A New Model of Pharmacy Education

APPEL Programme – 4th Year Placements in Industry & Role Emerging Practice (REP)

*REPs can be defined as placements in pharmacy practice settings outside the traditional fields of community, hospital and industry practice.
A New Model of Pharmacy Education

A new model of pharmacy education was introduced in September 2015. Pharmacy students now undertake a fully integrated programme which includes placements in a breadth of practice settings throughout the five years of their education. The Schools of Pharmacy are committed to developing graduates that are prepared for careers in the pharmaceutical, medical device, regulatory, education, professional development and other sectors. These graduates will provide a unique clinical, regulatory, professional and scientific skill-set to help meet the needs of these sectors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Year</td>
<td>2 weeks (or equivalent)</td>
<td>Patient Facing setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Year</td>
<td>4 month placement (Sept – Dec)</td>
<td>All pharmacy practice settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Year</td>
<td>8 month placement (Jan – Aug)</td>
<td>Patient Facing setting</td>
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</tbody>
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What is APPEL?

APPEL (Affiliation for Pharmacy Practice Experiential Learning) is a unique collaboration between University College Cork (UCC), the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and Trinity College Dublin (TCD).

It was established to manage, centralise and streamline the experiential learning placements of the three Schools of Pharmacy in Ireland.

APPEL offers placement providers a single point of contact and a source of expertise in relation to pharmacy placements.
Industry & Role Emerging Practice (REP) Placements

During fourth year, students can be placed in all pharmacy practice placement settings. This will include the pharmaceutical industry, regulation, education and other settings.

Why do Organisations Engage with the New Programme?

Placement providers have a unique opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of their organisations in the Schools of Pharmacy, among pharmacy students and throughout the pharmacy profession. Organisations wishing to develop their talent pipeline can use this opportunity to engage with future Pharmacy graduates.

This programme offers a wonderful opportunity for placement providers to engage with talented and highly motivated students and inspire them to consider a career in their organisation.

Engagement with APPEL will help to support the development of relationships and potential research collaboration opportunities with the Schools of Pharmacy in each of the Higher Education Institutions.

How are the New Placements Structured?

Industry and Role Emerging Practice (REP) Placements take place from September to December each year, with the first of these placements commencing in September 2018. Placements are of a “university character” and attendance timetables will be provided to students and placement providers in advance of the placements. Students will attend placements for approximately 30 hours per week and will also have dedicated time for both directed and self-directed learning.

Students complete three modules, co-developed by their Schools of Pharmacy, during their fourth year placement:

- Organisation and Management Skills
- Professional Skills Development
- Professional Practice

More specifically, these modules will support students to develop competencies relating to self-management, workplace management, human resources, financial management, quality assurance, leadership, change management, critical thinking, decision making, team-working, communication and legal and ethical issues.

This is achieved through academic activities and resources supplied by APPEL and the opportunity to practise the competencies with mentorship and guidance from their placement provider.
How do Training Establishments Plan for Placements?

Placement providers will present students with experiential activities to complete during their placement. These activities will vary greatly depending on the placement organisation and could include a project, experience in multiple departments, etc. These activities will support students to develop the competencies outlined.

A pharmacist should be available within the organisation to guide the student during their placement i.e. to act as a preceptor. However, students can be supervised by a non-pharmacist supervisor on a day-to-day basis. Preceptor training will be provided by APPEL in advance of the placements.

Training establishments are encouraged to develop a description of the activities that would be experienced by students on placement in their organisation. This offers the training establishment an opportunity to showcase the roles available in their organisation. Students will be provided with the option to consider these descriptions when being matched to a placement.

Are you interested in taking on a student?

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