



2025/2026 Expression of Interest

Guidance for Organisations

1. Background

NHS England's Workforce, Training and Education Directorate is committed to supporting and expanding the national Teach and Treat programme into 2025/26, building on the success of the initial pilot in the South West (2022) and the achievements of the national rollout in 2024/25.

This expansion is part of a broader strategic investment in prescriber infrastructure within community pharmacy, delivered through:

- The national independent prescriber training offer
- The reformed foundation training programme
- The continued development of the *Teach and Treat* model

NHS England is investing in the future of community pharmacy by increasing the number of independent prescribers and developing the next generation of Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs), strengthening clinical capacity and leadership across the sector.

2. What is the offer

The aim of the Teach and Treat programme is to enable community pharmacists to train as independent prescribers in supervised clinical environments, working alongside locally identified multiprofessional DPPs. This approach ensures high-quality, hands-on learning that is embedded within real-world practice and aligned with local service needs.

Individual organisations or collaborations of organisations across each NHS England region are invited to submit expressions of interest for funding of up to £100,000. Proposals should be based on an amount which demonstrates clear delivery plans aligned to the objectives of the programme.

Please note that collaborative bids must identify a lead organisation, which will be responsible for receiving payments and maintaining project governance.

Following assessment, there may be scope to offer additional funding up to 20% to successful applicants to further strengthen delivery and the evidence base. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis and is not guaranteed.

This funding is intended to:

- Facilitate access to supervision
- Enable completion of Independent Prescribing (IP) training
- Support progression into active prescribing roles

While funding may contribute to supervision-related costs, the aim is to support the development of sustainable supervision models rather than solely covering Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) support. Applicants should consider how their proposals will build long-term capacity and infrastructure for supervision.

Note:

Successful bids are subject to NHS England Business Case Approval

3. Requirements and Eligibility for Organisations

Minimum Requirements

To be eligible, the lead bidding organisation must:

- Hold or have access to a clinical environment where NHS prescribing activity takes place with a suitable scope of practice for identified community pharmacist prescribers.
- Have access to, or be able to source, Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs) to support pharmacists through an IP course.
- Commit to enrolling eligible community pharmacists onto an IP course by 31 March 2026.
- Identify a Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) and appoint a Project Lead.

Note:

If your organisation does not currently meet the minimum requirements but is interested in developing prescriber and supervision capacity, we encourage you to explore our website for current offers and resources that can support your preparation for future opportunities.

4. Requirements for Project Management

Project Leadership Requirements

Each project must identify:

- A Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) – accountable for overall governance
- A Project Lead – responsible for day-to-day delivery and coordination

These roles may be held by the same individual or delegated appropriately.

Minimum Requirements for the Project Lead

The Teach and Treat Project Lead must:

- Be employed by an organisation that provides NHS services to patients
- Be registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) or another recognised healthcare regulatory body
- Be a qualified non-medical prescriber (e.g. pharmacist IP, GP, or secondary care consultant), or have in-depth knowledge of the IP accreditation process
- Be an active prescriber or understand how the qualification supports patient care
- Ensure access to a suitable prescribing environment with supervision from a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP)
- Have the confidence and ability to engage local community pharmacists who meet IP course eligibility
- Hold a supervision qualification or have equivalent training/experience
- Demonstrate a strong interest in education and training, with a clear commitment to developing the future pharmacy workforce

5. Application Process Overview

Important

Your application will not be considered if you answer “No” to any of the minimum requirements for either:

- a. the hosting organisation, or
- b. project management,

Submission Method

- Applications must be submitted using the official [Expression of Interest \(Eol\) form](#).
- Each application will be assessed against a defined set of evaluation criteria to determine eligibility and funding allocation.

Evaluation Period

- During the review process, panel members may contact the designated lead applicant for clarification.
- Prompt responses to any queries are essential to avoid delays.

Timeline Guidance

- Ensure you review the application deadline and leave time for any clarifications requested during the evaluation period.
- If contacted by a panel member, respond promptly and with the requested information to avoid delays.

Eol Submission Checklist for Organisations Strategic Planning

- Clear project plan with milestones, timelines, and cost estimates. With commitment to enrolling eligible community pharmacists onto an IP course by 31 March 2026

- Defined Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant (SMART) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure impact and value
- Strategy for clinical supervision, including access to DPPs
- Plan for leadership development and long-term sustainability

Infrastructure & Delivery

- Outline of local infrastructure to support project delivery
- Identification of a suitable clinical setting with a prescribing mandate
- Confirmation of prescribing environment for pharmacist training
- Named project lead with organisational sign-off

Collaboration & Inclusion

- Engagement with community pharmacists eligible for IP training
- Option for individual or collaborative bids across organisations
- Commitment to Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) with actionable steps
- Plans to address health inequalities, aligned with local population needs

Evaluation & Impact

- Framework for evaluation and benefit measurement
- Evidence of long-term impact and workforce transformation
- Readiness to respond to clarification requests during evaluation

Administrative Readiness

- Completed expression of interest form submission
- Reviewed application deadline and timeline guidance
- Contact details for lead applicant available and responsive

Drop In Sessions

To support the launch of the Teach and Treat Programme 2025/26, we will be hosting two types of informal online sessions:

- Programme Overview Drop-ins – covering what the programme offers, who can apply, and how to submit an Expression of Interest via Jisc.
- Case Study Showcases – featuring regional colleagues who will share how they implemented Teach and Treat locally, including outcomes and lessons learned.

Session	Date	MS Teams Link
Drop-in Session (both sessions cover the same content)	1 September 12:30-13.15	Join the meeting now
	3 September 19:00-19:45	Join the meeting now
Case study sessions all 13:00 (45-minute sessions)	2 September	Join the meeting now
	4 September	Join the meeting now
	8 September	Join the meeting now

These sessions offer a valuable opportunity to learn more about the programme, explore how it could be implemented in your area, and consider how your organisation can contribute to building sustainable prescribing practice in community pharmacy.

