

The Interim Foundation Pharmacist Programme: An opportunity for you to support your provisional registrants

Are you working with, or know someone who is working with, a provisionally registered pharmacist (PRP)? If yes, then please encourage your PRP to sign up to the [Interim Foundation Pharmacist Programme \(IFPP\)](#) – a fully funded programme developed by Health Education England (HEE).

About the IFPP

The IFPP has been developed around the needs of the **2019/20** cohort of pre-registration pharmacists, whose training and registration was disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme is not mandatory.

Resources have been developed and deployed as part of the IFPP to:

- support provisionally registered pharmacists in England transition to full GPhC registration and beyond
- develop foundation pharmacists' ability to achieve high-quality outcomes for patients and improve patient safety
- inform the next stages of pharmacist education, development and career.

Find out more about the programme at the [Health Education England IFPP website](#).

Benefits for employers

The IFPP does not mandate any time out of practice for training, and the learning outcomes can be met within working practice. This is a learner-led programme, where PRPs are expected to manage their individual learning needs.

The IFPP has been designed to integrate with existing in-house foundation training programmes. Those working in small independent or multiple community pharmacies, primary care and Health in Justice, where this training is not in place, should also register for the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) Foundation Pharmacist programme 2020/21. Find out about the [CPPE programme here](#) and download the [leaflet here](#).

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By supporting PRPs to sign-up to the IFPP lends to further evidence that you are supporting them to mitigate any learning and development needs identified during their monthly risk assessments or learning needs analysis in line with [GPhC requirements](#). Finally, this will provide reputational evidence that employers support the development of early years' pharmacists to achieve high-quality outcomes for patients and improve patient safety.

Why should provisionally registered pharmacists sign up?

The IFPP is a flexible programme that helps PRP to focus on their first year of practice via a formative learning and development programme.

By registering for the IFPP, PRPs will have FREE access to a range of resources including:

- The RPS E-portfolio,
- NHS OpenAthens,
- SCRIPT,
- and a library of resources on the NHS Learning Hub.

These excellent resources will support PRPs to revise for the GPhC registration assessment in addition to building their confidence, decision-making, and leadership skills in practice.

Other learning opportunities include peer learning and assessment networking sessions and multi-sectorial communities of practice peer groups.

Action for LPCs and employers before 10 January 2021

If you are working with a PRP, or know anyone who would benefit from this programme, please:

1. Share this information with any interested parties – as an LPC representative, it would be good for you to share this within your networks and any forthcoming LPC meetings to support the future cohort of pharmacists.
2. Encourage PRPs to:
 - a. [Register with the IFPP](#). Registering with the IFPP unlocks access to the RPS E-portfolio, NHS OpenAthens, SCRIPT, and the NHS Learning Hub. Closing date: **10 January 2021**
 - b. Apply to the [CPPE foundation pharmacist training programme](#) where no formal foundation training is in place
 - c. Register for regular updates from the programme team, by emailing fpp@hee.nhs.uk stating 'IFPP updates' in the subject line.

If you have any further questions about anything contained in this letter/email, or about the IFPP, please do not hesitate to contact one of the HEE IFPP team at fpp@hee.nhs.uk.