

### What is Health Economics?

Health Economics is concerned with the allocation of scarce health care resources. The course introduces and develops economic techniques for determining the optimal allocation of scarce resources for competing interventions and considers economic arguments for alternative ways of financing and providing health care.

### What benefits will I gain?

The course will give you an insight into important issues in health economics. On completion of the course you will have an:

- Understanding of basic economic concepts;
- Awareness of the range of approaches available for economic investigation, and when to use them;
- Understanding of the arguments for and against different types of health care financing;
- Understanding of how different models of health care provision work.

### Why HERU?

HERU is an internationally recognised centre of excellence in health economics. We have over 30 years experience in teaching and running courses for distance learners. Senior Staff at HERU contribute to writing the course material and teach at the residential seminars.

### What will I cover on the course?

The course is structured into four modules:

1. Introduction to Economics and Health Economics
2. Economic Evaluation – Principles and Frameworks
3. Economic Evaluation – Applications and Policy
4. Health Care Systems and Policy

### Flexibility of Study

The course runs from 1<sup>st</sup> October until 31<sup>st</sup> May, during which time all four modules can be completed. Modules can also be completed in subsequent years. Module 1 must be completed before progressing to other modules. To gain the Postgraduate Certificate you must complete all modules.

### Entry requirements and costs

A degree or equivalent qualification and/or experience deemed suitable by the Course Director is necessary for entry. The module requirements and costs are shown below.

	Module Requirements	*Public Sector	Outside the UK	*Private Sector
Module 1		860	595	1190
Module 2	Module 1	860	595	1190
Module 3	Module 1 & 2	860	595	1190
Module 4	Module 1	860	595	1190

\*Costs include accommodation at residential seminars for Public and Private Sectors

### Course Accreditation

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate in Health Economics – 60 credit points.

### MyAberdeen

MyAberdeen provides an online learning environment where you can access all course materials, assessments and seminar programmes.

### What Course Material will I need?

Students will be provided with core course material online, specially written for the course by HERU's Senior Health Economists, as well as published papers. In addition, text books will be recommended.

### Will I be able to attend Seminars?

If you study in the UK you will be required to attend four two-day seminars, held in Edinburgh. Students from outside the UK have the option of attending the seminars at an extra cost.

### How will I be supported in my studies?

Throughout the course support will be available from your personal tutor, the Course Director, HERU Senior Staff and the Assistant Unit Administrator. Your tutor will provide detailed feedback on assignments and on your overall progress.

### How will I be assessed?

Assessment is continuous; there are four assignments, one for each module. The award of the postgraduate certificate is dependent on satisfactory completion of all 4 assignments and, for students in the UK, attendance at all four seminars.

### Will I be suited to the Course?

The course is designed for health care professionals who want to gain a recognised qualification in health economics. General Practitioners, Clinicians, Nurses, Managers, Directors, Executive Officers, Accountants, Financial Planners, Pharmacists, Medical Registrars, Medical Consultants and those working in the Pharmaceutical Industry have all benefited from the course.

### Student comments

**Melvin Jalando-on Sanicas** – MD Regulatory Scientist Centre for Drug Administration, Health Sciences Authority, Singapore

*“Comprehensive distance learning materials provided. Very well-organized and concepts were presented clearly and logically. Not over the top but rather just the right amount of information with suggested readings given if one would like to know more. Highly recommended.”*

**Mudenda Munkombwe** - Information Analyst, NHS ISD/Scottish Government.

*“Having just started work in workforce planning at the Scottish Government, the course helped me understand and apply health economic principles to develop the work force models used for planning a more efficient health care delivery for NHS Scotland. Both the lecturers and materials were of a high standard and easy to understand. It was also an opportunity to learn how others were applying health economics in their work areas.”*

### Further Information and Application Details

To find out more about the course and/or for further application enquiries please contact Mrs Lesley Innes, Unit Secretary, Health Economics Research Unit, University of Aberdeen, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZD. Email: [l.innes@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:l.innes@abdn.ac.uk) Tel: +44 (0) 1224 437196, Fax: +44 (0) 1224 437195 or visit our website at: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/heru/teaching/>.

Application forms can be downloaded from [http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sras/word\\_docs/pgapp.doc](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sras/word_docs/pgapp.doc) or obtained from the University of Aberdeen, Graduate School, Polwarth Building, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZD

# Postgraduate Certificate in Health Economics

Distance Learning

2012-2013

HERU is funded by  
The Chief Scientist Office (CSO)  
of the Scottish Government Health Directorates  
and the University of Aberdeen