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Initial education and training of pharmacists (IETP) reform:

Implementation and funding for 2025/26

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Presented by:

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IETP reform: key facts





IETP reform – Key facts

- The 2025/26 Foundation Training Year is the first year where:
 - NHS England will take on delegated responsibility from the GPhC as the Statutory Education Body (SEB) for the quality management of all foundation trainee pharmacists in England
 - The **full** new learning outcomes (incorporating independent prescribing) will be used
- All trainee pharmacists must be recruited through Oriel/NRS for 2025/26
 - Oriel/NRS is a key element of quality management of training sites
 - There will be no approval of training sites outside of this process (by NHS England or GPhC)
 - No eligibility or mechanism for payment outside of this process
- The training site must be able to provide access to:
 - A Designated Supervisor
 - A Designated Prescribing Practitioner
 - A Prescribing Learning Environment



IETP reform – Key facts

- Trainee continues to be employed by the training-post provider
 - General Practice/Primary Care (including Health and Justice) now classified as patient-facing training settings (GPhC requirement for minimum of 26 weeks in a patient-facing setting)
- Harmonisation of funding for training sites across all sectors for 2025/26
 - £26,500 per training post
 - A contribution to all costs of hosting a trainee, including supervision, administration and salary costs
 - Additionally, all sites will have access to an NHSE-funded training offer
 - [FAQs available online](#)
- All trainees graduating against the new learning outcomes will have to be assessed against the new learning outcomes including independent prescribing during the foundation year
 - *Some graduates entering foundation training in 2025/26 will not have graduated against the new learning outcomes. These graduates will not be able to be an independent prescriber at first registration*



Oriel/National Recruitment Scheme (NRS) Terms of Participation for 2025/26





Oriel ToP for 2025/26 – Training site requirements

- **Any organisation can be the employer of the foundation trainee pharmacist** (as long as all other requirements for provision of the learning environment are met)
- **A minimum of 26 weeks of this must be completed in a ‘patient-facing setting’** which must be within one or more of the following:
 - Community Pharmacy (NOT distance selling pharmacy)
 - NHS Managed Sector (e.g. NHS Acute Trust, NHS Mental Health Trust)
 - General Practice/Primary Care, including Health and Justice
 - Other Private, Independent and Voluntary Organisation employers where provision includes patient-facing care that is commissioned by the NHS
- The Training Plan must include access to a setting with a dispensary that is supervised by a GPhC registrant, for example:
 - Community pharmacy
 - NHS Managed Sector Pharmacy (e.g. Acute or Mental Health Trust with an on-site pharmacy dispensary)
 - Health and Justice with an on-site pharmacy dispensary
 - **This cannot be a dispensary in a General Practice that is not a registered pharmacy**

[See Foundation Pharmacist Training Site Requirements for 2025/26 on the IETP 2025/26 site and ORIEL/NRS Terms of Participation](#)



Oriel ToP for 2025/26 – Supervision and Assessment

- Employers confirm that, in accordance with the GPhC requirements, the trainee will have access to a:
 - Designated Supervisor
 - Prescribing learning setting
 - Designated Prescribing Practitioner
- All training sites must use the Assessment Strategy and E-portfolio and engage with the NHS England Workforce, Training & Education Quality Framework
 - This will include assessment activities that relate to prescribing
- DPPs and DSs will work within a GPhC-approved NHSE education quality assurance framework.
 - The principles for prescribing supervision and assessment are set out in the NHS England [Prescribing Supervision and Assessment in the Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme from 2025/26 on the IETP 2025/26 site](#) (subject to accreditation by the GPhC)



Planning foundation training posts for 2025/26



Designated Prescribing Practitioner – Key facts

- The principles for prescribing supervision and assessment are set out in the NHS England [Prescribing Supervision and Assessment in the Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Programme from 2025/26 on the IETP 2025/26 site](#) (subject to accreditation by the GPhC)
- Includes Supervisor Person Specifications (for DPP and DS):
 - Core person specification
 - Additional DPP person specification
 - Additional DS person specification
- The DPP can be:
 - the same person as the Designated Supervisor (DS) or
 - a separate person who works in conjunction with the DS
- The DPP does not have to be based in the primary training site that the trainee pharmacist is employed in
- The DPP needs to have oversight of 90 hours of learning, but does not have to directly supervise all of it – can delegate

The DPP experience requirement is described qualitatively:

