

# FAQs about careers in management

This page has some frequently asked questions about careers in management in the health sector.

- What do managers do in the NHS?
- How do I become a manager in the NHS? What qualifications do I need?
- What is the Graduate Management Training Scheme?
- Do I have to do the Graduate Management Training Scheme to become a manager in the NHS?
- Are there any skills I could transfer into a management role?
- Do you have to have worked in the NHS before applying for management posts?
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## What do managers do in the health sector?

Managers in the health sector work in a wide variety of disciplines including clinical care [1], human resources [2], finance [3], project management [4], hotel services [5], procurement [6] and communications and corporate affairs [7].

Visit our explore roles section on careers in management for further details [8]

## How do I become a manager in the NHS? What qualifications do I need?

There are various routes into management. You could work your way up from more junior roles; apply for a place on the Graduate Management Training Scheme [9] or gain relevant experience in another sector before applying for a position in the NHS.

## What is the NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme?

The NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme [9] recruits a number of graduates onto a fast track training programme and prepares them for senior management roles.

The scheme focuses on six specialist management areas - general management, human resources, finance, health informatics [10], health analysis and policy and strategy management. There is an annual intake each year.

Find out more about the NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme [9]

## Do I have to do the Graduate Management Training Scheme to become a manager in the NHS?

Not at all. There are a number of routes into management. You could work your way up from more junior

roles or gain relevant experience in another sector before applying for a position in the NHS.

### **Are there any skills I could transfer into a management role?**

Yes, many areas of management are not unique to healthcare, such as finance [3], human resources [2], purchasing [11] or hotel services management [5].

You may therefore have gained skills in another role (within or outside of the health sector) and be able to use these in a management role.

### **Do you have to have worked in the health sector before applying for management posts?**

No. However, there are some more senior roles that may require experience of managing resources in a healthcare environment.

### **Do vacancies always go to internal applicants?**

No. It depends on the candidate that best meets the criteria in the person specification and can demonstrate this through the application and selection process.

### **Can I work my way up into management roles in the health sector?**

Yes. By gaining appropriate experience and training, it is possible to meet the required criteria for more senior level positions.

### **How can I get into project management in the NHS?**

Take a look at our information about working in general project management [4] and project management specifically within estates and facilities [6]

### **Where can I find more information about careers in management?**

You can find more information about careers in management by visiting our explore roles section [8].

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**Source URL:** <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/faqs-management>

#### **Links**

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/clinical-manager>

[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/human-resources-hr-manager>

[3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/finance-manager>

[4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/general-management/project-manager>

[5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/operational-management/hotel-services-management>

[6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/estates-and-facilities-management/project-management-and-procurement>

[7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/general-management/communications-and-corporate-affairs>

[8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles>

[9] <http://www.nhsgraduates.co.uk>

[10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Informatics>

[11] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/general-management/purchasing-and-contract-management>