

A New Model of Pharmacy Education

APPEL Programme – Community / Hospital Pharmacy Placements



Is comhcheangal é APPEL idir Scoileanna Cógaisíochta UCC, RCSI agus TCD APPEL is an affiliation between the schools of Pharmacy of UCC, RCSI and TCD







Trinity College Dublin Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath The University of Dublin

A New Model of Pharmacy Education

A new model of pharmacy education was introduced in September 2015. Pharmacy graduates now undertake a fully integrated programme which includes placements in a breadth of practice settings throughout the five years of their education.

This early practical and dispersed experience helps students to contextualise the theory they learn in their School of Pharmacy. Experiential learning throughout the integrated pharmacy programme provides students with the skills necessary to meet the demands of the future healthcare environment. Practice placements in community and hospital pharmacy will support students to develop the clinical skills and behaviours required to provide optimal patient care in accordance with evolving pharmacy practice.



Student Placement

Placement	Duration	Setting
2 nd Year	2 weeks (or equivalent)	Community / Hospital pharmacy setting
4 th Year	4 month placement (Sept – Dec)	All pharmacy practice settings
5 th Year	8 month placement (Jan – Aug)	Community / Hospital pharmacy setting

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.





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Community / Hospital Pharmacy Placements

What is the New Programme?

Students undertake practice placements in a variety of settings throughout the five years of this new programme. This includes placements in community and hospital pharmacies during Second, Fourth and Fifth Year.



What Opportunities does the New Programme provide to Pharmacists?

Training a student offers excellent CPD opportunities, including learning through teaching, peernetworking at APPEL events, learning from students, and developing Core Competencies including leadership skills and human resources management skills.

In 2017, **84%** of our supervisors agreed that supervising a student contributed to their CPD and **88%** found it a rewarding and enjoyable experience. Our supervisors told us:

"It was hugely rewarding" "It made me think more deeply about clinical issues and by talking through / explaining such issues in detail it got me back to quite specific pharmacology which I hadn't thought about for a while!!" "Sharing and imparting knowledge gives a different type of work satisfaction. Useful for CPD!!"

Placement providers have a unique opportunity to increase awareness of their organisations in the Schools of Pharmacy and among pharmacy graduates. This programme enables placement providers to engage with talented and highly motivated students and inspire them to consider a career in their organisation or practice setting.



How are the New Placements Structured?

Placements are of a "university character" and attendance timetables will be provided to students and placement providers in advance of the placements.

Second Year placement dates vary between the three Schools of Pharmacy:

- UCC 2 weeks (Monday-Friday) in January
- TCD 2 weeks (Monday-Friday) in February
- RCSI Tuesday afternoons January April

Fourth Year placements take place from September to December each year, the first of these placements started in 2018.

Fifth Year placements take place annually from January to August, with the first of these placements commencing in 2020.

Students will attend Fourth and Fifth Year placements for approximately 30 hours per week and will also have dedicated time for both directed and self-directed learning.



How do Pharmacies and Hospital Pharmacy Depts. Plan for Placements?

A pharmacist within a community or hospital pharmacy will guide the student during their placement. Training will be provided by APPEL in advance of the placements and this will lead to the recognition of pharmacists as APPEL Supervisors (Second Year), APPEL Preceptors (Fourth Year) and APPEL Senior-Preceptors (Fifth Year).

Students will be provided with learning activities to complete during their placements, which will be assessed by their School of Pharmacy. Pharmacies will present students with experiential activities to complete during their placement, which should support students and develop their competence in line with the Core Competency Framework for Pharmacists.

For the Fourth and Fifth Year placements, pharmacies are encouraged to develop a description of the placement experiences that will be provided to students in their pharmacy. Students will be provided with the opportunity to consider these descriptions when being matched to a placement.

Are you interested in taking on a student?

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