

UAWD INDEPENDENT PRESCRIBING FOR PHARMACISTS (PRACTICE CERTIFICATE IN INDEPENDENT PRESCRIBING)

Institute of Health

Academic Level:	7	Credits:	40
UCAS Code:	Not applicable		
Awarding Body:	University of Cumbria		
Delivery Site:	Online Learning		
Programme Length:	The programme is normally scheduled for a period of approximately 18-24 weeks.		
Mode of Delivery:	Online Learning		
Pattern of Delivery:	Part time		
	Total weeks of study:	18–24 weeks	
	Delivery pattern:	18 -24 weeks 8 taught days within 16 weeks Remaining weeks include assessment/module preparation	
	Standard semester dates:	No	
Placement:	Minimum of 90 hours		
PSRB:	The programme prepares students to be eligible to apply for annotation to the register of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) as an Independent Pharmacist Prescriber.		
	Date of accreditation: Pending following visit in July 2025	Accreditation period: If approval granted it would be from September 2025 to end of September 2028	
Programme Webpage:	Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists (Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing) - Level 7 University of Cumbria		

Entry Criteria

The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the [Applicant Information](#) pages of the University website for more information.

Accreditation of prior learning is not permitted for entry to the programme. All assessments must be undertaken and successfully completed.

Detailed criteria for admission to this programme can be found on the programme webpage: [Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists \(Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing\) - Level 7 | University of Cumbria](#)

The following additional requirements apply for entry to this programme:

- Applicants must fully complete the Non-Medical Prescribing application form, and satisfactorily meet the criteria identified therein. Applications will be reviewed on an individual basis.
- Applicants must be registered and in good standing with the General Pharmaceutical Council (and any other healthcare regulator with which they are registered) – this will be checked on receipt of the application form.
- Applicants must have relevant experience, appropriate patient-orientated experience post registration, in a relevant UK practice/pharmacy setting.
- Applicants are required to provide evidence of a satisfactory enhanced disclosure clearance (DBS) undertaken within three years of the programme start date. Responsibility for application to the DBS rests with the programme applicant and is applied for by their employer or self if self-employed.
- Applicants must identify an area of clinical or therapeutic practice in which to base their learning to become as an independent prescriber. The applicant must be able to recognise, understand and articulate the skills and attributes required during their prescribing, which is suitable to act as the foundation of their prescribing practice while training.
- Applicants must demonstrate that they meet the governance requirements of their employing organisation.
- Applicants must have an identified Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) who meets the criteria for eligibility as a DPP identified by the programme application form.
- The learning environment in practice is subject to an educational audit undertaken by the Designated Prescribing Practitioner. Where an applicant proposes to undertake learning in a

practice environment outside a contract of employment with the placement provider, there is an expectation that adequate arrangements for indemnity insurance will be in place.

Where it is unclear whether the applicant meets the entry requirements satisfactorily, applicants will be contacted for interview. Advice and guidance may be given to the applicant during the interview, to ensure that they understand what is required of them for entry to the programme and successful progression whilst on the programme.

PROGRAMME AIMS AND OUTCOMES

Programme Aims

By the end of this programme learners will be able to:

