

COVID-19 Joint Shared Temporary Register for Healthcare Science Practitioners

At this unprecedented time and in keeping with developments in the statutory regulation of healthcare professions the Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS), the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine (IPEM) and the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP) have been working together to establish a Shared Temporary Register (STR) for healthcare science practitioners. The STR is open to final year healthcare science students across the four home countries that meet the criteria set out below and allows them to practice as registered professionals within the healthcare science workforce. This supports the public health response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic.

Joining the Shared Temporary Register is voluntary and there is no fee to do so.

Duration of the Shared Temporary Register

The STR is for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency and AHCS, IPEM and RCCP will make a joint decision about when it is appropriate to close the STR, in light of advice from the administrations in the four home countries and any decision to close the temporary registers held by statutory regulators.

A registrant can ask for their name to be removed from the STR at any time by emailing registration@ahcs.ac.uk

Appearance of a student's name on the STR does not place any obligations on them to go into practice.

Criteria for entry onto the STR

Final year students on NSHCS accredited Practitioner Training Programmes in England, Northern Ireland and Wales will require:

1. successful completion of all second year academic BSc assessments to provide assurance of an adequate underpinning knowledge
2. successful completion of at least 80% of final year work-based learning outcomes
3. confirmation from the higher education institution or work-based training supervisor that the student is clinically competent and has the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours to go onto the STR.

Final year students on healthcare science apprenticeship degree programmes will require:

1. successful completion of all second year (or third year programme if delivered over four years) academic BSc assessments to provide an adequate underpinning knowledge
2. successful completion of at least 80% of all work-based learning outcomes
3. confirmation from the workplace mentor or supervisor that the student is clinically competent and has the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours to go onto the temporary register.

Final year students on IPEM accredited programmes, not within the NSHCS, remit will require:

1. successful completion of at least 12 of 24 months training
2. successful completion of at least 50% of all work-based competencies
3. joint confirmation from the appointed supervisor and IPEM moderator that the trainee is clinically competent and has the necessary knowledge, skill and behaviour to go onto the temporary register.

Final year students on RCCP accredited programmes, not within NSHCS remit, will require:

1. successful completion of 80% of all academic assessments
2. successful completion of final placement
3. confirmation from the HEI provider or work-based training supervisor that the student is clinically competent and has the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours to go onto the temporary register.

Final year students on Higher Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW) commissioned programmes are on NSHCS accredited PTP programmes and as such will be required to meet the PTP set of criteria given above.

Final year students on NHS Education for Scotland commissioned programmes, will require:

1. successful completion of all second year academic BSc assessments to provide assurance of an adequate underpinning knowledge
2. successful completion of at least 80% of final year work-based learning outcomes
3. confirmation from the HEI provider or work-based training supervisor that the student is clinically competent and has the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours to go onto the temporary register.

Final year students on NHS Education for Scotland recognised practitioner training programmes, will require:

1. have a structured training plan in place and lodged with NES
2. be within the last six months of their training plan, i.e. must be close to completion
3. successfully completed NES-monitored Annual Review of Progression of training for the last two years
4. support from their supervisor including:
 - confirmation of the trainee's competence to practise in the current context
 - assurance of the appropriate supervision, training and induction for tasks that may be unfamiliar to the trainee.

Getting on the STR

For eligible students on **NSHCS accredited Practitioner Training Programmes and apprenticeship degree programmes**: the AHCS will work with NSHCS and through them with relevant HEIs, to identify and gather details from the eligible students.

For eligible students on **IPEM accredited programmes** that are not within the NSHCS remit: IPEM will contact relevant final year students on IPEM accredited programmes and provide relevant details to AHCS for inclusion on the STR.

For eligible students on **RCCP accredited programmes** that are not within the NSHCS remit: RCCP will contact its education providers and provide relevant details to the AHCS for inclusion on the STR.

For eligible students on **HEIW commissioned**: as these are PTP programmes, the AHCS will work with NSHCS and through them with relevant HEIs, to identify and gather details from the eligible students and will keep HEIW informed.

For eligible students on **NES commissioned and NES recognised programmes**: the AHCS will work with NES and through them with the relevant HEI or training provider to identify and gather details from the eligible students.

Co-ordination of the STR

The AHCS will co-ordinate the Shared Temporary Register for all three organisation and all the data on the Shared Temporary Register will be accessible to partners. Data received will be automatically uploaded onto the STR, registrant will not have to apply for registration.

IPEM and RCCP will forward student details to the Academy who will upload the name, town and speciality of the student onto the Shared Temporary Register.

The data held on the Shared Temporary Register will be shared across all three organisations, for the purposes of the Temporary Register only.

Fitness to practise

Fitness to Practise concerns for those on the STR will be administered by AHCS, with input from RCCP and IPEM.

If a concern is raised about a registrant's practise or behaviour, it will always be considered on the specific facts of the case, taking into account the factors relevant to the environment in which the professional is working.

Appendix 1

The student data to be collected for the purposes of the Shared Temporary Register are:

First name
Surname
Address line 1
Address line 2
Town, Postcode
Phone Number
Email address
Higher Education Institution
Programme title.

The Shared Temporary Register will show the following information:

Student name (first name and surname)
Programme of study
Town
Specialty

This approach follows that used by Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) for its statutory Temporary Register.

All parties will have equal ownership and access rights to the data in keeping with the principle of this joint venture and for the COVID-19 specified time-limited period only.