

Six Month Placement Guidance

It may be helpful for you to show this guidance to any pharmacist who is considering employing or supervising you for your six month work placement.

Why am I required to complete a Six Month Placement?

As detailed in the Registration Assessment Regulations, a further six month period of supervised employment in a patient facing establishment must be completed, **before** being eligible to sit the registration assessment, in the following circumstances:

- If a candidate has failed the registration assessment on two occasions
- If a period of more than 18 months has elapsed between the first and second assessment attempt
- If a period of more than 18 months has elapsed since completion of initial training
- If a period of more than 12 months has elapsed since completing a six month period of supervised employment

The placement will enable you to maintain and enhance your competence in the pharmacy environment with the opportunity to focus in particular on syllabus areas where you performed less well in your previous attempts at the assessment.

Six month placement requirements

We do not dictate a minimum weekly time commitment for the placement but you should reflect on your own needs and ensure that you are fully up to date with current pharmacy knowledge to provide you with the best chance at passing the registration assessment.

When looking for a six month placement you must meet the following requirements:

- The placement must be in an NHS hospital pharmacy or in a community pharmacy with an NHS contract. However, the placement **is not** required to be an approved pre-registration training establishment with a pre-registration tutor.
- The address of your proposed placement and the name of the supervising pharmacist must be notified to us **before you plan to start the period of employment**, using the enclosed 'Notification of six month work placement' form. This is so that the GPhC can assess the suitability of both.

Please note: It is very important to comply with this requirement of notifying us beforehand because your entry to the assessment might be adversely affected if you do not.

If we do not receive notification of your proposed period before you start the employment, any time worked prior to receipt of the notification **will not** count as part of the required six months placement. That is, the placement (if approved) will be taken as having started from the day we were notified.

- In order for you to be eligible to sit the assessment again, at the end of your placement the supervising pharmacist will need to sign a declaration confirming the dates you have worked and that they do not know of any reason that would prevent your registration as a pharmacist. You will need to submit the completed declaration with your assessment entry application. The declaration form will be sent directly to your supervising pharmacist when your placement has been approved.

The wording of the declaration is as follows:

I declare that I know of nothing to raise under 7.11 of the Standards of Conduct, Ethics and Performance relating to the actions, professional performance or health of this individual that would prevent registration of the trainee as a pharmacist.

Where can I complete my six-month placement?

- The General Pharmaceutical Council strongly advises you to undertake your six-month period of work in a different establishment from where you undertook your pre-registration training. Your preparation for a final attempt at the registration assessment may be enhanced by the different experience this would provide.
- If you plan to work in a community pharmacy where there will also be a pre-registration trainee, you will only be able to do so if there is a pharmacist other than the pre-registration tutor working full time at the premises who can be your supervising pharmacist who does not need to be a pre-registration tutor.

Six month placement training cut-off dates

In order to be eligible for the assessment you must have completed your six month placement by the deadline for receipt of entries.

To be eligible for the assessments held in 2016 you must abide by the below dates:

- To be eligible for the **June 2016 sitting** you must have started training and notified us by **Friday 13 November 2015**
- To be eligible for the **September 2016 sitting** you must have started training and notified us by **Friday 12 February 2016**

These conditions must be adhered to or your eligibility to sit the assessment might be jeopardised.

Where do I send my notification form?

Please send your notification form to the below address:

**Six Month Placements
Customer Services Team
General Pharmaceutical Council
25 Canada Square
London
E14 5LQ**

Once we have received your notification form we will send an acknowledgement of receipt to you. If you do not receive this acknowledgement within ten working days of posting your notification to us, you should contact the Registration Assessment Customer Services Team to check that it has been received via email at info@pharmacyregulation.org

Notification of Six Month Placement

General
Pharmaceutical
Council

This form is to be completed by the prospective supervising pharmacist of a pre-registration trainee who has already completed 52 weeks of pre-registration training, resulting in a signed final declaration, and is now required to undertake a further six-month period of employment in a pharmacy prior to sitting the Registration Assessment in accordance with 1.22 of the **Registration Assessment Regulations**

Full name of trainee: _____

Preregistration trainee number: _____

Name of Supervising Pharmacist: _____

GPhC registration number: _____

I confirm that I will be acting as Supervising Pharmacist for the above named trainee, at the following premises (*please give full name and address of pharmacy incl. postcode & GPhC Pharmacy ID*):

The trainee's period of work experience will commence on _____

and finish on _____ (insert dates)

I am aware that I will be required to complete a declaration at the end of the 6 month period confirming completion of this placement to enable the trainee to attempt the registration assessment. As detailed in 7.11 of the Standards of Conduct, Ethics and Performance I will also inform the GPhC if I consider at the end of the placement that the actions, professional performance or health of this individual may affect patient care or public safety.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

To the trainee

Please ensure that you submit this form **in advance of the date you wish to start** your placement, so that we can confirm its suitability with the Registrar. We cannot recognise any time you may have worked before we received the form. Your application should be posted by a traceable method (e.g., recorded delivery).