



## LOC HOT BRIEF

Confidential to Optical Contractors & Performers • October 2017 • Issue 63

### Private & Confidential

*Hot Briefs contain guidance and advice from the Optical Confederation and LOCSU on important issues relevant to all ophthalmic contractors and performers, which we would like LOCs to be aware of or to take action on.*

*LOCs are asked to ensure that Hot Briefs are circulated to all contractors and performers in their area as soon as possible.*

**Any LOC requiring advice/support on any aspect of their work should contact LOCSU on 020 7549 2051 or email [info@locsu.co.uk](mailto:info@locsu.co.uk)**

#### **Content:**

- Delayed payment of CET Grants
- New Pre-reg Training Grant form

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#### **Delayed payment of CET Grants**

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PCSE have announced that it is taking longer than they had previously advised for all 2017 CET claims to be processed, with the result that a number of claims won't be paid until January. At the National Optical Conference on 9 November, the PCSE Managing Director Paul Dawson had told delegates the organisation expected to have the backlog of claims processed by the end of November in time for payment in December. However, in a statement released today (8 December), PCSE said they are now aiming to make all outstanding payments in December and January.

Please see: [pcse.england.nhs.uk/news/2017/december/update-on-continuing-education-and-training-cet-claims/](http://pcse.england.nhs.uk/news/2017/december/update-on-continuing-education-and-training-cet-claims/)

The Optical Confederation will be meeting with NHS England to stress that delays to these payments are unacceptable to the sector and to demand a detailed explanation as to what is being done about the fact the service delivered by Capita is still not operating at the expected level more than two years after the outsourcing contract was awarded.

Anyone who doesn't receive payment by the end of January 2018 for a CET claim submitted by 31 October 2017 is advised to contact PCSE's Customer Support Centre on 0333 014 2884 or email [PCSE.Optical@nhs.net](mailto:PCSE.Optical@nhs.net)

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#### **New Pre-reg Training Grant form**

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A new, standardised form for claiming a grant for providing Pre-registration training in England has now been released.

The [Supervisor Training Grant application form](#) should be submitted to Primary Care Support England (PCSE), who are responsible for processing claims on behalf of NHS England. The allowance paid to supervisors is set out by the Department of Health on an annual basis and from 1 April 2017 the grant is £3,514.

Contractors can either claim the full value of the grant at the end of the pre-registration year or in two instalments (one after six months and the other at the end of the pre-registration year). Please note the form needs to be signed by the contractor, supervisor and trainee.

Completed forms should be emailed to: [PCSE.Optical@nhs.net](mailto:PCSE.Optical@nhs.net) from the email address the contractor has registered with PCSE with "**pre-registration training grant – [trainee name and GOC number]**" in the email subject header.

- PCSE will issue a case reference number on receipt of the claim form, which should be quoted in any future correspondence regarding the claim.
- PCSE will verify the information provided on the form against the information the College of Optometrists holds on trainees.
- If there is any discrepancy in the information submitted, PCSE will contact you and check with the College if necessary.
- Once the claim has been validated, PCSE will arrange payment with the contractor's next GOS payment

Download the [Supervisor Training Grant application form](#)

If you have any queries regarding a claim for a pre-reg grant contact [pcse.optical@nhs.net](mailto:pcse.optical@nhs.net)

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