

# Nursing associate

Nursing associates work with healthcare support workers and registered nurses to deliver care for patients and the public.

## Working life

Nursing associates work across all four fields of nursing: adult, children's, mental health, and learning disability. Your skills and responsibilities will vary, depending on the care setting you work in. You'll need to demonstrate the values and behaviours of the [NHS Constitution](#) <sup>[1]</sup>

Your duties are likely to include:

- undertaking clinical tasks including venepuncture and ECGs
- supporting individuals and their families and carers when faced with unwelcome news and life-changing diagnoses
- performing and recording clinical observations such as blood pressure, temperature, respirations and pulse
- discussing and sharing information with registered nurses on a patient's condition, behaviour, activity and responses
- ensuring the privacy, dignity and safety of individuals is maintained at all times
- recognising issues relating to safeguarding vulnerable children and adults

nursing associate smiling at patient in bed  
Ready to get started?

**Get practical advice and everything you need to know in your inbox.**

[Sign up for emails](#) <sup>[2]</sup>

## Pay and benefits

Your standard working week will be around 37.5 hours and may include a mix of shifts, such as nights, early starts, evenings and weekends. As a student nursing associate, you'll usually be paid on band 3 of the [Agenda for Change \(AFC\)](#) <sup>[3]</sup> pay system, with registered nursing associates usually employed on band 4.

You'll also have access to our generous pension scheme and health service discounts, as well as 27 days of annual leave, plus bank holidays, which increases the longer you're in service.

## Entry requirements

To begin your training as a nursing associate, you'll need GCSEs grade 9 to 4 (A to C) in maths and English, or Functional Skills Level 2 in maths and English. Some employers will also ask for a level 3 qualification. You'll also need to show that you can study for a foundation degree level and complete the Nursing Associate Apprenticeship programme.

Student nursing associate places are usually advertised on NHS Jobs but some places are available through direct application to universities. Applicants accepted onto university courses will need to fund their own training.

### Peggy-Jane Murrell

#### Student nursing associate

I have always been made to feel very welcome and supported in my new role.

[Read Peggy's story](#) <sup>[4]</sup>

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## Your training

You'll undertake a combination of academic learning and work-based learning. You'll be employed in a healthcare setting such as an acute, community or mental health hospital, care home or hospice but also gain experience in other settings. This will mean travelling to placements and working a mix of shifts.

Apprenticeships logo

It is very important to plan and manage the competing demands of your job role, study and placements. You'll develop an understanding of all elements of nursing and caring for individuals with conditions such as dementia, mental ill health and learning disabilities/difficulties.

## Career development

Once you've finished your training, you'll have the knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes and behaviours to work as a nursing associate. Registered nursing associates can also go on to train as a registered nurse by putting their training towards a shortened nursing degree or registered nurse degree apprenticeship (RNDA).

Your nursing associate training may shorten a registered nurse degree apprenticeship to 2 years.

To find out more about the apprenticeship route, including how to apply, speak with your line manager, education team or apprenticeship lead. Your employer may want you to complete a year working as a registered nursing associate before you progress to registered nurse training.

## Registration

The Nursing and Midwifery Council ([NMC](#) <sup>[5]</sup>) is responsible for registering and regulating nursing associates.

### • Find your course to become a nursing associate

Region	Type of qualification	Full or part time
- Any - ▼	- Any - ▼	Search ▼

Displaying 6 - 10 of 26 matches

## Nursing Associate

University of East London

[View course](#) <sup>[6]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - Foundation Degree in Science - FdSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 2 Years
- Leading to a career in
  - Nursing associate
- Contact details
  - [study@uel.ac.uk](mailto:study@uel.ac.uk) <sup>[7]</sup>
  - 0208 223 3333
- Region
  - London
- Admissions address
  - Water Lane
  - Stratford
  - E15 4LZ
  - England

# Nursing Associate

Anglia Ruskin University

[View course](#) <sup>[8]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - Foundation Degree in Science - FdSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 2 Years
- Leading to a career in
  - Nursing associate
- Contact details
  - [answers@aru.ac.uk](mailto:answers@aru.ac.uk) <sup>[9]</sup>
  - 01245 683680
- Region
  - East of England
- Admissions address
  - Bishop Hall Lane
  - Chelmsford
  - CM1 1SQ
  - England

# Nursing Associate

University of Northampton

[View course](#) <sup>[10]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - Foundation Degree in Science - FdSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 2 Years
- Leading to a career in
  - Nursing associate
- Contact details
  - [study@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:study@northampton.ac.uk) <sup>[11]</sup>
  - 0300 303 2772
- Region
  - East Midlands
- Admissions address
  - Waterside Campus
  - University Drive
  - Northampton
  - NN1 5PH
  - United Kingdom

