

STEP INTO THE NHS

There are over 350 different careers available in the NHS!
Here are just some of the NHS team to tell you about their jobs.

**Together we can
make a difference!**

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The apprentice

Name: Pascal Wellington

Role: Business administrative apprentice

Responsibilities: Assist the director's PA with managing emails, diary and telephone systems. Process invoices and keep staff record database up to date.

Personality: Organised, responsible and reliable, with excellent communication skills.

Advice: An apprenticeship is a great way of getting some extra qualifications while working.

Entry requirements: There are no set entry qualifications, but employers will want to make sure that you can cope with the work involved. Requirements depend on the employer and the type and level of apprenticeship.



The exercise physiologist

Name:	Scott Elliott
Role:	Exercise physiologist and smoking cessation officer
Responsibilities:	A vital part of a life-saving healthcare team, working with patients with heart problems, carrying out diagnostic investigations and offering expert advice to doctors.
Personality:	Calm, understanding and confident enough to put people at ease.
Advice:	If you're interested in sport and fitness, this is the perfect job. You get to use some sophisticated medical equipment too.
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent. At least two A levels (including a science subject) or equivalent. Degree in physiological science.

The finance assistant



Name:	Lydia Wager
Role:	Income and costing accountancy assistant
Responsibilities:	Finance reporting, including compiling spreadsheets, graphs and written data. Prepare invoice data for care provided to patients.
Personality:	Strong analytical skills and be able to work in a team but also work independently on your own tasks.
Advice:	If you have a logical mind and like analysing facts and figures then this is a great job for you.
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent. At least two A levels or equivalent. Degree in accountancy or relevant subject. You can then apply for an NHS training position.



The clinical psychologist

Name:	Anna Disney
Role:	Assistant clinical psychologist
Responsibilities:	Assessing patients and offering counselling, therapy and advice to a wide-range of people with mental health problems.
Personality:	Interested in the feelings of others and fascinated by human behaviour. Empathise with people and understand their feelings.
Advice:	I love working so closely with people and the challenge of such a steep learning curve, at the same time as feeling fully supported by my brilliant team.
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs. Three A level subjects or equivalent. Approved degree in psychology and postgraduate qualification in clinical psychology.

Paramedic

Name: Elisha Miller

Role: Paramedic

Responsibilities: Respond to emergency calls and provide all aspects of urgent and emergency care, ranging from problems such as cardiac arrest, heart attacks, strokes, spinal injuries and major trauma, to minor illnesses and injuries.

Personality: Calm under pressure and able to work quickly and carefully.

Advice: You have to be really on the ball and be able to understand a situation quickly. Even when the adrenalin's pumping you have to stay calm and reassure the patient.

Entry requirements: To practise as a paramedic, you first need to successfully complete an approved qualification in paramedic science which could be a diploma, a foundation degree or degree.



The dental therapist

Name: Dave Martin

Role: Dental therapist

Responsibilities: Provide treatment in a range of places in the community, such as schools and care homes. Carry out a range of routine dental work including oral assessments, and taking dental radiographs.

Personality: A good and patient communicator with proficient, highly technical clinical skills.

Advice: To work in this role, will need to encourage anxious patients to accept dental treatment. You will need to be confident to work on your own and be able to put even the youngest of patients at ease.

Entry requirements: You'll need to obtain a diploma or degree in dental therapy and be registered on the General Dental Council's roll of dental therapists. To get on the course, you will need five GCSE subjects at grade 9-4 (A* to C) or equivalent, plus two A-levels or a recognised qualification in dental nursing.





The physiotherapist

Name: Celia Cohen

Role: Senior physiotherapist

Responsibilities: Treating people with physical problems caused by illness, accident or ageing. Identifying the problems and helping to maximise patient mobility using manual therapy and therapeutic exercises.

Personality: Tolerant, patient, compassionate towards others, very level headed and practical.

Advice: It can be stressful dealing with a constant stream of patients but that's also what makes the work really rewarding.

Entry requirements: Five GCSEs, including science.
Three A levels (including biology) or equivalent.
Approved three or four year degree in physiotherapy.

The healthcare assistant

Name: Luke Watson

Role: Nurse cadet

Responsibilities: Providing hands-on care to patients with all kinds of problems. I help lots of different healthcare professionals with their daily tasks: everyone from nurses, doctors and healthcare assistants to porters, housekeepers, physiotherapists and occupational therapists.

Personality: Work well under pressure and able to carry out many tasks at once without getting stressed.

Advice: Working as an apprentice first gave me a real feel for the health sector. I loved every minute!

