

## **Strategic interventions in health education disciplines (SIHED)**

On 8 February 2019 the OfS ran a workshop in London for providers interested in bidding for the SIHED Challenge Fund and seeking to gain further context or information.

The following FAQs are based on questions asked at the event.

### **Q: Are providers eligible to bid even if they do not deliver one of the four disciplines in focus for SIHED (orthoptics, therapeutic radiography, podiatry and P&O)?**

**A:** Yes. This is open to all providers of nursing, midwifery and allied health disciplines as covered by the funding reforms. We ask that the project meets two of the four possible criteria set out in the guidance. One of the criteria is for a project to be led by one of the four SIHED disciplines, so for a provider which does not deliver one of these subjects the proposal needs to address at least two of the other criteria.

### **Q: Can a Further Education College lead a project?**

**A:** Yes, any Approved (fee cap) provider on the OfS Register at 24 April 2019 can bid.

### **Q: Would a project led by diagnostic radiography meet the criterion that says ‘the project is 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’?**

**A:** No, therapeutic radiography and diagnostic radiography are two separate disciplines. Therapeutic radiography is one of the four, small and specialist healthcare disciplines covered by this criterion, while diagnostic radiography is not.

### **Q: Can a provider lead on a project and participate in a bid on a different project?**

**A:** Yes, providers can participate in more than one proposal.

### **Q: What could interdisciplinary approaches look like?**

**A:** The overall objective of the call is to stimulate innovation in recruitment to and delivery of these courses. One example could be proposing outreach activities that cover both nursing and allied health to attract a wider audience of potential students, which could involve collaboration between local/regional universities.

### **Q: Is £50,000 the maximum amount for a bid, even if it is a collaboration?**

**A:** Yes. We would also expect all bids to demonstrate a contribution from the resources of partners, for instance through staff time. We would welcome bids that have secured other sources of funding for a new project. We are looking for additionality in our investments, so will not fund an existing project.