



Information Booklet:
Working Group
Core Competency Review
Project 2021

Introduction

The Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI) is a public body established in law to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of patients and the public by regulating pharmacists and pharmacies in Ireland.

Among its many functions, the PSI sets standards for pharmacy education and training, and ensures all registered pharmacists are undertaking appropriate continuing professional development (CPD).

One of the ways the PSI achieves this is through the development of a [Core Competency Framework \(CCF\) for pharmacists](#), which was first published by the PSI in 2013. As set out in legislation, the CCF sets out the competencies including the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that are to be attained by a person who has pursued the programmes of education and training as a pharmacist, and include the competencies against which pharmacists will evaluate their development and learning needs for the purpose of their continuing professional development.

In August 2019, the PSI commenced a review of the CCF, which concluded in 2020 and the Report is available on the [PSI website](#). The Report, which was approved by the Council of the PSI, recommended that we should explore and consult with stakeholders on:

- a) the possible introduction of a CCF that allows pharmacists to demonstrate different levels of competence;
- b) the applicability of the CCF to all pharmacist roles;
- c) the inclusion, use and purpose of the behaviours in the CCF; and
- d) the findings of the benchmarking exercise.

About the CCF Review Project

The development of a revised CCF commenced in January 2021, as part of the [PSI Service Plan 2021](#). A Steering Group has been appointed to oversee the project. Membership of the Steering Group includes representatives from:

- Department of Health (DOH)
- Health Service Executive (HSE)
- Hospital Pharmacists Association of Ireland (HPAI)
- Irish Institute of Pharmacy (IIOP)
- Irish Pharmacy Union (IPU)
- Irish Pharmaceutical Students Association (IPSA)
- Patient Advocacy Service
- Pharmacists in Industry Education and Regulatory (PIER)
- University Sector

Applications sought for membership of the Working Group

As part of the development of a revised CCF, the PSI would like to hear from anyone who would like to be part of a Working Group, which will support the Steering Group and the PSI in this work.

Role of the Working Group

- To work with other members of the Working Group and the PSI in the development of a revised CCF. This may include participation in workshops, surveys and/or research activities.
- To provide feedback, context and insight on draft competencies.
- To work with and support the Steering Group to help ensure the project is delivered on time and in budget.

How to apply

We are seeking people with experience in the following areas, including but not limited to:

1. Practising/retired pharmacists, who have worked in community, hospital, industry, education and/or role emerging practice
2. Pharmacy owners
3. Education and training providers
4. International pharmacy regulators and professional bodies
5. National health regulators
6. Pharmaceutical industry
7. Pharmacy students
8. Patients and members of the public

Participation from persons from other areas/sectors will also be considered, where appropriate.

If you are interested in assisting with this project, please complete [this application form](#). Only applications made using this form will be accepted.

The closing date is close of business on **Wednesday, 9 June 2021**.

The PSI is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and endeavours to ensure diversity and balance on its Working Groups. It is recognised that working group members will represent a variety of different stakeholders and perspectives and will work collaboratively towards a common goal.

Review and Selection Process for Working Group Members

The PSI is committed to facilitating participation by a range of stakeholders in this project. The PSI will review applications in the context of establishing a Working Group that is representative of all stakeholders, in so far as is possible. It is anticipated that there will be a role for all interested persons to participate in aspects of the project work, through workshops, responding to surveys, review and research activities.

Time Commitment

It is anticipated that project work will commence with a series of workshops expected to take place during the summer and autumn periods (2021). Workshops may be carried out remotely, or there may be a possibility for face-to face meetings, depending on public

health advice. Further participation may be requested as the project progresses. It is anticipated that this stage of the project will not extend beyond 6 - 12 months.

Remuneration

Work associated with the activity of the Working Group is provided on a pro bono basis. Working Group members are requested to participate voluntarily.

Travel and subsistence: The PSI will make all travel and accommodation arrangements that may be necessary for Working Group members. In instances where this does not occur, Working Group members may claim for reasonable travel and subsistence expenses incurred, in line with the PSI's Travel and Subsistence Policy. Any travel and subsistence payments are subject to tax.

Data Protection

The PSI will process any personal information provided with expressions of interest in accordance with Data Protection legislation. The information will be kept for no longer than is necessary for its purpose, and it shall be kept in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the information, including the unauthorised or unlawful processing of it. Please review the [Data Protection Statement](#) on the PSI website for details of our use of personal information and your rights in relation to this.

Useful Links

Additional information about the PSI and the Core Competency Framework is available on the PSI website, www.psi.ie.

- [About the PSI – our role, responsibilities and governance](#)
- [Pharmacy Act 2007](#)
- [Core Competency Framework-Pharmacists-PSI \(thepsi.ie\)](#)
- [Continuing Professional Development - Pharmacist - PSI \(thepsi.ie\)](#)
- [Training as a Pharmacist - PSI](#)