



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

PUBLIC PETITION NO.

PE01738

Name of petitioner

David Molloy on behalf of Future Teachers of Scotland

Petition title

Student teacher bursaries for full-time placement students

Petition summary

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to provide bursaries to undergraduate teaching students undertaking full-time work placements.

Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition

I have contacted my local MSP.

Petition background information

What has given rise to petition:

Teaching students at certain Scottish universities normally in their 3rd year undertake full time placement in a school working the same number of hours as any qualified teacher or full-time employee in any field.

Students have to spend much of their time in school placements (usually being IN the school between the hours of 8am until 5pm, this not counting travel time) are concerned that between placement time, university commitments and travelling, they have little opportunity to pick up hours at work leading to further stress both financial and academic.

Why is it needed:

Lessing the levels of stress that students are subject to will only help their education and make them better able to learn and subsequently to become better educators, who will in the end give back to our society via the education of the next generation. It is also felt amongst current students; this could also encourage more prospective students to enter teaching.

What action do you wish taken and why:

It is hoped that the Scottish Government would consider allocating a bursary to help teaching students in full-time placement; this would go towards travel costs, rent, supplies (which they must purchase themselves) and any other bills/ financial commitments they have.

Financial aid, even if a small sum, would ease the financial burden on those in full time placements, which in turn would help decrease stress in the students and may lead to an increase in the number of students considering a career in teaching.

Suggested questions the Committee may wish to ask the Scottish Government:

- Is the Government aware of the financial concerns of full-time placement students in education?
- Should it be considered that further funding could encourage further perspective teaching students in a climate of teacher shortages?
- Should the Government be giving more attention to the issue surrounding people from low income areas being discouraged from further education due to student loans not stretching far enough (in addition to being unable to get enough part-time work) and/ or the unwillingness of students to become reliant on debts to manage?

Unique web address

<https://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/studentteacherbursary>

Related information for petition

Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?

YES

How many signatures have you collected so far?

0

Closing date for collecting signatures online

05 / 09 / 2019

Comments to stimulate online discussion