

Higher Certificate in Science in Pharmacy Technician LY806

Dear Student,

Congratulations on being offered a place on our two-year Higher Certificate in Science (Pharmacy Technician) programme. This programme offers you the opportunity to learn and develop new skills to seek employment in the pharmacy area. The programme involves placement blocks of 6 weeks duration in each of the 4 semesters of the programme. These work placements are critical as they put into practice all that the student has learned in the classroom. Students will be expected to take a variety of placements to ensure that they get exposure to the working of both community and hospital pharmacies. As a result, students will be expected to engage in placements outside the Donegal region. While the institute will make every effort to assist the learner in finding a placement final responsibility for securing the placement resides with the learner. Students will be responsible for sourcing and paying for both accommodation and travel to these placements. **It is essential that when seeking accommodation, you should do so on the basis that you will have a placement to complete each semester, and this may be outside the Donegal region.**

As part of your programme of study you will take both theory and practical classes. Practical classes are an essential part of your programme of study as they put into practice much of theory you have been taught in class. Employers expect and require graduates to have up-to-date practical skills. As a Department we place much emphasis on this aspect of our programmes of study. Laboratory manuals outlining laboratory procedures for the various practicals will be available for new incoming students in September. Each student must have a copy of the practical manual for those modules which incorporate practical work. Students are required to have protective clothing when working in the science labs. All students will be required to purchase a lab coat which costs €50 and is available to purchase from the LYIT Student Union shop.

A partnership between the Department of Life and Physical Sciences at LYIT with the Faculty of Life and Health Sciences at Ulster University (UU) offers students an opportunity to progress their studies from the Higher Certificate (HC) in Science (Pharmacy Technician) at LYIT, to the Masters of Pharmacy programme at UU. Graduates of the Higher Certificate in Science Pharmacy Technician at LYIT, who have met the minimum Ulster University entry requirements of 65% in all Science based modules in each year of the programme, will automatically gain entry to year one of the four-year Master of Pharmacy programme at UU.

COVID-19 remains part of our lives and measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are a feature of campus life. In line with Government Guidelines LYIT have place a range of measures to protect both students and staff. For your safety and that of your fellow students and Institute staff, please adhere to all guidelines relating to COVID-19 measures which are in place across the Institute.

Once again congratulations on gaining a place on our Pharmacy Technician programme. Registration and Induction takes place on campus on Tuesday **21st September, and you are required to attend**. Please refer to www.lyit.ie for information on the induction schedule.

I look forward to meeting you then.

Dr Kim McFadden

Head of Department of Life and Physical Sciences