

## [Hosting a Trainee Pharmacist in 25/26 – Information you should know.](#)

- Funding for hosting a trainee pharmacist** – the funding model has now been released – the level of funding for each site employing a foundation trainee pharmacist in the 2025/2026 training year will be £26,500 per foundation trainee pharmacist.  
**The funding will be:**
  - Consistent across all sectors of practice and all regions of England.
  - A contribution to all costs of hosting a trainee, including supervision, administration and salary costs  
**Paying for a rotational placement:**
  - It is intended that a portion of the funding you receive can be used to pay another site to host your foundation training pharmacist on a rotation.  
For example, you could use £1,000 to £1,500 of the funding you receive to pay another site as a placement fee to support supervision during a rotation of up to 13 weeks.
  - If you have arranged a reciprocal multi-sector rotation with another training site (where two trainees are exchanged between training sites), it is intended that you should not need to fund the other site. With this model of reciprocal placements, it is not intended that any funding is 'paid on' to the rotation site.
- Primary Employer** – Hospital and Community sectors are permitted to be the primary employer. We have still not had detail from the GPhC as to whether GP practices can be the primary employer.
- Changes to the Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists** - In the 25/26 training year, the training of trainee pharmacists will be working towards the full list of learning outcomes and incorporate independent prescribing training. This will result in significant changes to the training year – more details here [Initial education and training of pharmacists - reform programme | Health Education England \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#) and below.
- Designated Supervisor (DS) Requirements** - Please see the GPhC handbook on designated supervisors, in a nutshell a DS:
  - Must have been qualified for a minimum of 3 years
  - Must work a minimum of 28 hours over 4 days, if they do not meet this requirement, you may be able to have joint supervisors
  - Can only look after one full time trainee. If you are planning to have cross-sector trainees, you are permitted to be a supervisor for more than one trainee as long as the training does not overlap for more than 13 weeks.
  - Is responsible for reviewing and signing off evidence of learning submitted by the trainee on the e-portfolio.
  - Is responsible for the 13, 26 and 39 week reviews with the trainee pharmacist
  - Is responsible for the final sign-off of the trainee pharmacist against the learning outcomes, including the Prescribing Assessment Activities.

5. **Independent prescribing (IP)** – in the 25/26 training year, most trainee pharmacists will be assessed against the full GPhC learning outcomes which include independent prescribing, enabling them to be annotated as independent prescribers at the point of [GPhC](#) registration. Employers will need to confirm that the trainee will have access to an appropriate prescribing setting. Trainees will need to complete 90 hours of learning in practice, submit Prescribing Assessments Activities to the e-portfolio and be signed-off as a competent prescriber to complete the training year.

There will be some graduates entering the foundation training in 2025/26 who will not have graduated against the new learning outcomes and will not be able to be an independent prescriber at first registration. They will be assessed against the existing interim learning outcomes.

6. **Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP)** – To facilitate the training of trainee pharmacists to become independent prescribers, all trainee pharmacists must have access to a DPP, who will specifically support the prescribing learning in practice.
- The DPP can be the same person as the DS or be a different person who works in conjunction with the DS.
  - The DPP does not have to be based in the primary employment setting of the training site, trainees can undertake training during a cross-sector placement (where the placement provider has capacity) or in another prescribing setting, through an arranged partnership.
  - Unlike designated supervisors, there is no stipulated minimum number of working hours for a DPP and a DPP can supervise multiple trainees.
  - The trainee must complete a minimum of 45 hours of learning in practice time with the DPP – the remaining 45 hours can be delegated to other prescribers and prescribing learning activities.
  - The trainee must have a nominated clinical area in which to complete the Prescribing Assessment Activities and demonstrate prescribing competencies. The nominated clinical area must be an area which the DPP has appropriate experience. The Prescribing Assessment Activities must be confirmed to have been completed to a satisfactory standard by the DPP.
  - NHSE WT&E is creating a role specification for DPPs that will form part of the assessment approach which will be accredited the GPhC. This will use qualitative description of experience rather than quantifying a number of years the DPP is required to have been an IP.
7. **Regional Training** – NHS-E WT&E South West will provide access to consistent, funded training, available to all foundation trainee pharmacists across all sectors.
8. **E-Portfolio** – All trainees must submit evidence collected over the year, demonstrating how they have achieved the learning outcomes on the e-portfolio. All supervisors will have access to the e-portfolio and should routinely mark evidence, providing timely feedback to trainees.
8. **Cross-Sector Training places** – Cross-sector training (defined as a 13 or 26-week rotation in an alternative sector) will not be mandatory for the 25/26 training year. However, it will become mandatory from 2026/27 onwards. I would strongly advise that you start thinking about cross-sector training and establishing partnerships before 26/27.
9. **Oriel** – All employers must now recruit trainee pharmacists through the Oriel / National recruitment scheme - [Oriel - Home](#). No trainees can be recruited outside of Oriel.
- You will need to register on Oriel – I advise doing this before you intend to upload your training places for the year – NHS-E WT&E have a guide to Oriel on their webpage – available here

[Pharmacy Recruitment | Health Education England London & South East Pharmacy \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#) and here [Report template \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#)

- Oriel for employers opens January 2024 and the deadline for submitting training places to Oriel is March 2024 (for 25/26 training year).
  - You will need to provide information on:
    - Region – NHS-E WT&E South West.
    - Sub-Region – to be confirmed.
    - Sector – Somerset (Pharmacy)
    - Training Programme Title – This is usually the employment address (If you are including a cross-sector placement, you should list the Primary employer first followed by secondary employer)
    - Programme Description – You will have an area to provide a description of your training year, this is where you sell you placement to prospective trainees. If you are including a cross-sector element, you should include details about that in this section.
    - The number of placements available at the address
    - Primary employer type – ie. Primary Care, Secondary care
    - Any cross-sector (13weeks+) included in the placement, placement type (community, hospital or PCN/GP) and duration of placement
    - Start date and hours per week trainee is expected to work

For further information please:

- Visit the [NHS-E WT&E Implementing the Foundation Pharmacist Training Year 2025/26 webpage](#)
- See the attached Initial Education and Training of Pharmacists (IETP) Reform: Implementation for 2025/26 slides (updated November 2023).