

Training and development (midwifery)

This page has information on the training and development opportunities in midwifery.

You will need to take an approved [midwifery degree or degree apprenticeship in midwifery](#) ^[1] to practise as a midwife; or if you are a qualified nurse you can complete a midwifery short programme. Each route leads to registration with the [Nursing and Midwifery Council \(NMC\)](#) ^[2] allowing you to practise as a midwife.

Revalidation

Midwives need to be committed to learning and always keeping their skills and knowledge up to date. To maintain your registration to practise with the Nursing and Midwifery Council, you'll need to go through the process of revalidation.

The process is straightforward and will help you as a nurse or midwife to demonstrate that you practise safely and effectively. You will have to revalidate every three years to renew your registration.

[Find out more about revalidation on the NMC microsite](#) ^[3]



You could also move into neonatal nursing or health visiting.

Development opportunities

There are lots of opportunities for midwives to progress their career with more experience. As well as offering support to mothers and babies, you will support other midwives in their practice. You could combine responsibility for managing other staff with ongoing hands-on involvement with families by becoming a team or unit manager or supervisor. This could then lead to further influential roles such as head of midwifery and director of midwifery services.

Specialise

You may choose to specialise in a particular area or study for further qualifications. This include a clinical academic career ^[4] where you're carrying out research to help move the profession forward.

You could undertake further study to teach midwifery students at a university. If you stay in practice, you could consider the role of consultant midwife, providing clinical leadership for midwives and other healthcare professionals, across maternity services. You could also move into neonatal nursing ^[5] or health visiting ^[6].

NHS Leadership Academy

The NHS Leadership Academy also runs a number of programmes to support midwives into leadership roles including the Mary Seacole programme. They also offer a programme purely for frontline nurses and midwives to help develop their skills and build confidence. Find out more about the [NHS Leadership Academy](#) [7] and its programmes.

Partner logos



Source URL: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/midwifery/roles-midwifery/midwife/training-and-development-midwifery>

Links

- [1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/studying-midwifery>
- [2] <http://www.nmc.org.uk/>
- [3] <http://revalidation.nmc.org.uk/welcome-to-revalidation/>
- [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/working-health/clinical-academic-careers>
- [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/neonatal-nurse>
- [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/health-visitor>
- [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/working-health/nhs-leadership-academy>
- [8] <https://www.rcn.org.uk/>