1. Effectively consult with the patient/client: critically discuss effective consultation tools/styles with patients and carers to undertake a comprehensive, person-centred approach. To assess the patient/client's need for medicines, make a safe and effective prescribing decision, and to close the consultation;
2. Facilitate shared decision making with the patient/client: critically evaluate factors, including communication skills, which impact on prescribing in partnership with the patient/client. Identify and support informed choices in the context of public health issues and non-pharmacological approaches, ensuring appropriate prescribing/non-prescribing and satisfactory outcomes for patient/client and prescriber;
3. Demonstrate clarity of reasoning in relation to the relevance of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of medicines and apply the knowledge to your own prescribing practice, using relevant sources of information, advice and decision support to underpin accurate prescribing and prescription writing;
4. Demonstrate understanding of the evidence base surrounding medicines using a systematic and critical understanding of what influences prescribing practice at individual, local and national levels. Critique the evidence on how you will use them to prescribe effectively, appropriately, safely, and cost effectively;
5. Consider the legal, professional and ethical frameworks: demonstrate a critical awareness of legal, professional and ethical frameworks including the responsibility that your role as an independent prescriber entails. Demonstrate personal responsibility for working within the scope of your professional competence/scope of practice and the ability to refer/consult with other appropriate health care professionals in a timely manner. Justify the application of legal and professional frameworks for accountability and responsibility in relation to independent and supplementary prescribing. Demonstrate effective communication with other prescribers/health care professionals and record keeping in the context of medicines management;
6. Show a knowledge and understanding of clinical governance and personal development: demonstrate an awareness of clinical governance frameworks used to support safe prescribing, develop your prescribing role and manage risk.

Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the knowledge and understanding identified by the GPhC (2022) for pharmacist independent prescribers at the point of annotation:

Domain 1: Person-centred care:

- K1.1 Knowledge of the psychological and physical impact of prescribing decisions on people
- K1.2 Understand and meet their legal responsibilities under equality and human rights legislation and respect diversity and cultural differences
- K1.3 Take responsibility for ensuring that person-centred care is not compromised because of personal values and beliefs
- K1.4 Demonstrate appropriate history-taking techniques through effective consultation skills
- K1.5 Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the prescriber in working in partnership with people who may not be able to make fully informed decisions about their health needs
- K1.6 Support individuals to make informed choices that respect people's preferences

Domain 2: Professionalism:

- K2.1 Demonstrate a critical understanding of their own role and the role of others in multi-professional teams
- K2.2 Recognise their own role as a responsible and accountable prescriber who understands legal and ethical implications
- K2.3 Apply relevant legislation and ethical frameworks related to prescribing, including remote prescribing and the handling and sharing of confidential information
- K2.4 Recognise and manage factors that may influence prescribing decisions
- K2.5 Apply local, regional and national guidelines, policies and legislation related to healthcare
- K2.6 Reflect on and develop their own prescribing practice to ensure it represents current best practice
- K2.7 Apply an understanding of health economics when making prescribing decisions
- K2.8 Understand the clinical governance of the prescriber, who may also be in a position to supply medicines to people
- K2.9 Recognise other professionals' practice and raise concerns related to inappropriate or unsafe prescribing by other prescribers

Domain 3: Professional knowledge and skills:

- K3.1 Apply evidence-based decision-making in all aspects of prescribing
- K3.2 Manage the risks and benefits associated with prescribing decisions
- K3.3 Demonstrate the application of pharmacology in relation to their own prescribing practice
- K3.4 Demonstrate clinical and diagnostic skills in clinical settings appropriate to their scope of practice
- K3.5 Create and maintain appropriate records which ensure safe and effective care and align with relevant legislation
- K3.6 Identify relevant investigations and interpret results and data in their prescribing practice

- K3.7 Utilise current and emerging systems and technologies in safe prescribing
- K3.8 Identify and respond to people's needs when prescribing remotely
- K3.9 Apply the principles of effective monitoring and management to improve patient outcomes
- K3.10 Recognise and manage prescribing and medication errors
- K3.11 Recognise the public health issues in promoting health as part of their prescribing practice

Domain 4: Collaboration:

- K4.1 Work collaboratively with others to optimise individuals' care, understanding their roles in the prescribing process
- K4.2 Recognise their own role and responsibilities, and those of others, in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults
- K4.3 Recognise when and where to refer people appropriately
- K4.4 Collaborate with people to encourage them to take responsibility for managing care
- K4.5 Demonstrate appropriate consultation skills to get information from individuals who are either unaware of or guarded about their health needs, to inform safe prescribing
- K4.6 Recognise when to seek guidance from another member of the healthcare team or an appropriate authority

Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the skills and competence identified by the GPhC (2022) for pharmacist independent prescribers at the point of annotation:

Domain 1: Person-centred care:

- S1.1 Knowledge of the psychological and physical impact of prescribing decisions on people
- S1.2 Understand and meet their legal responsibilities under equality and human rights legislation and respect diversity and cultural differences
- S1.3 Take responsibility for ensuring that person-centred care is not compromised because of personal values and beliefs
- S1.4 Demonstrate appropriate history-taking techniques through effective consultation skills
- S1.5 Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the prescriber in working in partnership with people who may not be able to make fully informed decisions about their health needs
- S1.6 Support individuals to make informed choices that respect people's preferences

Domain 2: Professionalism:

- S2.1 Demonstrate a critical understanding of their own role and the role of others in multi-professional teams

S2.2 Recognise their own role as a responsible and accountable prescriber who understands legal and ethical implications

S2.3 Apply relevant legislation and ethical frameworks related to prescribing, including remote prescribing and the handling and sharing of confidential information

S2.4 Recognise and manage factors that may influence prescribing decisions

S2.5 Apply local, regional and national guidelines, policies and legislation related to healthcare

S2.6 Reflect on and develop their own prescribing practice to ensure it represents current best practice

S2.7 Apply an understanding of health economics when making prescribing decisions

S2.8 Understand the clinical governance of the prescriber, who may also be in a position to supply medicines to people

S2.9 Recognise other professionals' practice and raise concerns related to inappropriate or unsafe prescribing by other prescribers

Domain 3: Professional knowledge and skills:

S3.1 Apply evidence-based decision-making in all aspects of prescribing

S3.2 Manage the risks and benefits associated with prescribing decisions

S3.3 Demonstrate the application of pharmacology in relation to their own prescribing practice

S3.4 Demonstrate clinical and diagnostic skills in clinical settings appropriate to their scope of practice

S3.5 Create and maintain appropriate records which ensure safe and effective care and align with relevant legislation

S3.6 Identify relevant investigations and interpret results and data in their prescribing practice

S3.7 Utilise current and emerging systems and technologies in safe prescribing

S3.8 Identify and respond to people's needs when prescribing remotely

S3.9 Apply the principles of effective monitoring and management to improve patient outcomes

S3.10 Recognise and manage prescribing and medication errors

S3.11 Recognise the public health issues in promoting health as part of their prescribing practice

Domain 4: Collaboration:

S4.1 Work collaboratively with others to optimise individuals' care, understanding their roles in the prescribing process

S4.2 Recognise their own role and responsibilities, and those of others, in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

S4.3 Recognise when and where to refer people appropriately

S4.4 Collaborate with people to encourage them to take responsibility for managing care

S4.5 Demonstrate appropriate consultation skills to get information from individuals who are either unaware of or guarded about their health needs, to inform safe prescribing

S4.6 Recognise when to seek guidance from another member of the healthcare team or an appropriate authority

PROGRAMME FEATURES

Programme Overview

The overall aim of this programme is to prepare pharmacists for roles as Independent Pharmacist Prescribers, ensuring that they can demonstrate achievement of the Learning Outcomes identified by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) and are therefore eligible to apply for annotation as a prescriber to their registration with the GPhC.

In the context of continuing financial challenges, transforming services to deliver better and more efficient services remains a priority in the NHS. The potential of pharmacists' roles to support patients to self-manage their well-being and long-term conditions, through optimising medicines, and enabling improved medicine related communication between general practice, hospital and community pharmacy is increasingly recognised (NHS England, 2015; NHS England 2018, NHS England 2023). For example, an increasing number of general practices are recruiting clinical pharmacists who, with a prescribing qualification, are able to consult with patients to improve access to care in general practice and support improved health outcomes for patients.