# Foundation Degree Science Nursing Associate

University of Derby

[View course](#) <sup>[12]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - Foundation Degree in Science - FdSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 2 Years
- Leading to a career in
  - Nursing associate
- Contact details
  - [askadmissions@derby.ac.uk](mailto:askadmissions@derby.ac.uk) <sup>[13]</sup>
  - 01332 591167
- Region
  - East Midlands
- Admissions address
  - St. Helena
  - Sheffield Road
  - Chesterfield
  - S41 7LU
  - United Kingdom

## Nursing Associate

University of Worcester

[View course](#) <sup>[14]</sup> Opens in a new window

- Qualification
  - Foundation Degree in Science - FdSc
- Study mode
  - Full-time
- Duration of the course
  - 2 Years
- Leading to a career in
  - Nursing associate
- Contact details
  - [admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@worc.ac.uk) <sup>[15]</sup>
  - 01905 855111
- Region
  - West Midlands
- Admissions address
  - Henwick Grove
  - Worcester
  - WR2 6AJ
  - United Kingdom

- [Load more Load more results](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

## • Live vacancies

### Find a vacancy

Enter your location or postcode

Show results within

Search

- **Student Nursing Associate**

Exeter, EX2 5JJ

Salary:

£24071.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Hospiscare

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Student Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

- **Student Nursing Associate - Apprenticeship**

Bolton, BL4 0JR

Salary:

£24625.00 to £25674.00

Type:

Apprenticeship

Employer:

Bolton NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Student Nursing Associate - Apprenticeship job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Chelmsford, CM2 6LQ

Salary:

£30000.00 to £33000.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

HCRG Care Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Wallsend, NE28 8QU

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[20]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Gloucester, GL1 3EA

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[21]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Sheffield, S10 2TH

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[22]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Leicester, LE8 0LG

Salary:

£14.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

South Leicestershire Medical Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [23]

○ **Nursing Associate**

Walton-on-thames, KT12 3LD

Staines-upon-Thames, TW181XD

Salary:

£27857.00 to £30570.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

CSH Surrey

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [24]

○ **Nursing Associate**

Chertsey, KT16 0PZ

Salary:

£26405.00 to £28976.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ashford & St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [25]

○ **Nursing Associate**

Grantham, NG31 8DG

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) [26]

○ **Nursing Associate**

Nuneaton, CV10 7DJ

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:



George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[27]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

London, HA7 1AT

Salary:

£31081.00 to £33665.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Central London Community Health Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[28]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Lincoln, Grantham or Boston, LN2 4WA

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[29]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Beccles, NR34 9NQ

Southwold, IP18 6GY

Halesworth, IP19 8HP

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

East Coast Community Healthcare CIC

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[30]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate**

Middleton St George, DL2 1BY

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Fixed-Term

Employer:

Middleton and Dinsdale Medical Practice  
[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[31]</sup>

- **Student Nursing Associate (SNA) Apprenticeship - September 25 intake**

Lancaster/ Barrow/ Kendal, LA1 4RP

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Apprenticeship

Employer:

University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Student Nursing Associate \(SNA\) Apprenticeship - September 25 intake job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[32]</sup>

- **Qualified Nursing Associate**

Horncastle, LN9 6AL

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Horncastle Medical Group

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Qualified Nursing Associate job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[33]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate - Community**

Lichfield, WS14 9LH

Salary:

£27355.42 to £30308.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

St Giles Hospice

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate - Community job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[34]</sup>

- **Diabetes Nursing associate**

nottingham, NG7 2UH

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trusts

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Diabetes Nursing associate job (opens in a new window) <sup>[35]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate - CTMU**

Nuneaton, CV10 7DJ

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate - CTMU job (opens in a new window) <sup>[36]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate HMP Woodhill**

Milton Keynes, MK4 4DA

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate HMP Woodhill job (opens in a new window) <sup>[37]</sup>

- **Full-time Nursing Associate**

Canterbury, CT3 2HD

Salary:

Negotiable

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Ash Surgery

Apply now on NHS Jobs for Full-time Nursing Associate job (opens in a new window) <sup>[38]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate - BBV Team**

Liverpool, L7 8YE

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate - BBV Team job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[39]</sup>

- **Nursing associate - bladder and bowel**

Gillingham, ME8 0PZ

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Medway Community Healthcare

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing associate - bladder and bowel job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[40]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate, Children's Critical Care**

London, SE5 9RS

Salary:

