

# Healthcare

## **Overview**

The health sector, including private health care and the NHS, is continually developing in response to medical advances. This doesn’t necessarily mean the number of job opportunities increases, but it does imply that new roles are often introduced.

There are many skilled clinical roles that do not involve direct patient contact, but these play an important part in diagnosis, clinical testing and patient support. Biomedical scientists, microbiologists and associated laboratory staff are examples of these professionals.

Training is often conducted in-house for these positions, whereas for most patient care positions a pre-entry qualification is generally required. When applying for entry-level positions it is important to demonstrate that you recognise and would adhere to the values of each health trust.

## **Roles**

Each job title links through to a broad job description, salary and conditions, entry requirements, typical recruiters, and links to further useful information.

* [Biomedical engineer](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/biomedical-engineer)
* [Clinical psychologist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/clinical-psychologist)
* [Community pharmacist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/community-pharmacist)
* [Counselling psychologist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/counselling-psychologist)
* [Epidemiologist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/epidemiologist)
* [Health service manager](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/health-service-manager)
* [Nutritionist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/nutritionist)
* [Paramedic](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/paramedic)
* [Pathologist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/pathologist)
* [Speech and Language therapist](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/speech-and-language-therapist)

You can view additional job roles by using the [Prospects](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/healthcare) and [Indeed.com](https://uk.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/jobs-in-the-healthcare-sector) websites.

## **Building Experience**

Depending on your chosen career path within the healthcare industry, your work experience requirements will vary. For example, Speech and Language therapists would benefit from undertaking a placement in a local speech and language therapy service, or by working as a Speech and Language therapy assistant. Likewise, those wishing to enter the Clinical Psychologist career path will likely need to have some experience working or on placement as an assistant psychologist, counsellor, or health and social care support worker.

However, experience within the medical or healthcare industry will help to increase knowledge and awareness of the skills and qualities required for working in this sector. For example, care work with children, adults or the elderly, work in a pharmacy, or with local charities related to healthcare would all contribute towards helpful experience. Overall, it is important to demonstrate your commitment to helping others, as well as conveying your interest in health science issues beyond the curriculum.

## **Finding Opportunities**

Check [My Jobs Online](https://reading.targetconnect.net/student/login.html?remote=true) for vacancies and visit campus career fairs and employer presentations to find out more about which employers are advertising vacancies and coming onto campus.

### Industry Jobs

[NHS Health Careers](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/) | [Ramsey Health](ramsayhealth.co.uk/careers) | [Serco Healthcare](https://www.serco.com/sector-expertise/healthcare) | [Spire Dunedin Health Care](spirehealthcare.com)

### Further Study/Research

[University of Reading](https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/study/postgraduate-study.aspx) | [Find a Masters](https://www.findamasters.com/) | [Find a PhD](https://www.findaphd.com/)

### Graduate Jobs

[prospects](https://www.prospects.ac.uk/).ac.uk | [targetjobs](https://targetjobs.co.uk/).co.uk | [milkround](https://www.milkround.com/).com | [ratemyplacement](https://www.ratemyplacement.co.uk/).co.uk | [gradcracker](https://www.gradcracker.com/search/civil-building/environment-and-sustainability-jobs).com

## **Exploring Further**

[Graduate Entry Medicine](https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/making-an-application) (https://www.medschools.ac.uk/studying-medicine/making-an-application) – information about making an application to Medical School, including course lists of providers of graduate entry medicine courses.

[General Dental Council](https://www.gdc-uk.org/professionals/education/recent-inspections/inspections-dentistry) (gdc-uk.org) – information about dentistry programmes and qualifications.

[NHS – Paramedics](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/paramedic) (healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles)

[Health and Care Professions Council](https://www.hcpc-uk.org/) (hcpc-uk.org) – healthcare regulatory council. 16 health professions are listed here and students studying on professional course can register in order to practice.

[Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons](https://www.rcvs.org.uk/lifelong-learning/students/) (rcvs.org.uk) – training for veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses.

[Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists](https://www.rcslt.org/speech-and-language-therapy) (rcslt.org) – professional body for anyone working in speech and language therapy. Training for speech and language therapists.

[Nursing and Midwifery Council](https://www.nmc.org.uk/education/becoming-a-nurse-midwife-nursing-associate/) (nmc.org.uk) – a useful resource for those training to become a nurse, midwife or nursing associate.

The skills and knowledge you’ve developed in your degree will be valuable in a wide range of roles and sectors. If you’re thinking of looking further afield but aren’t sure where to start, why not [book an appointment](https://www.reading.ac.uk/essentials/Careers/Advice-and-development/MyJobsOnline) with one of our Careers Consultants? Remember, graduates can use the Careers Centre for up to two years after they graduate.

Explore our [Careers Blog](https://blogs.reading.ac.uk/careers/) for more industry guidance and useful careers advice!