



22 April 2021

Dear Pharmacy Student

Update on the Foundation Training Year 2021 in Northern Ireland

Following the joint communication from NICPLD and the Pharmaceutical Society NI (PSNI) that you received on [18th March](#), you will be aware that new standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists have recently been introduced by the PSNI and the General Pharmaceutical Council. From July 2021, the Pre-registration Training Year will become known as the Foundation Training Year (FTY). Most elements of the Pre-registration Training Year will be carried into the 2021 FTY with some new elements introduced. However, full implementation of the new standards will be phased in over several years.

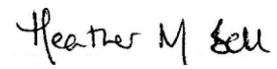
A key difference from July 2021 is that NICPLD will be responsible for the delivery of all aspects of the FTY, including monitoring the progress of training. You will be aware that PSNI are currently undertaking the application process for the FTY and that the closing date for submission of [application forms](#) is **Friday 7th May 2021**. After this process, NICPLD will be the main point of contact for you, your Educational supervisor (Tutor) and your employer. NICPLD are developing a new FTY hub, accessible to both Foundation trainees and Educational Supervisors, in which all resources associated with the programme can be found. The hub will also enable the appraisal process. NICPLD's programme will continue to support you to prepare for the Common Registration Assessment.

In June, NICPLD will host a Q&A session for those commencing their FTY in Summer 2021. This webinar session will provide an overview of the programme and give you an opportunity to ask any questions relating to the FTY. There will also be a formal induction session for the FTY at the start of your 12-month learning in practice experience. In addition, the hub will contain a wide variety of support material including a FTY manual, videos, recording templates and many more resources to support you in evidencing your developing competence throughout the year.

Details relating to the Q&A webinar will be posted on our social media pages (Facebook - @NICPLD and Twitter - @NICPLD1) and I would therefore encourage you to follow these pages and look out for the webinar details.

In the meantime, I wish you well with your final exams and look forward to welcoming you onto the FTY programme over the summer months.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather M Bell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'H' and a distinct 'Bell' at the end.

Dr Heather Bell
Associate Postgraduate Pharmacy Dean
NICPLD