

Entry requirements, skills and interests (GP)

This page provides useful information about the entry requirements needed for this specialty up to and including foundation training [1]. It also includes information on the skills and interests you will need.

Entry requirements

Prior to starting your specialty training you need to have completed a medical degree followed by the two-year foundation programme [2].

To find information about getting into medical school, visit our applying to medicine [3]pages.

To find information about the Foundation Programme, visit our applying for foundation training [4] page.

It is useful to test out your interest in general practice by talking to doctors already working in the specialty and by getting relevant work experience during the Foundation Programme.

It is also possible for doctors in training or already qualified in another specialty to apply for GP specialty training.

Skills and interests

You will need:

- the ability to listen and communicate effectively
- a strong interest in working with people – patients, families and other professionals
- the ability to work collaboratively as part of a large team
- the willingness and ability to handle uncertainty and conflicting demands
- interests outside work that enable you to “switch off” from the pressures of the job
- the ability to stay calm while working under pressure
- excellent organisational and time-management skills
- entrepreneurial and business skills, or the willingness to develop these if you decide to become a GP partner
- good IT skills
- the ability to manage change

If you're applying for a role either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services you'll be asked to show how you think the NHS values apply in your everyday work. The same will be true if you're applying for a university course funded by the NHS.

Find out more about NHS values. [5]

Source URL: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/general-practice-gp/entry-requirements-skills-and-interests>

Links

[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training

[2] <http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk>

[3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/studying-medicine/applying-medical-school>

[4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/working-health/information-doctors/foundation-training-programme/applying-foundation>

[5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/working-health/nhs-constitution>