Entry requirements: There are no set entry requirements to become a healthcare assistant. Employers expect good literacy and numeracy and may ask for GCSEs (or equivalent) in English and maths. They may ask for a healthcare qualification, such as BTEC or NVQ.





The human resources professional

Name:	Louise Brandon
Role:	Assistant personnel officer
Responsibilities:	Staff management including recruitment and employee welfare; pay issues, training and development, health and safety, plus advising hospital managers.
Personality:	Enjoy working with other people, organised and able to do many tasks at once, staying calm under pressure.
Advice:	If you're looking for a career with lots of opportunities to progress up the ladder, this job is excellent.
Entry requirements:	There are no minimum entry requirements, but you'll need to demonstrate a good basic education. You can either enter at an administrative level and work your way up or you can complete A levels (or equivalent) and then study for a degree – perhaps in human resource management.



The clinical scientist

Name:	Ronnie Wright
Role:	Clinical scientist
Responsibilities:	Taking samples of genetic materials and analysing it for diseases or abnormalities in the lab.
Personality:	Able to concentrate for long periods of time, pay attention to detail and have good problem-solving skills.
Advice:	If you're interested in science, medicine and computing, and love using the latest technology, you couldn't find a better job. Some of the mutations I find are quite unique – they have never been seen by anyone else in the world before.
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent (including maths, English and two science subjects). At least two A levels or equivalent. A biomedical science degree followed by the three year NHS Scientist Training Programme.

The intensive care nurse



Name:	Anna Kerry
Role:	Registered nurse in intensive care
Responsibilities:	Providing one-to-one patient care for seriously ill people, monitoring and registering all the support equipment needed to keep patients alive.
Personality:	Well balanced, mature and practical. Able to work well under pressure.
Advice:	It can be emotionally draining, you have to keep pretty balanced. The job can move from the sad times when everything you do is just not enough to help, to the fantastic sense of achievement of saying goodbye to a patient well on their way to recovery.
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent (including English and a science subject), plus at least two A levels or equivalent. A degree in nursing.



The radiographer

Name:	Ricardo Khine
Role:	Lecturer/practitioner in therapeutic radiography
Responsibilities:	Planning and accurate delivery of the correct radiotherapy according to patient needs. This involves scans and x-rays for diagnosis and planning and operating highly specialised machines to treat the problem.
Personality:	Able to put people at ease and enjoy working in a team.
Advice:	This job enables you to explore an interest in digital imaging and technology within a medical environment.
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent (including a good grade in science). At least two A levels (including a science subject). Approved three-year degree in therapeutic radiography at university.

The occupational therapist

Name:	Rachel Maton
Role:	Occupational therapist in a children's hospital
Responsibilities:	Helping people who've been sick or injured to do everyday occupational activities. For children, this includes having a bath, eating breakfast, getting to school and playing.
Personality:	Patient, determined with lots of common sense. Good at motivating others and like working closely with individuals.
Advice:	Seventy per cent of my time is spent dealing with the effects of accidents, especially fractures to fingers and wrists. Trampolines and monkey bars have a lot to answer for!
Entry requirements:	Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent, (including a good grade in science). At least two A levels (ideally including a science subject) or equivalent. Approved three-year degree in occupational therapy at university.





The doctor

Name: Kavita Aggarwal

Role: Trainee ophthalmology doctor

Responsibilities: On a typical day, I assess patients who have acute eye conditions, taking their history, performing a clinical examination and treating them appropriately. As a junior doctor, I also attend weekly departmental teaching sessions.

Personality: Responsible, reliable with excellent communication skills. Make decisions quickly and like helping others.

Advice: Training to be a doctor usually takes five to six years but the sense of job satisfaction is huge – you can really make a difference to someone else's life.

Entry requirements: Five GCSEs at grade 9-6 (A*-B) or equivalent.
Three good A level grades (including science) or equivalent.
Approved medical degree (usually five years) followed by foundation and further training.



Healthcare scientist – audiology

Name: Devang Joshi

Role: Healthcare scientist specialising in audiology.

Responsibilities: Helping people with hearing and balancing disorders. Examining patients, assessing problems, prescribing the right kind of hearing aid or maybe arranging for further investigation.

Personality: Patient, understanding and enjoy helping others. Logical, with a passion for science.

Advice: It is challenging and always varied, with lots of opportunities to specialise; in babies, adults, special needs, or even research.

Entry requirements: Five GCSEs at grade 9-4 (A*-C) or equivalent (including a good grades in English, maths and science). At least two A levels (including a science subject) or equivalent.

A relevant science degree followed by a three-year post under the NHS Scientist Training Programme.

**Do any of them
sound like you?**

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