

# Designated Supervisor Requirements for the 2025/26 Foundation Training Programme

This document supplements the information provided in the [National Foundation Trainee Pharmacist Recruitment Scheme Terms of Participation](#).

In the 2025/26 Foundation Training Year, NHS England will be taking on the responsibility for Quality Management of the Foundation Training Programme for all foundation trainee pharmacists in England. This will include assuring the quality of supervision.

Working with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), NHS England has developed the following principles for Designated Supervisor provision that will be used from the 2025/26 training year. These principles are designed to support quality of education and ensure patient safety.

- All trainees must have a clear supervision plan that meets the quality requirements of the foundation training year. There must always be appropriate clinical/practice supervision in place to ensure that the trainee is working safely.
- A Designated Supervisor may supervise more than one trainee pharmacist (previously only permitted to supervise one trainee pharmacist).
- There will no longer be the requirement for a Designated Supervisor to have a minimum of 28 hours over four days with the trainee pharmacist.
- The planned approach for Designated Supervisor provision must be supported by a clear job planning approach, to ensure that the supervisor has sufficient time allocated to be able to meet the requirements of supervision and assessment of the number of trainee pharmacists they are supervising. This must be described within the training plan, which will be submitted to NHS England.
- Where the trainee pharmacist has a multi-sector rotation (of 13 weeks or more) into another organisation, there must be another named Designated Supervisor at the rotational site, or a Designated Prescribing Practitioner. The named supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that appropriate clinical/practice supervision is in place at all times, to ensure that the trainee is working safely.
- The Person Specification requirements for Designated Supervisor and Designated Prescribing Practitioner are set out in the [Prescribing Assessment Supervision Guide](#) on the [IETP 25/26 site](#).