



# **Pharmacist Support**

**Student Ambassador**

**Recruitment Pack**

**March 2023**



## Who we are

An independent, trusted charity, we provide a wide variety of support services to pharmacists and their families, former pharmacists and pharmacy students. We've listened carefully to people from all sectors of the profession, and deeply understand and empathise with the issues affecting pharmacy today. In our 2019 market research 97% of all potential service users surveyed felt they needed some form of support from the charity with 71% of all respondents citing mental health as a key issue affecting the sector.

We believe in better. We listen, without judgement, and encourage and empower people to create positive change. Each year we provide thousands of acts of support – we make good things happen.

Our connection to the profession is deep rooted. Established by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB) in 1841, the organisation has grown from its Benevolent Fund roots into an independent modern-day charity.

We're proud to be able to support people from such a caring profession, and we'll never give up on what we like to call our pharmacy 'family'.

We launched an exciting new [five-year strategy](#) in January 2020 with a new vision and mission and redefined values.

### Our Vision

**No one in our pharmacy family will face challenging times without us by their side.**



### Our Mission

**To champion the wellbeing of our pharmacy family**

## Volunteering for us

Wellbeing is embedded into everyday activities throughout Pharmacist Support. Our services put people first, create positive impact and deliver on our aspiration as a charity for an empowered and resilient pharmacy workforce. As a charity, our values are very important to us and guide the way we work.



## About the Student Ambassador scheme

Student Ambassadors are our people on the ground at each university,

They play a key role in helping the charity meet its strategic objectives to increase awareness of its work and optimise income generation.

There are a number of ways our student ambassadors can get involved in and champion the charity's work and the role can be tailored to a volunteer's interests. For example, ambassadors can:

- host information stands and deliver talks at their pharmacy schools/universities, societies/networks
- write articles and blogs for student and society newsletters, journals, and online platforms
- feed into and develop online content, videos or social media content
- feed into and get involved in charity campaigns or service development.

This role is vital to the work of Pharmacist Support and helps ensure that those eligible for support are aware of our existence, that they understand how we can help and how to access our services. As a charity, reliant on donations from individuals and pharmacy

organisations the work of ambassadors can also help us raise valuable funds so that the charity's free and confidential support may continue long into the future.

## What we are looking for

We're currently looking to recruit volunteers at each school of pharmacy across GB to our Student Ambassador scheme.

## Skills, experience and qualities

Whilst we provide a list of skills and experience below, we are ultimately looking for students with a passion for helping others, keen to learn and develop new skills, and to connect with and work with other pharmacy students.

- Personable, enthusiastic and approachable
- Ability to inspire people about the work of Pharmacist Support
- Confident communicator
- Good organisational skills
- Ability to work on your own initiative

We recognise that the past 2 years have been incredibly difficult for all across the sector and here at Pharmacist Support we're keen to ensure no one in our pharmacy family has to face challenging times without us by their side. We are committed to promoting equality, valuing diversity, and creating an inclusive environment. We welcome interest from individuals of all ages, backgrounds, cultures, and levels of experience. If you have a passion for the helping others and feel that you would like to help us raise awareness, we look forward to hearing from you.

### Key accountabilities:

- To represent Pharmacist Support in a caring and professional manner.
- To ensure all donations and expressions of interest in fundraising are passed back to Pharmacist Support for follow-up.
- To work within Pharmacist Support guidelines, adhering to confidentiality, safeguarding and all other applicable policies/procedures.

## Support and training

As one of our volunteers we will provide you with

- An induction session to introduce you to the charity, recognise your skills and identify any ongoing support you may need from us in order to fulfil the role

- your own toolkit which will contain all the information you need to be a student ambassador for Pharmacist Support
- A designated point of contact for support and guidance, when needed
- Reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses, for example travelling to and from an event/volunteer training venue
- Volunteer newsletter to keep you up to date and connected with your fellow volunteers

## Expenses

Pharmacist Support will ensure that volunteers are not out of pocket and are not deterred from volunteering because of any costs involved.

## Hours

This is a flexible role to suit your availability, and as such there is no minimum time commitment. Dependent on your interests and how you choose to be involved, you may be contacted as appropriate and offered the opportunity to attend events to which we are invited, or to contribute to or write/develop content for our website, newsletter, or the pharmacy press. Our volunteers are also encouraged to create opportunities of their own, connecting the charity up with local contacts and networks, securing stand space or speaking opportunities at university events or article space in student/society/membership body newsletters or online platforms.

The vast majority of your role will be based within your place of study and little to no travel will be required.

## The Recruitment Process

To apply for a Student Ambassador role, we ask that you complete the application form and return it to [volunteers@pharmacistsupport.org](mailto:volunteers@pharmacistsupport.org) **as soon as possible. We will be running recruitment drives through the year and will ask successful applicants to attend the next available online induction.**

### Diversity monitoring

To help us ensure we are adhering to our diversity policy we ask that you complete the equal opportunities monitoring form. This enables us to monitor the diversity profile of people who apply for Pharmacist Support posts. This information is given in confidence for monitoring purposes only and is not seen by anyone responsible for making recruitment decisions. However, if you would prefer not to answer any of the questions we ask, please leave them blank.

### Shortlisting & interviews

Successful candidates will be invited for an informal chat which will take place **throughout the year via Teams video call.**

### **References**

It is Pharmacist Support's policy to take up written references for potential volunteers before they start. Please provide two referees from people who have known you reasonably well for over two years and complete the details on the application form. These should not, if possible, be close friends or anyone directly related to you.

