

Clinical engineering

Clinical engineering staff check and maintain medical equipment to make sure it is safe to use and operating correctly.

Hospitals and NHS staff in the community rely on an increasingly wide range of medical equipment to provide excellent care to patients, so your role is vitally important.

Life as a clinical engineer

You'll need a background in electronic or mechanical engineering and the confidence and willingness to take a hands-on approach.

You'll enjoy a varied and exciting role maintaining and ensuring the safety of a wide range of medical equipment. This could range from simple devices such as nebulisers to sophisticated and life-saving equipment like [radiotherapy](#) ^[1] linear accelerators.

With experience, you can develop your role and gain greater responsibility to modify and construct equipment.

You will be responsible for managing medical equipment through its life cycle, ensuring that parts are replaced, guaranteeing that machines are always safe to use.

A typical day may include:

- testing new equipment
- introducing equipment and devices into service
- advising on the correct use of equipment
- addressing patient safety issues
- safely disposing of old devices

Hollie Owen

Apprentice medical engineer

It makes me feel good knowing that the equipment I fixed will go and help a patient get the treatment they need.

[Read Hollie's story](#) ^[2]

How much can I earn?

You'll be employed on a national pay and conditions system called [Agenda for Change \(AfC\)](#) ^[3]. Below are examples of the pay band you'll be on, depending on your role within neurophysiology:

- healthcare science assistant – B2/3
- healthcare science associate – B4
- healthcare science practitioner – B5
- Clinical scientist – B6/7/8a
- consultant clinical scientist – B8a-d

How about the benefits?

- make a difference
- flexible and part-time working
- high income early in your career
- work anywhere in the world
- excellent pension scheme
- good holiday entitlement
- NHS discounts in shops and restaurants

How to become a clinical engineer

Starting your career in clinical engineering might be easier than you think. You could undertake study at university or find an apprenticeship that takes you straight into a job.

There are a wide variety of entry levels into clinical engineering such as assistant or level 2 apprenticeships, associate practitioner roles, level 4 apprenticeships.

There are also Bachelor degrees/degree apprenticeships, Master's degrees and Higher Specialist Scientist Training.

See '[How to become a healthcare science professional](#)' ^[4] for details.

Must-have skills

- excellent communication skills to manage a wide range of relationships with colleagues, patients and their families?
- emotional resilience, a calm temperament and the ability to work well under pressure?
- teamwork and the capacity to lead multidisciplinary teams?
- problem-solving and diagnostic skills?
- outstanding organisational ability and effective decision-making skills?

- first-class time and resource management for the benefit of patients

Entry requirements

There are several different ways to start your career in clinical engineering, depending on your experience and qualifications.

Apprenticeship

You could look for an entry level job/level 2 apprenticeship – typically GCSEs 9-4/A-C in maths, English and a science. If an apprenticeship feels right for you, you'll need 5 GCSEs at 9-4/A-C (or equivalent) including maths, English and science or Level 2 Diploma in Healthcare Science to start a level 4 apprenticeship.

Associate practitioner

An associate practitioner role is another route to a career in clinical engineering. You'll likely require foundation degree, or equivalent experience with training and experience to NVQ level 3.

Degree-level qualification

A level 6 apprenticeship or degree course require relevant level 3 qualifications, for example three A-levels (including at least one science subject) or an Access to higher education course.

Post-graduate

To start the NHS Scientist Training Programme, you'll need a 1st or 2:1 in relevant first degree or relevant higher degree and 2:2 in a relevant subject.

Higher Specialist Scientist Training is available for registered clinical scientists with relevant MSc or specialist diploma.

Where a career in clinical engineering can take you

Working in clinical engineering can lead to registration as a Clinical Scientist. You can then move into senior and consultant Clinical Scientist roles, through the Higher Specialist Scientist Training (HSST) programme ^[5].

It can also lead to careers in academia, research, industry, management and leadership and training.