The programme consists of 40 credits of learning at Level 7 supporting the development of knowledge, understanding and skills for safe, appropriate and cost-effective prescribing. As a pharmacist independent prescriber in training, you will complete up to 26 days of scheduled learning and teaching which combine attendance for virtual and online work with more flexible directed and self-directed study supported by e-learning approaches. Also, as a pharmacist independent prescriber in training, you are actively facilitated to apply and integrate your existing and developing professional knowledge and understanding within your clinical practice thus providing an educational experience which seeks to facilitate your clinical practice in your current environment as well as supporting your continuing development as a pharmacist prescriber in training. At all times, as a pharmacist independent prescriber in training who is a registrant of the General Pharmaceutical Council, you will be expected to adhere to the standards for pharmacy professionals (GPhC, 2022).

Supervised learning in practice time is an integral part of this programme and scheduled to run concurrently with theoretical learning throughout the programme. As a pharmacist independent prescriber in training, you will also complete 90 hours of learning in practice.

You are responsible for identifying a DPP who will demonstrate that they meet the criteria for eligibility as a DPP (GPhC, reviewed 2023) and complete a self-assessed practice placement audit. It is part of the application process that the course providers agree that the DPP nominated by you, has the core competencies and opportunities to carry out the role effectively. Although more than one person may be involved in supervising your practice as a pharmacist independent prescriber in training, the DPP will assume primary responsibility for your supervision, and responsibility for signing off your competence as a pharmacist independent prescriber in training. Therefore, the DPP will be required to support your learning and assessment on this course for a minimum of 30 hours.

Formative assessment is an important feature within the programme. Gibbs (1999) advocates the notion of formative assessment being a shared experience, with a "social dimension", arguing that it facilitates students' ability to make judgements about the quality of work and to take

responsibility for their own development and learning, responding to constructive feedback. Following formative feedback opportunities therefore, you are encouraged to reappraise and redraft your work to reflect your learning from the feedback provided.

Summative assessment is authentic, in that, assessment clearly aligns to programme and module level learning outcomes, encourages and enables progressive development through feedback, and is of relevance to practice needs that also develop skills and capacity for a wider employability context.

As a student on this programme, you will be allocated a Personal Tutor who will be proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and will have contact with you throughout your time at the University to support your learning and development.

The programme and its award are subject to the requirements and standards of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) where these are applicable. Successful completion of this programme is not a guarantee of annotation with the GPhC or of future employment as a pharmacist independent prescriber. Accreditation reports and the timescales for future accreditations are available at: [Accredited independent prescribing programmes | General Pharmaceutical Council \(pharmacyregulation.org\)](https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/accr/programmes)

Learning and Teaching

Teaching

Overview of the methods of learning and teaching used on the programme.

- 46 hours of lectures
- 90 hours of clinical hours
- 2 hours of personal tutoring (formative feedback and tutorial)
- All additional hours are required for self-directed learning and submission of formative work.

Independent Learning

When not attending scheduled learning activities you will be expected to continue learning independently through self-study and submission of formative work onto an identified platform and clinical assessment document.

Digital Capabilities

Through the programme as well as working towards an Independent Prescribing qualification you will be enhancing your digital skills through the use of different learning tools and resources.

As well as Teams, the use of Blackboard will allow you access to a large range of resources as well as the virtual classroom (collaborate). Your assessments will be submitted using PebblePad which stores your clinical practice and Turnitin which you will submit your written assignment through.

Other digital resources could include Padlet and SN@P.

Teaching Staff

The team consists of registered health care professionals annotated with their professional body (GPhC, HCPC & NMC) as an Independent & Supplementary Prescriber, except for the Pharmacists who are annotated as Independent Prescribers. There are multiple years of experience within the team with experience in different settings, ranging from hospital based, primary care and mental health.

All the team are fellows or senior fellows as part of the HEI standards.

