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## Entry requirements, skills and interests (ICM)

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] and then two or three years of core training. If you have already made a decision to pursue a career in intensive care [3] medicine, try to get experience in the specialty or related areas such as A&E.

To find information about getting into medical school, visit our applying to medicine pages [4].

To find information about the Foundation Programme, visit our applying for foundation training [5] page.

### Skills and interests

The skills and interests you will need include:

- being dynamic, enthusiastic and motivated
- communicating effectively with patients, relatives and members of the health care team
- involving patients in decisions about their care and treatment
- promoting multi-disciplinary team working
- being adept in performing practical procedures
- wanting exposure to the widest range of pathology across all hospital specialties
- taking action despite uncertainty over the underlying diagnosis of the acutely ill patient
- coping with pressure
- understanding how people from different cultures are affected by serious illness and death

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. [6]

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**Source URL:** <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/intensive-care-medicine/entry-requirements-skills-and-interests>

### Links

[1] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation\\_training](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training)

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

[3] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Intensive\\_care](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Intensive_care)

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

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

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