- **Live vacancies**

Find a vacancy

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- **Apprentice Medical Engineer**

Sutton Coldfield, B75 7RR

Salary:

£14762.00 to £23874.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Apprentice Medical Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[6]

- **Medical Engineering (EBME) Technician**

Wrexham, LL57 2PW

Salary:

£30420.00 to £37030.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medical Engineering \(EBME\) Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[7]

- **Business Administration Apprentice – Medical Engineering**

Birmingham, B15 2TH

Salary:

£14762.00 to £23874.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Business Administration Apprentice – Medical Engineering job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[8]

- **Senior Clinical Engineer**

Sheffield, S5 7AU

Salary:

£38682.00 to £46580.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Clinical Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[9]

- **Clinical Engineering Technician: Electronics**

Cambridge Bio Medical Campus, CB2 0AY

Salary:

£31049.00 to £37796.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Royal Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Engineering Technician: Electronics job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [10]

- **Chief Engineer**

Nationally, SE1 8UG

Salary:

£100000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

NHS England

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Chief Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [11]

- **Mechanical Engineer**

Poole, BH15 2JB

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Mechanical Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [12]

- **IT Engineer**

Colchester, CO4 9YQ

Salary:

£55000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aria Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for IT Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[13]

- **Rehabilitation Engineer**

Amersham, HP7 0JD

Salary:

£46148.00 to £52809.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Rehabilitation Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

^[14]

- **Rehabilitation Engineer**

Treforest, CF37 5TF

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Rehabilitation Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

^[15]

- **IT Engineer**

Colchester, CO4 9YQ

Salary:

£55000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aria Care

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for IT Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[16]

- **Platform Engineer**

Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE15 8NY

Salary:

£38682.00 to £46580.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

NHS Business Services Authority

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Platform Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[17]

- **Dental Engineering Technician**

317 02 Royal Victoria Infirmary, NE1 4LP

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Dental Engineering Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[18]

- **Digital Field Engineer**

Colchester, CO4 9QS

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Digital Field Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[19]

- **Decontamination Engineering Tradesperson**

Cwmbran, NP44 8YN

Salary:

£30420.00 to £37030.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Decontamination Engineering Tradesperson job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[20]

- **Mechanical Engineering Craftsperson**

Wrexham, LL13 7TD

Salary:

£30420.00 to £37030.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Mechanical Engineering Craftsperson job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[21]

- **Craftsman (Electrical Engineering)**

Plymouth, PL6 8DH

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Craftsman \(Electrical Engineering\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[22]

- **Senior Infrastructure Engineer**

London, SE1 7NJ

Salary:

£54320.00 to £60981.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Senior Infrastructure Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[23]

- **IT Infrastructure Engineer**

Hessle, HU13 0GD

Salary:

£35461.74

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

N3i Limited

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for IT Infrastructure Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[24]

- **Small Works Officer (Engineering)**

Sunderland, SR4 7TP

Salary:

£31976.00 to £38926.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

City Hospitals Independent Commercial Enterprises Ltd (CHOICE)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Small Works Officer \(Engineering\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [25]

- **Mechanical Engineering Graduate Intern**

Oswestry, SY10 7AG

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Mechanical Engineering Graduate Intern job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [26]

- **Electro-Biomedical Engineer (EBME)**

London, SW17 0QT

Salary:

£44806.00 to £53134.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Electro-Biomedical Engineer \(EBME\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [27]

- **Specialist Engineering Supervisor - Electrical**

317 01 Freeman Hospital, NE7 7DN

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Engineering Supervisor - Electrical job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[28]

- **Maintenance Engineer (Electrical Bias)**

Cardiff, CF14 4XW

Salary:

£30420.00 to £37030.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Maintenance Engineer \(Electrical Bias\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[29]

- **Engineering Technician (Multi-skilled)**

Chichester, PO196SE

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Engineering Technician \(Multi-skilled\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[30]

- **Vehicle Technician/Fleet Engineer - Nursling**

Southampton, SO16 0YU

Salary:

£39150.31 to £45805.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Central Fleet Services Ltd

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Vehicle Technician/Fleet Engineer - Nursling job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[31]

- **Voice and Unified Communications Engineer**

London, E2 9NJ

Salary:

£54320.00 to £60981.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

East London NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Voice and Unified Communications Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[32]

- **ICT Acute Customer Engagement Engineer**

Warwick, CV34 5BW

Nuneaton, CV10 7DJ

Salary:

£28090.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Innovate Healthcare Services

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for ICT Acute Customer Engagement Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[33]

- **Vehicle Technician/Fleet Engineer - Didcot**

Didcot, OX11 8RY

Salary:

£39150.31 to £45805.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Central Fleet Services Ltd

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Vehicle Technician/Fleet Engineer - Didcot job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[34]

- **3D Digital Biomedical Engineer/Technician**

London, SE5 9RW

Salary:

