**Information for pharmacists and those who will be supporting them if they wish to join the programme in February 2023.**

**NES Post-Registration Foundation Programme for Newly Qualified Pharmacists in Scotland**

## **What is the Post Registration Foundation programme?**

The programme builds on the current Foundation Training Year (previously known as Pre-registration Pharmacist Training Scheme (PRPS). It is aimed at pharmacists who are newly qualified in patient-focussed roles to encourage them to develop the knowledge, skills abilities, values, and behaviours to confidently practice in any sector, at a generalist Post-Registration Foundation Level. The training includes an Independent Prescribing course delivered by one of the universities in Scotland. The NES Pharmacy programme has been designed to be in line with the new UK RPS Post-Registration Foundation curriculum.

## **Why should I join the programme?**

Pharmacy services are developing at a rapid pace to keep up with what the people of Scotland need. This means that the skills and confidence Pharmacists need to practice effectively are also changing. Use of the Independent Prescribing qualification will in time be the norm in the profession, and this programme provides a structured route to gaining this. Critically, it also provides a framework to build confidence and competence in all other aspects of your role beyond what is required for registration as a pharmacist.

## **What does the programme involve?**

This is not a taught programme but involves learning in the workplace by identifying aspects of everyday work that meet defined learning outcomes set by the RPS. The programme is specific to Scotland and has been developed in line with the RPS UK wide curriculum and includes if deemed suitable completion of an Independent Prescribing course. The development of evidence is in the form of a learning event that is supervised by another member of the healthcare/ pharmacy team, for upload to the RPS online portfolio. Some things need direct observation by someone, others don’t need observation. The Foundation pharmacists meets monthly with an identified Educational Supervisor, also registered with NES Pharmacy, and undertakes more formal reviews every four months. At approximately twelve months in training a decision is taken as to whether the Foundation pharmacist is ready to apply to start an Independent Prescribing course. To be ready the pharmacist needs to have undertaken the required number of Intermediate Progress Reviews and have completed the Preparing to Prescribe outcomes for Domains 1 and 2 of the programme. To support the pharmacist, NES Pharmacy deliver educational sessions online in the form of webinars, plus provide a lot of information on Turas Learn pages as well as organising peer sessions for the pharmacists to learn together. As part of the programme the pharmacist will also be supported by an Educational Supervisor (mentioned above) and a NES Senior Educator specific to their geographical area. [For more information, have a look at our website and listen to a recording by our Principal Lead for the training programme](https://nes.scot.nhs.uk/our-work/post-registration-foundation-programme-for-newly-qualified-pharmacists-in-scotland-autumn-2021-onwards/).

## **How do I register and what do I do to prepare to start my training?**

If this programme sounds like it is for you, you first need to speak with your employer (or prospective employer from February 2023) to ensure they can support you with an Educational Supervisor from their organisation. Once you have sought agreement, you can register for the programme by [completing this form](https://response.questback.com/nhseducationforscotland/prfpfeb2023). Registration is open from the **1st of December 2022 until 5pm on the 13th of January 2023**. There is limited funding from Community Pharmacy Scotland for those in community practice. Please note that the funding will be allocated on registration so please register early to avoid disappointment.

**If you, your employer, or Educational Supervisor wish any further information please email** **nes.pharmacistfp@nhs.scot** **a member of the Post-Registration Foundation programme team will be happy to answer their questions or organise an online meeting to discuss any aspects of the programme.**