

Considering a career in Health and Social Care?

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Health and Social Care is a vast sector which has undergone rapid change in recent years. Frontline health and social care roles have changed and developed, and there is considerable demand for well trained, multi-skilled individuals to take up opportunities. Many health jobs are based outside traditional hospitals, such as, GP surgeries, ambulance trust, pharmacies, charities or not-for-profit organizations or local authorities.

Roles within the healthcare sector are usually split into clinical and other roles, many of which are open to people from any background.

Clinical and non-clinical

An example of roles open to those from a clinical background include: nursing, medicine, pharmacy, midwifery, health visitors, directors and managers, public health specialists, a range of allied health professions such as physiotherapy, radiography and dietetics.

An example of roles open to those from other backgrounds include: academic teaching and research, environmental health professionals, public health specialists, directors and managers, engineering, human resources / personnel, IT, domestic service staff, finance, building services.

Public health

All health workers have a public health aspect to their role. For some it may be a minor part; improving people's health, protecting people's health, maintaining and raising standards in public health. For others public health is their primary role; health visitors, school nurses, or other public health nurses, environmental health professionals, practitioners, knowledge and intelligence professionals, academics, managers, directors, consultants and specialist.

Information on the variety of opportunities available can be found at:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/resources/career-you-health>

Allied Health

If you are looking for a career that combines a challenge, an excellent employment package and the reward of doing something really worthwhile, the allied health professions offer a wide range of opportunities. As key members of today's healthcare team, allied health professionals

provide diagnostics, treatment and rehabilitation that transforms people's lives and helps them to remain as independent as possible for as long as possible.

Further information on careers in Allied health can be found at:

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/resources/careers-allied-health-professions>

Entry qualifications

Entry levels to a career in health care are numerous and accessible. There are a number of structured training programs and apprenticeships available throughout the UK. There is also workplace opportunities for progression and part time and distance learning courses widely available. Higher Education institutions provide a significant number of undergraduate and postgraduate courses all available throughout the UK leading to clinical careers in health. Most of the courses will lead to eligibility to apply for statutory professional registration.

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/looking-course>

<http://www.ulster.ac.uk/ulster-life/study-at-ulster>

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/home/StudyatQueens/CourseFinder/>

Changes to Student Funding

From academic year 2017/18, new students in England on nursing, midwifery and AHP pre-registration courses (which lead on to registration with one of the health professional regulators) will have access to the standard student support package of tuition fee loans and support for living costs, rather than getting an NHS grant.

Courses this affects

The change affects a wide range of courses that lead to professional registration:

- Nursing (all four fields – mental health, adult, child, learning disability)
- Midwifery
- Podiatry
- Diagnostic and therapeutic Radiography
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Orthotics'
- Dietetics
- Prosthetics/Orthotics
- Operating Department Practice

Students domiciled in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Are not affected by these changes the funding change related to England only

Opportunities for careers in Health and Social Care (HSC) in Northern Ireland.

The HSC General Management Training Scheme recruit annually for management trainees who will work at the leading edge of Public Sector Management. The HSC in Northern Ireland is a unique organisation. It is the only organisation in the UK that provides integrated health and social care. Trainees have a wide choice of career opportunities available to them.

<http://mts.hscni.net/mts/index.asp>

<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/careers-in-health-and-social-care>

Opportunities for careers in Health and Social Care (HSC) in the rest of the UK.

There is an increase in opportunities available throughout the UK, which include General Practitioners, Apprenticeships, Public Health Roles, Genomics, Paramedics, Clinical Support Roles and NHS Graduate Management Trainee Scheme.

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/>

<http://www.nhsgraduates.co.uk/the-scheme/>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/faqs>

<http://www.careerpilot.org.uk/jobs/health-and-social-care/jobs>

http://www.prospects.ac.uk/healthcare_sector_overview.htm

<http://www.jobs.ac.uk/jobs/health-and-medical>

Case Studies

To view case studies of careers in Health and Social Care visit: www.youtube.com/nhscareers

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