

BAA guidance on registration and implications for redeployment

This guidance focuses on supporting graduates in 2020 as well encouraging clinicians to join a PSA accredited register to ensure their practice is protected.

Supporting audiology graduates in 2020

Measures to curb the spread of COVID-19 has impacted the final year of students in various ways and universities are working hard to support students in completing their studies. This is to ensure they can progress to graduation and join the workforce. The transition from student to clinician may be different in this year and the hope is that the impact of COVID-19 should not affect their employability. One regulator have suggested that new employees complete a CPD portfolio that could be tailored to areas that they feel they could develop more. The expectation is that they should submit this CPD portfolio one year after registering. It is also advised that new graduates should be encouraged to join local or national preceptorship programmes.

Supporting unregistered staff to join an accredited register during COVID-19

Registration in Audiology is complex and currently clinicians have a choice depending on their qualification. More information can be found here: [Registration in Audiology](#).

The CSO produced [guidance](#) for redeployment of staff during COVID-19 for NHS England advising *that all Healthcare Science staff not currently registered are expected to join an Accredited Voluntary Register* (see pg 9). Both AHCS and the RCCP are PSA accredited registers and listed in the document.

There are three organisations that hold registers which have been accredited by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA) that healthcare science professionals can join if they meet the required criteria: The Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS), Register of Clinical Technologists (RCT) and Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP).

The call to join a register is intended for practice to be protected within the regulatory guidelines, as all regulators are aware that clinicians may be asked to take on new roles. Regulators advise that appropriate training must be provided should clinicians be asked to work outside of regular practice. Being registered means that clinicians have a specific, identified remit of work allowing registrants to indicate when roles are outside of their practice. If they remain unregistered they could potentially be classed as part of the greater HCS workforce. The advice to register applies to all 4 home countries as regulators function in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

More COVID specific guidance can be found here: [RCCP](#) and [AHCS](#)

Which register to join depends on qualification and route of entry into the profession, as well as employment. Some clinicians may have more than one choice where others might be limited to one.

Please contact Lizanne Steenkamp on lsteenkamp@gmu.ac.uk if you have any questions about which register to join but also read the full guidance [here](#).

If you're in practice but not registered, it's more important now than ever...