

Compare roles in health

Not sure where to start with the hundreds of NHS careers? Use our compare roles section to get bite-size information on the entry requirements and training, pay and conditions, prospects and skills needed of up to three roles. If there is something that you think you could do, then get more in-depth information on the role.

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- **Podiatry assistant** ^[1]

Podiatry assistants treat and care for people whose feet and legs have been affected by injury or illness. Their work helps people live full and independent lives.

Training and qualifications required

There are no set entry requirements to become a podiatry assistant. Employers expect good literacy and numeracy and may ask for GCSEs, or equivalent. They may ask for an NVQ, BTEC or equivalent qualification in health and social care or healthcare. They often ask for relevant work experience. You will get the training you need to work as a podiatry assistant. This includes diseases and conditions of the skin and nails, anatomy and physiology, conditions of the feet and legs and nail operations.

Expected working hours and salary range

Podiatry assistants working in the NHS are paid on the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay system. You would typically start on AfC band 2. With further training and experience, you could apply for more senior positions at bands 3 and above. Most podiatry assistants in the NHS work standard hours, which are likely to be around 37.5 a week. They may work some evenings. Outside the NHS, podiatry assistants' hours of work depend on client needs. They may work evenings and weekends to suit private clients.

Desirable skills and values

Podiatry assistants need to be willing to handle other people's feet, calm and reassuring, caring and dedicated, able to follow procedures and instructions, willing to work alone or in a team and able to explain treatment to patients. They also need good manual (hand) skills, organisational skills, communication skills and customer service skills

Prospects

With the appropriate qualifications necessary, you could apply to train as a podiatrist.

Related roles

- Orthotic technician [2]
- Podiatrist [3]
- Cytopathology [4]
- Critical care science [5]

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