



Directorate of Integrated Care
Health & Social Care Board
South Eastern Office,
12-22 Linenhall Street,
BELFAST
BT2 8BS

To: All Community Pharmacists

Tel: 028 9536 3926
Fax: 028 9536 3126

Web Site: www.hscboard.hscni.net

4th July 2018

Dear Colleague,

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR FUNDING FOR A STUDENT PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

The purpose of this letter is to invite pharmacy contractors to make an expression of interest to apply for funding for a student pharmacy technician commencing September 2018 and ending in June 2020.

Background information

HSCB recognises the vital role that community pharmacies play in relation to delivering health improvement services to their local communities and wishes to explore ways to further increase this capacity.

HSCB has secured funding of £20,000 per year (pro rata) per LCG area to support recruitment of student pharmacy technicians for a time period commencing September 2018 and ending in June 2020. The overall aim of this initiative is to increase capacity within the designated pharmacies to deliver health improvement services.

HSCB therefore wish to award funding for one student pharmacy technician in one community pharmacy per LCG area from September 2018 until June 2020.

Application

Pharmacy contractors interested in applying for this funding should complete and return the enclosed form (**Appendix 1**) by:

12 Noon on Tuesday 24th July 2018

Forms received after this date and time will not be accepted.

Selection process

In order to apply for this funding, contractors must consider how they meet the following criteria. Please note that the course format and requirements will vary between providers. Therefore it would be beneficial to make direct contact with potential providers to clarify these arrangements and whether there are places available.

	Criterion
1	Commitment to Health Improvement in the past two years
2	Commitment to Community Development in the past two years
3	Innovation in Medicines Management in the past two years
4	Commitment to securing the relevant staff member and appropriate GPhC approved training course placement
5	Have a plan in place as to how this funding will be used in order to improve the delivery of Health Improvement services in the pharmacy

Recognising that there may be more than one pharmacy contractor in each LCG area applying to access the funding for a student pharmacy technician, the process that will be used by HSCB to select the community pharmacy contractor provider is detailed below.

1. Application form (see Appendix 1)

Pharmacy contractors interested in applying for funding should complete and return the enclosed application form by 12 Noon on Tuesday 24th July 2018.

2. Assessment of achievement against specified criteria

An adjudication panel will assess the applications based on the pharmacy contractor's responses to the criteria as outlined above.

3. Follow-up

Successful contractors will be expected to enrol the staff member on an approved pharmacy technician course. Please note that any course fees incurred will have to be paid from the funding allocation.

Pharmacy technician training involves completing both knowledge and a competency-based qualification. This can be achieved by undertaking one of the GPhC-accredited courses or GPhC-recognised qualifications. For information, see link below:

<https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/education/pharmacy-technician/accredited-courses>

The contractor will also be expected to provide regular updates to HSCB in relation to the desired outcomes i.e. how delivery of Health Improvement services has improved.

If you have any queries, please contact Katie Blair Katie.blair@hscni.net or Helen Creighton, Pharmaceutical Services Co-ordinator by email at helen.creighton@hscni.net

Yours sincerely



Joe Brogan
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management

**Appendix 1
Student Pharmacy Technician
Application Form 2018**

Pharmacy name	
Contractor number	
Pharmacy premises address	
Name of Pharmacist(s) responsible for the service	
Email address	
Telephone number	
Address for correspondence (if different from above)	
<p style="text-align: center;">1. Commitment to Health Improvement</p> <p><i>Please describe how the pharmacy has demonstrated commitment to Health Improvement over the past two years.</i></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">2. Commitment to Community Development</p> <p><i>Please describe what community development initiatives the pharmacy has been involved with in the past two years.</i></p>	

3. Innovation in Medicines Management

Please describe any innovative medicines management services the pharmacy has been involved with in the past two years.

4. Commitment to securing the relevant staff member and appropriate GPhC approved training course placement

Please describe how the appropriate staff member will be recruited and which course they will complete.

5. Plan in place as to how this funding will be used in order to improve the delivery of Health Improvement services in the pharmacy

Please describe the pharmacy's plan to utilise this funding in order to improve capacity to deliver health improvement services.

Additional Information

Please provide any additional information to support your application in the space below.

Completed application form to be returned to:

Louise Knocker
Health & Social Care Board
12-22 Linenhall Street
Belfast
BT2 8BS

louise.knocker@hscni.net

Tel: 028 9536 3228

APPLICATION FORM TO BE RETURNED BY

12:00 Noon on Tuesday 24th July 2018
Application forms received after this date and time will
not be accepted.