- An active prescriber in a patient-facing role, with appropriate knowledge and experience relevant to the trainee's **nominated prescribing area**.
- Practises in line with the Competency Framework for All Prescribers.
- An active prescriber consults with patients and makes prescribing decisions based on clinical assessment with sufficient frequency to maintain competence. Reflects and audits prescribing practice to identify developmental needs
- Does not have to meet the '3 years' experience' element of the RPS DPP competency framework

Prescribing Assessment in 2025/26

- **Nominated Prescribing Area**

- Agreed by the DPP and Designated Supervisor
- Appropriate (in terms of complexity/acuity) to the stage of training of a foundation trainee pharmacist
- A clinical area relating to the provision of healthcare (i.e. it cannot be a non-healthcare area such as aesthetics)
- A nominated prescribing area that the DPP is sufficiently knowledgeable, skilled, and experienced to supervise within
- An area within which the foundation trainee pharmacist is able to access patients (under effective supervision) with whom they can conduct consultations (and complete the prescribing assessment activities with)

Activity	Description
1.History Taking	<p>Takes and documents an appropriate medical, psychosocial and medication history including allergies and intolerances.</p> <p>These activities do not have to be completed in the nominated prescribing area as long as they do not progress to decision making and prescribing. Examples of where a trainee could undertake these activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting Patient in a community pharmacy • CPCS consultation • Inpatient / admission ward • Outpatient clinics
2.Physical and clinical examination skills	<p>Performs and documents appropriate physical and clinical examinations to decide the most appropriate course of action for the person.</p>
3.Prescribing consultation	<p>Undertake a prescribing consultation that incorporates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the patient 2. Identify treatment options 3. Shared decision 4. Prescribing decision (which can include modification or deprescribing) 5. Provide information and safety netting 6. Record, Monitor and review
4.Prescription writing	<p>Safely prescribes (or deprescribes) medicines for a patient whilst considering: application of relevant legislation and ethical decision-making related to prescribing; use of relevant systems and frameworks for medicines use; clinical governance; using tools and techniques to avoid medication errors associated with prescribing</p>
5.Log of 90 hours	<p>Accurately documents learning hours attributable to development as a prescriber in practice.</p>

Timeline for recruitment for 2025/26

Date	Activity	Notes
January 2024-March 2024	Training sites entered into Oriel/NRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MUST:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree to terms of participation – agree that will provide access to DPP and prescribing learning environment• Identify where a rotational site is if a multi-sector rotation is being included• DO NOT NEED TO IDENTIFY:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who the DPP is• Where the prescribing environment is
June 2024-October 2024	Application and Preferencing	Applicants apply to the NRS and create their preferences; a list of sites in which they wish to train
September 2024-October 2024	Assessments	Applicants undertake their recruitment assessment activity
December 2024	Allocation	Employers informed of trainees allocated to their training programmes and begin contacting them
Jul/Aug 2025	Trainee starts	



Next steps



Next Steps

NHS England

- GPhC Accreditation – to take on delegated responsibility
- Publication of:
 - Revised Assessment Strategy
 - Training materials for DPPs and DSs
 - Details of consistent NHSE-funded training offer

Employers/ foundation training sites

- Plan number of foundation training posts
- Develop relationships for multi-sector rotations
 - Supporting access to DPP and prescribing setting
- Develop prescribing services and existing prescribers
- Prepare training sites for submission into Oriel/NRS between Jan-Mar 2024

NHS England Regional Contacts

For advice and information about planning foundation trainee pharmacist places

Region	Foundation Training Lead	Contact email
North West	Stephen Doherty	england.WTEpharmacy.nw@nhs.net
North East Yorkshire and Humber	Alison Sampson	england.WTEpharmacy.ney@nhs.net
Midlands	Sejal Gohil	england.foundationpharmacy.midlands@nhs.net england.WTEpharmacy.mids@nhs.net
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London	Rachel Stretch	england.WTEpharmacy.london@nhs.net



Find out more and get in touch

To receive news by email about the initial education and training of pharmacists, please complete this form: <https://healtheducationyh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/register-for-ietp-updates>

Engage with the Assessment Strategy and E-portfolio: www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/pharmacy/trainee-pharmacist-foundation-year-programme

Bookmark the NRS/Oriel site: www.lasepharmacy.hee.nhs.uk/national-recruitment/

Email address: england.trainee pharmacist@nhs.net