Pharmaceutical Society of Australia




**The Pharmacy Student of the Year (PSOTY) award recognises and celebrates outstanding pharmacy students by showcasing their counselling skills to the pharmacy profession.**

Students compete against their peers to demonstrate their pharmacy knowledge and counselling techniques. Taking part in the PSOTY NAPSA wildcard competition will allow participants to gain valuable practical experience.

The NAPSA wildcard winner will travel to the national PSA conference, PSA27, to compete in the prestigious national final on Thursday 5 August 2027. The winner of the national final will be announced at the PSA27 Awards Ceremony on Thursday 5 August 2027.

The NAPSA Wildcard final competition will take place at the NAPSA Congress to be held at Curtin University, Bentley, in January 2027. Students must be available to participate in both the online wildcard heat prior to, and the final held at, the NAPSA 2027 congress on the following dates:

- NAPSA Wildcard Heat: Tuesday 1 December 2026
- NAPSA Wildcard Final: Friday 15 January 2027

To take part in the NAPSA wildcard PSOTY competition you must be a PSA Student Member in your final year of study in a pharmacy degree at an Australian university.

The NAPSA Wildcard winner will be announced at the Gala Ball.

**www.psa.org.au**

***PSA** Empowering pharmacists*

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To take part in the NAPSA wildcard PSOTY competition you must be a PSA Student Member in your final year of study in a pharmacy degree at an Australian university. Register your interest **no later than 4pm AEDT time on Friday 13 November 2026** by emailing learnersupport@psa.org.au. Details including date/time for the NAPSA Wildcard heat will be emailed to applicants by Friday 20 November 2026.

Please include the following details when you register your interest:

Full Name:

Contact Phone Number: Email Address:

PSA ID: University:

Degree: Year of Study:

In 50 words or less, tell us why you should be the next Pharmacy Student of the Year

## PSOTY Wildcard Heat and Final

The competition is designed to reflect real life practice and to encourage and reinforce the role of the pharmacist as a health care provider.

Students will role play a common practical situation involving an interaction with a standardised customer (actor). Students will be required to assist the customer, give advice and guidance and recommend the most appropriate non-prescription medicine, or other outcome, for the presenting symptom or request.

Students will have 5 minutes to complete a scenario in both the heat and the final. The heat will be conducted online and the final competition will be conducted face-to-face at the NAPSA Congress 2027. Students will be held in the holding room until their counselling session.

A bell will ring at 4 minutes (1 minute remaining), indicating you should wind up the conversation or sentence and prepare to finish within 1 minute. The final bell will ring at 5 minutes signalling the end of the counselling session.

Once students have completed their scenario, they will be changed to attendee in zoom (heat) or remain in the competition room (final), as advised by PSA staff on duty.

The following resources can be used and referred to during the competition:

- APF 26
- AMH (2026)
- Self-care information
- Pen and paper

No use of mobile phones will be allowed during the competition.

Seven students will be chosen to return for the final on Friday 15 January 2027 at 8.30am AWST. Finalists will be notified by email following the completion of the online heat.

## PSOTY Wildcard Assessment

Students competing in the heat or final will be assessed on the following criteria:

**Clinical Skills**

- Identified patient and adequately gained insight into the patient's issues (e.g. age, medical conditions, other medicines)
- Made appropriate clinical recommendation(s)
- Provided additional management and advice (e.g. medication directions for use, lifestyle advice, follow on advice)
- Justified the reasons for their recommendations

**Communication Skills**

- Displayed appropriate non-verbal communication (e.g. presentation, interpersonal space, posture, nodding, smiling)
- Demonstrated active listening skills
- Spoke clearly, concisely and in a logical order
- Ensured adequate patient understanding of their recommendations

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