BPSA COVID-19 Statement:

Tier 5 Visa Holders - Pre-registration Pharmacists

Publication Date: 27 April 2020

On 22 April 2020, the British Pharmaceutical Students' Association (BPSA) and Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) co-signed an open letter to the Home Secretary, Rt Hon Priti Patel requesting action to deal with the uncertainty facing pre-registration pharmacists holding Tier 2 and 4 visas.

Discussions have now commenced between our co-signers (RPS) and high ranking government officials. We are continuing to work with the RPS to ensure that you are well represented throughout such discussions.

Since the publication of the <u>open letter</u> on 22 April 2020, we have received welcome feedback from pre-registration pharmacists who are Tier 5 visa holders and feel that they should also be represented in discussions. We thank those who have communicated with us, this type of communication is invaluable.

Please accept the publication of this statement as reassurance that both the BPSA and RPS are now aware of this and are acting to address this issue for Tier 2, Tier 4 and **Tier 5** visa holders. We will endeavour to ensure that any other pre-registration pharmacists which fall outside these three groups and have had or will have their immigration status directly impacted by COVID-19 and delay of the registration assessment are represented going forward.

If you are not a Tier 2, 4 or 5 visa holder, and feel that your immigration circumstances should be represented in discussions with government bodies, please email us on support@bpsa.co.uk.

The BPSA would like to thank every member for their continuous and significant contributions to the fight against COVID-19.

On behalf of the British Pharmaceutical Students' Association

Regan McCahill

President 2019 - 2020