

Entry requirements, skills and interests (plastic surgery)

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

Before you train as a surgeon you must complete a degree in medicine and have obtained a MBBS or equivalent qualification. [Find out about getting into medical school.](#) [2]

You then need to complete a [two-year foundation programme](#) [3] and then two years of core training. After successfully completing your first year of [foundation training](#) [1] you become eligible for registration as a doctor with the [General Medical Council \(GMC\)](#) [4]. [Foundation training](#) [1] includes undertaking rotations in a range of specialties including surgery.

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

You will then need to undertake core surgical (CT1-2) and specialty training (ST3-7).

Skills, qualities and interests needed

Plastic surgery is a demanding role and you'll need a special blend of skills and personal qualities. These include:

- practical skills such as good hand-eye co-ordination, fine coordination and visuo-spatial awareness
- excellent vision
- good organisational and communication skills
- the ability to lead and manage a team effectively
- stamina to cope with a busy and demanding role
- the ability to inspire confidence in others

If you have artistic ability so much the better and perfectionist tendencies are also an advantage for this very precise work.

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]

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

Links

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

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

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

[4] <http://www.gmc-uk.org/>

[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>