted through the challenge fund could be embedded in the institution's work beyond the period of funding.
- Engage with the SIHED programme and commit to sharing lessons learned and good practice resulting from initiatives enabled by the Challenge Fund.
- Commit to providing statistics and contextual information to contribute to the monitoring and evaluation of the SIHED programme up to 2020-21.

**We look forward to receiving your bids!**

# How to find out more

**Email** [Helene.Fouquet@officeforstudents.org.uk](mailto:Helene.Fouquet@officeforstudents.org.uk), [Ed.Hughes@officeforstudents.org.uk](mailto:Ed.Hughes@officeforstudents.org.uk)

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monthly e-newsletter

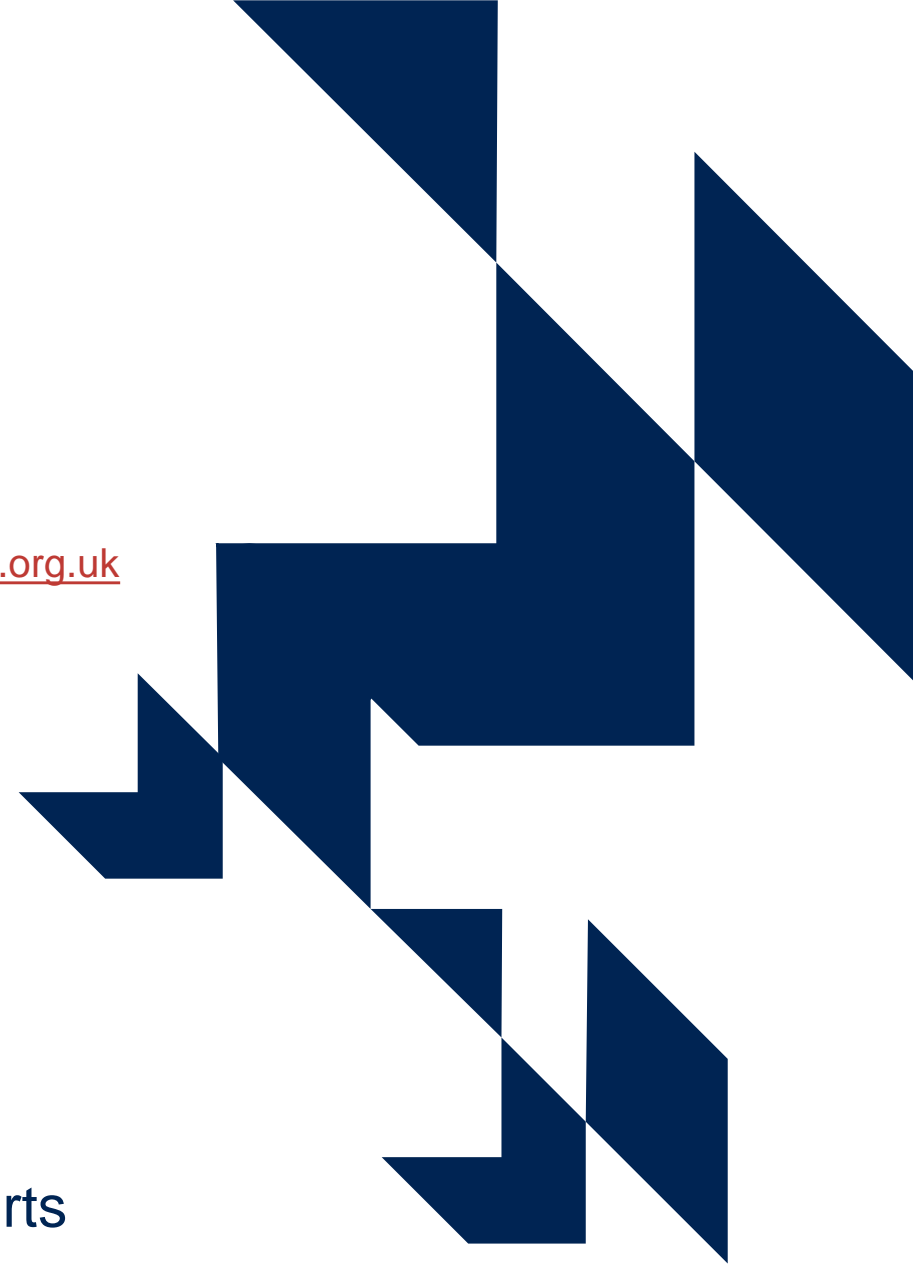
OfS alerts

OfS alerts for the Prevent duty

OfS alerts for charity regulation

You can join these at

<https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/sign-up-for-email-alerts>



# World Café

Three questions to discuss on tables:

1. Expected potential outcomes for the providers and the sector (tables 1,4,7)
2. Co-creation and collaboration (tables 2,5,8)
3. Evaluation – what and how (tables 3,6,9)

20 minutes for each table (15 minutes discussion, 5 minutes to capture issues)

Plenary to share key points



# Plenary and conclusion

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# Thank you for listening

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