Contact Details

For any queries, please email the NHS England Workforce Training and Education pharmacy team

england.pharmacyteam@nhs.net

Appendix 1: Application Question Template

Eol Question	Response
Minimum Requirements ** <i>Your application will not be considered if you answer “No” to any of the minimum requirements</i>	
Do you hold or have access to a clinical environment where NHS prescribing activity takes place with a suitable scope of practice for identified community pharmacist prescribers	Yes / No
Do you have access to, or be able to source, Designated Prescribing Practitioners (DPPs) to support pharmacists through an IP course	Yes / No
Commit to enrolling eligible community pharmacists identified through the project onto an accredited NHS England Independent Prescribing (IP) course by March 31, 2026.	Yes / No
Are you able to identify a Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) and project lead	Yes / No
Employer Details If completing this form as part of a multi-organisation bid, please provide the other organisation details in the free text section at the bottom.	
Which NHS region are you applying from	Drop down list
Name of organisation completing the bid	Free text
Name of lead organisation if making a collaborative bid	Free text
Type of organisation	Drop down list

Name of organisation for Senior Responsible Officer (SRO)	Free text
SRO organisation's address	Free text
SRO Job role	Free text
SRO Forename	Free text
SRO Surname	Free text
SRO email	Free text
Is the Project Lead different to the SRO? If yes, please provide information for project lead below	Yes/No
Project Lead Job Role	Free text
Project Lead forename	Free text
Project Lead Surname	Free text
Project Lead email	Free text
If undertaking a multi-organisation partnership please include additional employer details below (name, type of organisation and contact details)	Free text

<p>Please indicate the amount of funding you are applying for, up to £100,000. This should be based on your proposed delivery plan and aligned to the objectives of the programme.</p> <p><i>Specify the total amount to be requested and provide a rationale. Please keep in mind throughout this application that we are looking for evidence to justify the intervention.</i></p>	<p>Free text</p>
<p>Demonstration of project overview</p>	
<p>Confirm you will be able to enrol pharmacists onto an NHS England approved independent prescribing course by March 2026</p>	<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>Confirm you will provide updates and attend project monitoring meetings with NHS England</p>	<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>Confirm you will provide an executive summary/evaluation report at close of project</p>	<p>Yes / No</p>
<p>Supporting Information</p>	
<p>Please outline the existing local infrastructure that will support the delivery and sustainability of this project.</p> <p>How does this infrastructure align with local priorities and address identified needs?</p>	<p>(Maximum of 500 characters)</p>

<p>Please outline the therapeutic area(s) or speciality(ies) that may be of greatest benefit to your patient population, with particular reference to local health needs and existing health inequalities. How will your proposed approach help to reduce disparities in access, experience, or outcomes for underserved or marginalised groups?</p>	<p>(Maximum of 500 words)</p>
<p>Please describe your plan to deliver the project, with particular focus on how you will ensure appropriate supervision throughout. Include how you will support the development of future supervisors and outline the mechanisms you will use to monitor progress, manage risk, and maintain quality assurance.</p>	<p>(Maximum 3000 words)</p>
<p>Once the pilot has concluded, how do you plan to apply the insights gained to support the sustainable development and retention of supervisors?</p> <p>Please outline how this will contribute to improved service delivery, including any long-term strategies for embedding learning, enhancing leadership capacity, and addressing workforce challenges.</p>	<p>(Maximum 3000 words)</p>
<p>Please outline the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) you will use to monitor and assess the impact of this investment. Ensure that each KPI is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART). Describe how these indicators will track progress, inform decision-making, and demonstrate value for money and long-term sustainability</p>	<p>Maximum 5 KPIs</p>

<p>Please list the key milestones you plan to deliver as part of this project. For each milestone, include the expected timescale and, where possible, the anticipated cost. Note that the following milestones are mandatory and must be included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation • Benefit/Impact Measurement <p>You may also include additional milestones relevant to your delivery plan, such as stakeholder engagement, service launch, training, or reporting. Please ensure that each milestone is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART).</p>	<p>(Maximum 1000 words)</p>
<p>Please outline how you or your organisation will actively promote Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) throughout the duration of this project or role. Include specific actions, policies, or practices that demonstrate your commitment.</p>	<p>(Maximum 1000 words)</p>
<p>Provide a brief explanation of your approach to achieving value for money, along with an indicative budget or cost structure (if applicable) for delivering the proposed model</p>	<p>(Maximum 1000 words)</p>
<p>Conflict of Interest</p>	
<p>Do you have any personal, financial, or professional relationships that could influence your impartiality in this role or project</p>	

Appendix 2

Supervision Requirements

All pharmacists undertaking an independent prescribing course must have a Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP).

Designated prescribing practitioner

A Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) is a healthcare professional in Great Britain or Northern Ireland with legal independent prescribing rights who supervises a health care professional during their independent prescribing (IP) course and provides 'sign-off' on their competency to prescribe.

You do not have to be a pharmacist to supervise an IP learner. The role of DPP can be performed by any independent prescriber including doctors (Designated Medical Practitioners or DMPs), nurses and Allied Health Professionals (AHPs).

The DPP must be suitably experienced and qualified to carry out this supervisory role and have demonstrated Continuous Professional Development (CPD) or revalidation relevant to their role. The personal characteristics, professional skills, knowledge, and training required to be a DPP are described in the [RPS Competency Framework for Designated Prescribing Practitioners](#). DPPs can supervise more than one individual trainee, please refer to local HEIs for their policy on this.

More information on supervision for pharmacist independent prescriber training can be found [here](#).