£31944.00 to £34937.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate, Children's Critical Care job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[41]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate - Children's Community Nursing Team**

PETERBOROUGH, PE3 6DB

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate - Children's Community Nursing Team job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[42]</sup>

- **Nursing Associate Contraception and Sexual Health**

Manchester, M13 0FH

Salary:

£26530.00 to £29114.00

Type:

Permanent

Employer:

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

[Apply now on NHS Jobs for Nursing Associate Contraception and Sexual Health job \(opens in a new window\)](#) <sup>[43]</sup>

## • **Return to practice**

If you're no longer a registered nursing associate, returning to practice is really straightforward. Here's how you can do it:

- readmission
- Test of competence
- return to practice course

### **Readmission**

You might be able to re-register with the NMC <sup>[5]</sup> without doing a course or a test. You'll need to contact the NMC <sup>[44]</sup> to find out how to do this.

### **Test of competence**

The test is made up of two parts:

- a multiple choice computer based test (CBT)
- a practical test known as the Objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) <sup>[45]</sup>

You can apply through the NMC website <sup>[46]</sup>, where you'll also find lots of preparation materials and essential reading to help you revise for the test.

### **Return to practice course**

A return to practice course will refresh your skills, leaving you ready to return to being a nursing associate with confidence. It involves a combination of classroom and placement-based learning. Find return to practice courses on our course finder. <sup>[47]</sup>

## **Other roles that may interest you**

- Healthcare assistant <sup>[48]</sup>
- Adult nurse <sup>[49]</sup>
- Assistant practitioner <sup>[50]</sup>

- Experienced paramedic [51]

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**Source URL:**[https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/nursing-associate?field\\_field\\_role=3566&page=1](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/nursing-associate?field_field_role=3566&page=1)

## Links

[1] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#NHS\\_Constitution](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#NHS_Constitution) [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/we-are-the-nhs/registration?career=nursing-guide> [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/nursing/roles-nursing/nursing-associate/real-life-story-peggy-jane-murrell> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#NMC> [6] <https://www.uel.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/nursing-associate> [7] [mailto: study@uel.ac.uk](mailto:study@uel.ac.uk) [8] <https://aru.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/nursing-associate-fdsc/> [9] [mailto: answers@aru.ac.uk](mailto:answers@aru.ac.uk) [10] <https://www.northampton.ac.uk/courses/nursing-associate-fdsc/> [11] [mailto: study@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:study@northampton.ac.uk) [12] <https://www.derby.ac.uk/undergraduate/nursing-courses/nursing-associate-fdsc/> [13] [mailto: askadmissions@derby.ac.uk](mailto:askadmissions@derby.ac.uk) [14] <https://www.worcester.ac.uk/courses/nursing-associate-fdsc> [15] [mailto: admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@worc.ac.uk) [16] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/printpdf/3471?field\\_field\\_role=3566&page=2](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/printpdf/3471?field_field_role=3566&page=2) [17] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B0211-25-0004> [18] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9241-25-0218> [19] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/E0279-25-0775> [20] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9319-25-0466> [21] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9327-25-0365> [22] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9425-25-0216> [23] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/A3364-25-0005> [24] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B9074-25-0014-2> [25] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9323-25-0234> [26] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9274-25-0184> [27] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9230-25-0168> [28] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9824-25-0694> [29] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9274-25-0194> [30] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B9849-040-25A> [31] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/A1503-25-0000> [32] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9331-25-0376> [33] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/A4407-25-0002> [34] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B0379-400A> [35] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9164-25-0919> [36] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9230-25-0167> [37] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9333-25-0423> [38] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/A3025-25-0001> [39] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9287-25-0745> [40] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/B9813-25-0060> [41] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9213-25-0425> [42] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9310-25-0411> [43] <https://beta.jobs.nhs.uk/candidate/jobadvert/C9349-25-1202> [44] <https://www.nmc.org.uk/contact-us/> [45] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Objective\\_structured\\_clinical\\_examination\\_OSCE](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Objective_structured_clinical_examination_OSCE) [46] <https://www.nmc.org.uk/registration/joining-the-register/toc/na-toc-2021/> [47] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/course-finder?field\\_leading\\_to\\_a\\_career\\_in\\_tid=3428&field\\_region\\_tid=All&field\\_qualification\\_type\\_tid=All&page=1](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/course-finder?field_leading_to_a_career_in_tid=3428&field_region_tid=All&field_qualification_type_tid=All&page=1) [48] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-support-worker/roles-healthcare-support-worker/healthcare-assistant> [49] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/adult-nurse> [50] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/clinical-support-staff/assistant-practitioner> [51] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/experienced-paramedic>