



Pearson

Healthcare Science Assistant Apprenticeship

Level 2

Minimum 12 months, average 18 months

Funding Band 2

Apprenticeship Group

The apprenticeship group is made up of a range of employers within the Healthcare Science Sector, including; Health Education England, NHS Blood and Transplant, Gloucester Hospitals Foundation NHS Trust, Public Health England, Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, Institute of Decontamination Sciences, Academy for Healthcare Science, Association of Health Professions in Ophthalmology and numerous hospitals and NHS Foundation Trusts across the country.

Who is this apprenticeship for?

This apprenticeship has been designed to be taken by anyone wanting to work as a Healthcare Science Assistant across a range of departments within hospitals, general practice and other settings in the healthcare sector. Apprentices will perform a range of low risk, routine, technical and scientific procedures usually in one broad area of Healthcare Science.

On-Programme

In order to meet the apprenticeship standards, apprentices must complete the Level 2 Diploma in Healthcare Science. Apprentices must complete a portfolio of evidence during the last three months of on-programme. This will be sent to the independent assessor to help inform the interview during End Point Assessment.

Apprentices must also achieve a minimum of Level 1 English and Maths before completing the apprenticeship. Apprentices must also have attempted the tests at Level 2 for English and Maths. The Level 2 tests do not have to be passed.



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End Point Assessment

Apprentices must be register with an Assessment Organisation so that End Point Assessment can be carried out. A list of Assessment Organisations for this standard will be available on the Register of Apprenticeship Assessment Organisations (RAAO).

There are three components that make up End Point Assessment for the Healthcare Science Assistant Apprenticeship. Assessment will consist of:

- Professional Practice Test
- Vocational Competence Observation
- Review of portfolio of evidence and Professional Discussion

Professional Practice Test

The apprentice will have 40 minutes to review eight brief workplace-based scenarios and describe the actions (in order) they would take in response to the scenario. The apprentice and independent assessor will discuss the responses for 15 minutes. The discussion allows the apprentice the opportunity to expand on their responses.

The scenarios will cover the following areas:

- Professional Practice (how does the apprentice professionally handle situations and issues)
- Health, Safety and Security (consideration given to safe practices including the security of the patient, own self, others in the workplace)
- Clinical Care (consideration given to patient care and wellbeing)
- Audit/Service Improvement (insight and demonstration of implication of actions)
- Leadership (demonstration of initiative and independent working)

This component will be graded Fail/Pass/Distinction.

Vocational Competence Observation

The Independent Assessor will spend a minimum of 30 minutes observing the apprentice during their normal course of work in their normal workplace. The will be observed in three work-based tasks selected from the following areas:

- Professional Practice
- Clinical Care
- Communication
- Health, Safety and Security
- Quality
- Technical Scientific Services

The observation is ungraded above a pass

Review of Portfolio of Evidence and Professional Discussion

The professional discussion will be between the Independent Assessor and the apprentice and will last for a minimum of 30 minutes. The purpose of the professional discussion is to enable the apprentice to further showcase their knowledge, skills and behaviours from across the Standard. The Independent Assessor checks and clarifies any matters arising from the professional practice test, the evidence portfolio and from the observation of practice.

This element will be graded Fail/Pass/Merit/Distinction



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Progression Opportunities

After completing the Healthcare Science Assistant Apprenticeship, apprentices can progress into a Healthcare Science Assistant job within a number of specialisms, e.g. phlebotomy, audiology, decontamination science.

Apprentices can also progress onto the Healthcare Science Associate Apprenticeship at Level 4.

Accredited Register

Apprentices who complete the Healthcare Science Assistant Apprenticeship will be eligible to apply to join the Academy of Healthcare Science's register of trained Healthcare Science Assistants.