

# FAQs about careers in management

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

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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] and [communications and corporate affairs](#) [6].

[Visit our explore roles section on careers in management for further details](#) [7]

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

There are various routes into management and some may be available as apprenticeships. You could work your way up from more junior roles; apply for a place on the [Graduate Management Training Scheme](#) [8] 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](#) [8] 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](#) [9], health analysis and policy and strategy management.

There is an annual intake each year.

[Find out more about the NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme](#) [8]

## **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](#) [10] 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](#) [11]

## **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](#) [7].

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

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