As a student at the University of Cumbria, you are part of an inclusive learning community that recognises diversity. You will have opportunities to learn by interacting with others in a collegiate, facilitative and dynamic online learning environment. Teaching, assessment and student support will allow equal and equitable opportunities for you to optimise your potential and develop autonomy. We seek to create a stimulating and innovative community of learning, through virtual learning, at a distance, on placement or in the workplace. Facilitated by our expert practitioner staff, you will experience a learning environment that is well equipped, flexible, and stimulating.

Learning and Teaching

This programme requires the development of a sound underpinning of theoretical knowledge to inform professional practice which, in turn, is informed by that practice. The programme approach is based on contextual learning. Contextual learning relates not just to theoretical knowledge, but also to the underpinning values, beliefs, ethics and skills, as applied to people of all ages and abilities, recognising differences and diversity within the population.

As a pharmacist independent prescriber in training, you are actively facilitated to apply and integrate your existing and developing professional knowledge and understanding within your clinical practice thus providing an educational experience which seeks to facilitate your clinical practice in your current environment as well as supporting future development. The role of the Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) is central to the contextualisation of professional knowledge within your clinical practice.

As a pharmacist independent prescriber in training, you will be required to analyse and evaluate your learning and your practice and make sense of it in terms of informing future practice.

Learning and assessment are considered as interrelated. Everything that you undertake as a student and the products of that learning – is couched amongst active participation and formative opportunities for dialogue and feedback throughout. The programme includes formative activity 'specifically intended to generate feedback on performance to improve and accelerate learning' (Irons and Elkington, 2022). Formative assessment provides specific opportunities for tutors to support your successful achievement of the programme Learning Outcomes and at the academic level chosen of the programme.

The assessment strategy for the programme reflects the University's Learning, Teaching & Assessment Strategy (2024 – 2027). Summative assessment is authentic feedback, and assessment clearly aligns to programme and module level learning outcomes, encourages and

enables progressive development through feedback, and is of relevance to practice needs that also develop skills and capacity for a wider employability context.

A variety of methods and strategies will be used to ensure development and acquisition of key knowledge and understanding. You will be given opportunities to experience flexible and creative approaches to teaching and learning, which foster independent enquiry-based learning.

Learning in practice is supported by the DPP, who will facilitate and support the underpinning philosophy of contextual learning, and the embedding of employable knowledge and skills within the curriculum, which is linked to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Framework (RPS) (2021).

You will be encouraged to consider the perspectives of patients, service users and carers, as an integral part of the programme thus also facilitating the implementation of learning in practice in ways that improve clinical outcomes for patients and quality of experience as a consequence of your prescribing role. Although as a pharmacist prescriber in training you cannot prescribe whilst on the programme, you and your DPP have the opportunity to involve patients, service users and carers by considering their responses and seeking their opinions during your supervised learning in practice and in the context of clinical practice. In addition, patient, service user and carer perspectives are embedded in the programme delivery by drawing on the relevant literature, and experiences of healthcare delivery in the student group.

Assessment

Summative and Formative Assessment

Summative assessment methods used within the programme to enable you to demonstrate achievement of the knowledge, understanding and competence in practice as a pharmacist independent prescriber (GPhC, 2022). The assessments will require presentation of the following:

- A practical skills assessment which involves the completion of a record of learning and the demonstration of competencies identified for prescribers (RPS, 2021). This assessment is undertaken by your DPP and takes place in the context of your clinical practice; this includes a video demonstrating physical assessment skills.
- An oral exam consists of a *viva voce* assessment of prescribing skills (LO1 & LO2) linked to a consultation undertaken in practice and assessed by the DPP. This assessment is undertaken in the context of the quality assurance processes of the University.
- A Portfolio. The portfolio requires the demonstration of knowledge and understanding applied to the practice area for Learning Outcomes 3-6. The 2,500 word equivalent portfolio will critically discuss LO 3 –5 with a presentation on governance and CPD (LO 6 – equivalent to 500 words).

