

Access NHSE Community Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Programme 2025 – Buttercups Training Guidance for Employers

NHS England is offering a financial training contribution of **£15,053** per pre-registration pharmacy technician (PTPT), per year for two years, as part of their Community Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Programme. This needs to be new pre-registration pharmacy technicians who are not already in training (limited to two-posts per contractor, per NHS England region). To access this funding, employers will need to complete and submit an initial expression of interest (EoI) by **Sunday 15th June**.

As part of this EoI submission, NHS England are asking employers to evidence how they will develop an employer-led, work-based training programme which meets the [GPhC's initial education and training \(IET\) standards for pharmacy technicians](#) and the [NHS England Education Quality Framework](#). This workplace training plan needs to be in addition to the PTTP apprenticeship programme delivered by Buttercups.

The workplace training plan must include operational and patient-facing experiences that cover the GPhC IET standards, and ultimately detail all training delivered in the workplace, who is delivering the training and when. The full requirements of the workplace training plan are outlined in the [NHS England's 'Guidance for contractors'](#).

Expression of Interest (EoI)

The Buttercups team are well-versed in NHS funding applications, including our comprehensive support of the 2024 Community Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship Programme. To support the successful submission of your EoI to access this funding, we have once again utilised both our knowledge of NHS funding streams and close working relationship with NHS England to compile the following guidance and recommendations for you to consider when completing Sections 2 and 3 of the EoI.

In addition to the guidance provided for contractors, our understanding is that NHS England are looking for submissions which:

- Explain how workplace training delivered by the employer will **supplement and build** upon the apprenticeship programme of training delivered by Buttercups
- Evidence how this training will be utilised to support the development of the learner
- Outline the **enhanced services** that PTPTs can and will ultimately be involved in as part of, and because of, their workplace training
- Explore how training pharmacy technicians will support the delivery of patient care and the development of the wider pharmacy workforce
- Are **bespoke** to your organisation, and evidence how your own organisational expertise and unique makeup will support the development of pharmacy technicians

Our understanding is that submissions from employers where the workplace training plan mimics or is a repetition of the provider's apprenticeship training plan will achieve low scores at review by NHS England.

We therefore encourage employers to think carefully and critically about how their workplace training plan can build upon and enhance both the knowledge-based and practical competencies delivered through the apprenticeship.

Please note that the contractor needs to write and submit the final EoI. However, we hope that the accompanying guidance, insight and information regarding our apprenticeship programme provided helps to inform your development of a successful EoI submission and subsequent workplace training plan. Good luck with your application!