£54320.00 to £60981.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for 3D Digital Biomedical Engineer/Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[35]

- **Electrical Engineering Technician (Multi-skilled)**

Haywards Heath, RH16 4EX

Salary:

£29970.00 to £36483.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust (279)

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Electrical Engineering Technician \(Multi-skilled\) job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[36]

- **Cloud and Infrastructure Apprentice Engineer**

Cardiff, CF11 9AD

Salary:

£24433.00 to £26060.00

Type:

Apprenticeship

Employer:

Digital Health and Care Wales

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Cloud and Infrastructure Apprentice Engineer job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[37]

- **Mechanical Plumbing Bias - Electrical/Engineering Craftsperson**

Bodelwyddan, LL18 5UJ

Salary:

£30420.00 to £37030.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Mechanical Plumbing Bias - Electrical/Engineering Craftsperson job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[38]

- **Specialist Rehab Engineering Digital Manufacturing Technician**

North Chailey, Near Lewes, East Sussex, East sussex, BN8 4JN

Salary:

£37338.00 to £44962.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Specialist Rehab Engineering Digital Manufacturing Technician job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[39]

- **Medical Junior Clinical Fellow in HIV**

Croydon, CR7 7YE

Salary:

£49909.00 to £61825.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Croydon Health Services NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medical Junior Clinical Fellow in HIV job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[40]

- **Clinical Coder - Tieve Tara Medical Centre**

Castleford, WF10 2QP

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Spectrum Community Health CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Clinical Coder - Tieve Tara Medical Centre job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[41]

- **Locum Medical or Clinical Oncology Consultant**

Northampton, NN1 5BD

Salary:

£109725.00 to £145478.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Northampton General Hospital

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Locum Medical or Clinical Oncology Consultant job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[42]

- **Advanced Clinical Practitioner - Lindley Medical Practice**

Oldham, OL1 1NL

Salary:

£54075.00 to £60638.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Gtd Healthcare

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Advanced Clinical Practitioner - Lindley Medical Practice job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[43]

- **Medical Secretary/Higher Medical Secretary**

Middlesbrough, TS4 3BW

Salary:

£24625.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medical Secretary/Higher Medical Secretary job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[44]

- **Medical Secretary**

Sleaford, NG34 7HD

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sleaford Medical Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medical Secretary job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[45]

- **Medical secretary**

Merseyside, PR8 6PG

Salary:

£12.48

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cumberland House Surgery

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Medical secretary job \(opens in a new window\)](#) ^[46]

- **Further information**

- [Academy for Healthcare Science](#) ^[47]
- [Health and Care Professions Council](#) ^[48]
- [Institution of Physics and Engineering in Medicine](#) ^[49]
- [National School of Healthcare Science](#) ^[50]
- [UCAS](#) ^[51]

Other roles that may interest you

- [Clinical or medical technology in medical physics](#) [52]
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Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Radiotherapy> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/physical-sciences-and-biomedical-engineering/medical-engineering/real-life-story-hollie-owen> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/working-health/working-nhs/nhs-pay-and-benefits/agenda-change-pay-rates> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/how-become-healthcare-science-professional> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/developing-your-health-career/nhs-higher-specialist-scientist-training> [6] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C0020-25-1142> [7] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9050-25-1980> [8] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C0020-25-1167> [9] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9190-25-0806> [10] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9175-25-0255> [11] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/M9990-25-0245> [12] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9153-25-0588> [13] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/L0121-25-1087> [14] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9434-25-0772> [15] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9001-25-0541> [16] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/L0121-25-1077> [17] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/G9914-25-0165> [18] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9317-25-0906> [19] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9364-25-0731> [20] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9040-25-1031> [21] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9050-25-2107> [22] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9216-25-0872> [23] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9196-25-1198> [24] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0009-25-0006> [25] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/M9155-Z-EA-0125-05-1> [26] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9224-25-0173> [27] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9200-25-0809> [28] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9317-25-0956> [29] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9001-25-0575> [30] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9279-25-1293> [31] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/M9195-25-0035> [32] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9363-25-0705> [33] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/M9203-25-0024> [34] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/M9195-25-0034> [35] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9213-25-0687> [36] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9279-25-1274> [37] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/M9025-25-0063> [38] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/H9050-25-1992> [39] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9150-25-0497> [40] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9199-25-0279> [41]

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