

Dear Colleague

Foundation Training Year (FTY) in Scotland 2025-26

As communicated previously the FTY national recruitment scheme (NRS) for the 2025-26 training year has now concluded with all 220 Scottish Government (SG) funded FTY posts filled.

Previously within Scotland, employers could directly identify and employ trainee pharmacists into non-SG funded FTY posts, however this process no longer meets the criteria stipulated in the GPhC IET Standard for selection and admission and is therefore no longer a route of entry into Foundation training from the 2025-26 training year.

NES Pharmacy, along with our key stakeholders including the Directors of Pharmacy and Community Pharmacy Scotland have explored the possibility of an alternative process for employers to offer FTY posts in Scotland utilising their own funding, which meets the GPhC IET standards, however this has been unsuccessful. We can therefore now confirm that an alternative process will **not** be possible.

Any candidates who have not secured one of the funded FTY posts have the following options available to them:

1. Explore opportunities in the NHS England (NHSE) Foundation Training scheme through their trainee anomaly process. This process is open to those who completed the NRS in current or previous rounds in addition to those who have not applied. The NHSE pharmacy national recruitment team can be contacted here - [Submit a ticket : PGMDE Support Portal](#). Once a ticket is logged the PNRO will issue further instructions about the process.
2. Reapply to the National Recruitment Scheme in 2025 for the FTY in 2026-27. The assessment will need to be undertaken again during that cycle so that candidates can be ranked alongside all others applying for that vacancy.

We appreciate this news may be disappointing. If anyone has any questions we can assist with please get in touch with us at nes.ftypharmacy@nhs.scot