

Period Dignity Fund Further Education Guidance

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Purpose of the funding

- 1. Ensuring access to period products, free of charge and accessible in the most practical and dignified way possible, is central to the purpose of this grant funding.
- 2. This Guidance takes effect from 1 August 2025 and replaces existing guidance on Period Dignity. It sets out the purpose of Period Dignity funding, the administrative arrangements, and imposes requirements in respect of those arrangements. Further education institutions (FEIs) must comply with the requirements set out in this document.
- 3. Medr may, at any time, revise, revoke or add to the arrangements set out in the Guidance.
- 4. Period products are to be made available to:
 - All learners in the FEI; and
 - Individuals in the college community who require access to period products, prioritising those from low-income households.
- 5. We would, therefore, expect the large majority of the total funding to be spent on the purchase of period products.

Eligible costs/activity

6. Medr are committed to addressing the challenges posed by all kinds of plastic pollution. The minimum requirement for grant spend on eco-friendly period products (i.e. re-usable and/or plastic free) is 80%. We want to support a move away from single-use, plastic disposable options and enable a wider choice of reuseable, plastic free, options whilst ensuring ease of accessibility and a positive environmental impact. Examples of Eco-friendly product providers can be found below.

7.

Activity	Further information (if required)
Period products (including period pants)	
Sanitary disposal bags	
Storage purses/wet bags for use with reusable products	
Clothing	To be provided where learners do not have a change of clean clothing available and menstrual bleeding has stained or soiled their clothing – limited to regular underwear, trousers, skirts and tights
Washing powder/liquid –	For the cleaning of reusable period products/clothing where menstrual bleeding has stained or soiled items and the learner has no other means of washing them – limited for use on site at FEIs
Period product dispensers	
Wet wipes	Only to be offered if someone is away from home and requires them for hygiene purposes.
Costs associated with the distribution of products to recipients can be covered by the Grant.	For example, postage to home addresses.
Training or education within FEIs, for professionals, learners and college community members.	Up to 20% of the total grant allocated to FEIs may be used for the purposes of training or education. Any training and education must provide information and the opportunity to try (take home) reusable period products and should be aligned to existing training practices.
	FEIs are advised to consider resources already available on <u>Hwb</u> and <u>Bloody</u> <u>Brilliant Wales</u> .
Communications and Marketing	Where not centrally produced such as, advertising local services e.g. subscriptions. The need for printed documents should be avoided where possible.
	Any costs related to Communications and Marketing need to be agreed in advance with Medr.

12.5% of the total grant, or up to	For example, staff time.
£40,000, whichever is lowest, can	
be spent on administration costs	
e.g. staff time.	

Ineligible costs

- Storage costs for holding period products
- Hot water bottles, blankets and skin care
- General wash products including shower gel, soap, deodorant and dental products
- Food and drink items
- Non eco-friendly hygiene wipes
- Sanitary disposal bins

Eco- friendly product providers

8. Medr does not endorse any specific products or companies and would not recommend FEIs do so either. However, to assist FEIs, we have provided a list of companies from which appropriate eco-friendly period products can be sourced.

Single-use, disposable products

- <u>Grace and Green</u> Tampons (cardboard applicator/non-applicator), pads and pantyliners
- Here we Flo Tampons, pads and pantyliners
- Hey Girls Tampons (not their plant-based plastic applicators) and pads
- <u>Natracare</u> Tampons (cardboard applicator / non-applicator), pads and pantyliners
- Organyc Tampons (cardboard applicator / non-applicator), pads and pantyliners (not their plant-based plastic applicators)
- TOTM Tampons (cardboard applicator / non-applicator), pads and pantyliners

Reusable pads

- Bare Collective
- Cheeky Wipes
- Grace and Green
- Hey Girls
- WUKA

Reusable tampon applicator

- Lil Lets
- Dame

Period pants (reusable)

- Cheeky Wipes
- Flux
- Here we Flo
- Modibodi
- Peace With The Wild
- Thinx
- WUKA

Menstrual cups (reusable)

- Grace and Green
- Hev Girls
- <u>Intimina</u>
- Kind Organic
- Mooncup
- TOTM

National Procurement Service

- 9. The Welsh Government's public sector contracting body, The National Procurement Service, manages the delivery of all-Wales public sector contracts and frameworks for goods and services. In order to support public sector organisations in meeting the Welsh Government's Period Dignity Grant objectives the NPS has included period products as core items within their Cleaning and Janitorial Materials Framework Agreement – framework reference number NPS-CFM-0099-19.
- 10. This framework will provide a quick and compliant route to market for public sector organisations to source period products, either on a direct award basis or via mini competition. Further information on the framework can be found on Sell2Wales or by contacting the NPS Category Team (NPSConstructionandFM@gov.wales).
- 11. Feedback from local authorities identified that storage of large volumes of products was an issue. The offer provided by the NPS allows for small quantities of products to be ordered on a very regular basis which should help ensure the needs of users are met whilst minimising the need for additional storage. FEIs may be able to make use of any preferential joint procurement exercise.

Payments to Institutions

12. Funding will be paid to Institutions in one instalment in August.

Monitoring Requirements

- Institutions must submit a final report and annual statement of grant expenditure, this will be included as part of the overall Financial Contingency Fund (FCF) return.
- 14. Reports will need to be submitted to Medr by the last Friday in November following the end of the academic year.
- 15. Report templates will be issued by Medr for completion ahead of the submission deadline.
- 16. Any underspend on Period Dignity can be used for the purposes outlined in the FCF guidance. Any remaining underspend will be reclaimed in full by Medr.

Contact Details

17. For any queries relating to the content of this guidance, please contact Medr at lnvestmentandPerformance@medr.cymru.





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