Formative assessment is an important feature within the programme. Gibbs (1999) advocates the notion of formative assessment being a shared experience, with a “social dimension”, arguing that

it facilitates students' ability to make judgements about the quality of work and to take responsibility for their own development and learning, responding to constructive feedback.

Formative work comprises work that informs part of the summative assessment and may include in-class or on-line activities such as presenting draft assignments, work in progress, or writing prescriptions. Peer and self-assessment are also used to give you timely feedback on formative tasks (University of Cumbria current Guidelines for Good Assessment Practice). The use of a written assignment with a presentation particularly promotes developmental learning and assessment, and, as such, its development is scheduled throughout the programme so that formative, constructive comment can be provided by peer feedback in addition to that of the programme team and specifically, from the Personal Tutor.

As a student, your active participation in formative opportunities is used to generate dialogue and feedback throughout the programme thus supporting your learning and development, and ultimately your successful achievement of the programme. Following formative feedback, you are encouraged to reappraise and redraft your work to reflect your learning from the feedback provided. You are encouraged to use a variety of resources designed to support learning and development for all students of the University, as well as those specifically designed for use on your programme.

Learning in practice is supported by an experienced prescribing practitioner (the DPP) who is also engaged in providing formative learning opportunities and feedback.

Use of student feedback on your experience of the programme

Feedback

The programme team uses student feedback in the continuing development of the programme, to enhance the experience of learning, teaching and assessment, and to ensure that the programme remains fit for the preparation of pharmacist prescribers in training to work in the contemporary clinical environment. Feedback is received through programme evaluations, Programme Partnership meetings and also the wider network of Non-Medical Prescribing Leads within the North-West. We recognise the challenges in establishing a Student Academic Representative System for part-time students who are responsible and accountable for busy professional roles and have significant personal responsibilities also. Therefore, your feedback shared with tutors informally as well as more formally is valued and used to help us to develop the programme and to offer an optimum learning experience.

Evaluation provided by students are fed into the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the programme and Institute of Health. The experience and recommendations of External Examiners are also used to review the programme and its comparability with similar programmes elsewhere, and to enhance the programme where this is indicated.

Graduate Prospects

The programme leading to the award of the Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing is offered at Level 7 only (GPhC, 2022). As a result of successful completion, you will be a holistically focused practitioner who is able to critically evaluate and challenge prescribing with reference to evidence-based practice, equality and diversity and clinical governance. You would be able to use the academic credit to contribute to further awards at Level 7, such as APCL or APL, or simply to pursue an interest in academic writing and improve your higher-level writing skills with a view to publication or academic teaching.

This programme enables pharmacist independent prescribers in training to gain a recordable qualification which provides excellent opportunities for professional development and new employment opportunities across the range of healthcare settings. Above all, pharmacist independent prescribers can deliver safe and effective care and enhance the patient experience and are therefore seen as key to the delivery of the [NHS 10-year plan](#) [NHS long term plan](#) in hospitals and primary care.

Health Education Northwest, i5 Health (2015) [Non-medical prescribing: an economic evaluation](#)

Weeks, G., George, J., Maclure, K., Stewart, D. (2016) [Non-medical prescribing versus medical prescribing for acute and chronic disease management in primary and secondary care](#). Cochrane Systematic Review.

MODULES

Year 1			
Code	Title	Credits	Status
HPHN7417	Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists	40	Core
Students exiting at this point with 40 credits would receive a university transcript of credit. Successful students will also be awarded a 'Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing' confirming that the candidate has successfully completed the programme and period of learning in practice.			

Additional Module Information
All assessments must be successfully passed to be eligible for the University Award of Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists (Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing). For students on this programme, compensation (condonement) will not apply. In summative assessment, inaccuracies in numeracy will be deemed to be unsafe practice and result in a fail grade for the programme. Concerns regarding the student's practice will be managed according to the University's Fitness to Practise Policy and Procedures (2025) which are aligned to professional body standards and the Student Code of Conduct. As a result of successful completion of the programme, pharmacists will be eligible to apply for annotation as an independent prescriber to their registration with the General Pharmaceutical Council. Pharmacist independent prescribers in training should note that they may not prescribe until they have successfully completed the programme and their registration with the GPhC is annotated accordingly. Where a student has not succeeded in their programme, they will be permitted to re-register on the same programme, but a new application form must be submitted and the criteria met.

