



## Pharmacist on the Front Lines of a Pandemic - Q&A with Jes Buhler

"Hi everyone! My name is Jes Buhler and I am a student graduating from the UofA's Faculty of Pharmacy.

My experience, along with the rest of my graduating class, has been an interesting one due to the pandemic.

Our graduation moved to a virtual format and we were not able to walk the stage to receive our degrees; RxA's Welcome to The Profession event as well as our graduation banquet has been postponed; Our PEBC's have been rescheduled so that the earliest time to write the MCQ portion is in August 2020 and the earliest OSCE date is in November 2020. Most of us will not be able to be licensed until late 2020 or early 2021 at best—a drastic change in our original expectations.

While many of you have been experiencing extreme changes to practice on the front lines, many of us are waiting patiently for our turn to step in and help. Joining the workforce as an entry level pharmacist can be a daunting experience which has now been heightened by the many unpredicted factors that have arisen. However, I am proud to be joining a profession that in my opinion, has traversed these past months eloquently and resourcefully. I appreciate all of the work that each of you are doing and I cannot wait to play a small role in continuing to move this profession forward."

I realize my experience has been different than most practicing pharmacists as I have not been in direct patient care for the majority of it. If the context fits with your theme, please feel free to share the perspective from a new graduate!