

Dear Employers,

We are writing this letter on behalf of our provisionally registered members, to ask for your support in ensuring that they are in the best possible position to sit the assessment in March.

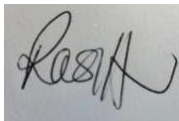
This challenging year has burdened provisional registrants with unprecedented challenges in the face of a global pandemic. Not only was their training changed immeasurably, in many cases to a disadvantage, they are now facing the task of balancing working as a pharmacist alongside revising for the pending registration assessment. By the time the exam takes place they will have been out of pre-reg training for 9 months, meaning that in a lot of cases they will not have had the opportunity to attend courses, mocks, and calculation sessions that they would normally have had access to as a pre-registration pharmacist.

With the progression of the 'second wave' of the pandemic, vaccination programs and seasonal pressures, we fear that the workload on our members who wait to sit the assessment is escalating, putting their study time at risk. In light of this we are urging all employers of provisionally-registered pharmacists to provide access to leave for revision, dedicated study time and any additional support deemed reasonably necessary to ensure they have the best possible chance of qualifying and joining the full register. If employers do not have these facilities themselves, then time should be allowed for provisionally-registered pharmacists to access provisions by external providers. It is imperative for the employer to support provisionally registered pharmacists through their preparation for the final registration examination as the impact of candidate examination failure will create a significant operational challenge for employers.

In the event where a provisional registrant does not pass the assessment on their first attempt, we would encourage you to continue to support them within your organisation, . As failure at the assessment could mean potential financial hardship. Although they may no longer be able to practise as a pharmacist, there are other capacities in which they could be employed.

We urge employers to take the time to have a discussion with their provisionally-registered pharmacists to ensure that their learning needs are met. We are sure you will appreciate that it is in everybody's best interests to ensure our members are prepared to sit the registration assessment so they can continue to practise as pharmacists.

Thank you for continuing to support our provisionally-registered pharmacist members in what has been, and continues to be, an uncertain time for them.



Dr. Roisín O'Hare  
**President, Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists**



Sandra Gidley  
**President, Royal Pharmaceutical Society**



Dr Graham Stretch FRPharmS  
**President, Primary Care Pharmacy  
Association**



Sean Brannen  
**President, British Pharmaceutical Students'  
Association**