Key to Module Statuses	
Core modules	Must be taken and must be successfully passed.

Timetables

Please note that while we make every effort to ensure timetables are as student friendly as possible, scheduled learning can take place on any day of the week.

Our Timetabling team work hard to ensure that timetables are available to students as far in advance as possible, however there may be occasional exceptions such as in the case of teaching which falls outside of the usual academic calendar. The UoC academic calendar runs from July to July, so timetabling information for programmes which include teaching sessions in August may not be published until closer to the August delivery.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Student Support

The [Student Enquiry Point](#) is a simple way to contact Student Services. Using the Student Enquiry Point tile on the Student Hub you can submit an enquiry to any of the Student Services teams, which includes:

- [Careers and Employability](#)
- [Chaplaincy](#) for faith and spiritual wellbeing
- [Mental Health and Wellbeing](#)
- [Digital Skills](#)
- [Disability and Specific Learning Difficulty \(SpLD\)](#)
- [International Student Support](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Money Advice Service](#)
- [Safeguarding](#)
- [Skills@Cumbria](#)
- [Sports and Fitness Facilities](#)
- [University Student Accommodation](#)

As a student at the University of Cumbria you automatically become a member of the Students' Union. The Students' Union represents the views and interests of students within the University. The Students' Union is led by a group of Student Representatives who are elected by students in annual elections. They also support approximately 400 Student Academic Reps within each cohort across the entire University. The Students' Union represent the views of their cohort and work with academic staff to continuously develop and improve the experience for all University of Cumbria students. You can find out more about who represents you at www.ucsu.me.

You can email at any time on studentvoice@cumbria.ac.uk.

Course Costs

Tuition Fees

Course fees can be found on the university website [Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists \(Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing\) - Level 7 | University of Cumbria](#) or on request.

Exceptions to the Academic Regulations

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes with the following permitted exceptions due to the requirements of the GPhC:

- Students would not be entitled to module re-assessment (if have a confirmed module fail), and will fail the programme if within any assessment, a failure to identify a serious problem or an answer which would cause the patient harm - Academic Regs (F8.1 & F8.6) (Will be subject to fitness to practice)
- Programme Length scheduled for a period of approximately 18-24 weeks – Academic Regs (D.3)
- Number of summative assessments exceeds two – Academic Regs (F5.5)
- Students who have previously failed the programme would be allowed to re-register for the same award subject to satisfactory completion of the standard application process and in ensuring that the admissions criteria of the GPhC continue to be met.

Curriculum Design Framework

- Contact hours are stipulated by the GPhC.

External and Internal Benchmarks

The GPhC accredits prescribing programmes leading to eligibility to apply for annotation as a pharmacist independent prescriber. Therefore, the programme must enable pharmacist independent prescribers in training to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and competence identified by the GPhC for pharmacist independent prescribers at the point of annotation:

- General Pharmaceutical Council (2022) [Standards for the education and training of pharmacist independent prescribers](#)

Other external reference points may include:

- General Pharmaceutical Council (2017) [Standards for pharmacy professionals](#)
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2021) [A competency framework for all prescribers](#)
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2019) [A competency framework for designated prescribing practitioners](#)

Other internal reference points may include:

- [UoC Strategic Plan](#)
- [UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy](#)
- [UoC Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes](#)

Disclaimer

This programme has been approved (validated) by the University of Cumbria as suitable for delivery via online learning. The details of the programme offered for a particular intake year will be as detailed on the programme webpage.

Date of Programme Specification Production	27 May 25
Date Programme Specification was last updated	1 August 25