

# 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.

Don't forget, you can also save your role comparisons by registering with us.

## • Dramatherapist <sup>[1]</sup>

Dramatherapy uses role play, voice work, movement and storytelling to help clients explore and solve personal and social problems.

### Training and qualifications required

To be a dramatherapist you need professional experience in an area of therapy or health care. This may be from working in, for example, nursing, social work, special needs or psychotherapy. Or you may have voluntary experience of working with people in a therapeutic setting. To practise as a dramatherapist, you must be registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) as a dramatherapist. You need to have taken an approved postgraduate qualification in dramatherapy. Courses can be full time or part time and take between one and three years. A level 7 apprenticeship for arts therapists (art therapists/art psychotherapists, dramatherapists and music therapists) has also been approved for delivery.

### Expected working hours and salary range

Dramatherapists in the NHS work standard hours, which are likely to be around 37.5 a week. They usually start at band 6 of the Agenda for Change pay rates. They may work some evenings. Elsewhere, the working hours will depend on where they work. In education, for example, they may work school hours. Prison work may involve early starts. Self-employed dramatherapists' hours of work depend on client needs. They may work evenings and weekends to suit private clients.

### Desirable skills and values

Dramatherapists need a range of skills, including creativity, being non judgemental, resilient in dealing with other people's strong emotions and sensitive and mature. They also need theatre skills and ideas, excellent communication skills, being able to work with people from all walks of life and being able to reflect on their own emotions.

### Prospects

You could specialise to work with a particular type of client such as children, the elderly or offenders. Or you could become a specialist in a particular issue such as dementia, mental

health or palliative care. You could decide to become self-employed and build up a private practice. You could do this alongside employed work. As an experienced practitioner, you could become a senior or consultant dramatherapist, managing the work of a team of therapists. You could become the head of an arts therapy department, coordinating the work of therapists from other disciplines such as music or art therapy. You might also train other dramatherapists.

## Related roles

- [Creative therapy support roles](#) <sup>[2]</sup>
- [Music therapist](#) <sup>[3]</sup>
- [Art therapist/art psychotherapist](#) <sup>[4]</sup>
- [Mental health nurse](#) <sup>[5]</sup>

## • [Emergency medical technician](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

As an emergency medical technician, you may operate as a single responder to an incident or support a [paramedic](#) <sup>[7]</sup> on a double-crewed ambulance. You'll have many of the same skills as paramedics, such as being able to assess, triage and provide lifesaving treatment.

### Training and qualifications required

For entry onto the level 4 apprenticeship as an emergency medical technician (EMT), you will typically need a general standard of education and be committed to self-development; a full UK manual driving licence (including the full C1 category) with a minimum of 1 year's driving experience; your own transport to attend training and work; experience in dealing with a range of people of different ages and social groups and a high degree of physical fitness. Training is through a level 4 apprenticeship which takes 12-18 months. Following an initial classroom-based course, you will continue your apprenticeship and learning whilst out on the road, responding to emergency calls. If you successfully complete the course, you will then be eligible to continue as a qualified EMT role with the ambulance service trust.

### Expected working hours and salary range

Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales and emergency medical technician jobs will usually be at band 4. If you are in a trainee position, you may receive a percentage of the band 4 rate, rising to the full band rate once qualified. Check terms and conditions with the employing ambulance service trust. You will usually work standard hours of 37.5 per week on a shift pattern. Shifts cover 24 hours a day, 7 days a week throughout the year. So the pattern includes evenings, nights, early starts, weekends and bank holidays. You need to be prepared to work outdoors in all conditions, where necessary. Terms and conditions can vary for employers outside of the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

You will need an understanding of compassion, respect and dignity through patient-centred care; dedication, motivation and drive. If you're applying for a role either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services, you'll be asked to show how you think the values of the NHS Constitution apply in your everyday work.

### Prospects

You could progress to become a team leader or supervisor. You would be in charge of a team, responsible for allocating work and drawing up shift rotas. You could apply to train as a

paramedic. You would have to pass entrance exams and meet other requirements before being accepted onto a full-time paramedic course, paramedic degree apprenticeship or student paramedic position with an ambulance service trust.

### Related roles

- Emergency care assistant [8]
- Paramedic [9]
- Experienced paramedic [10]
- Call handler/emergency medical dispatcher [11]

## • Facilities management [12]

Facilities managers ensure that the services that patients need during their stay in hospital are available, such as meals, linen and a clean environment.

### Training and qualifications required

You can enter facilities management through an apprenticeship or with level 3 qualifications and working your way up through supervisory roles into more senior positions. Relevant qualifications are available through The British Institute of Facilities Management, City and Guilds, Institute of Leadership and Management and Pearson qualifications. Some postgraduate qualifications incorporate facilities management.

### Expected working hours and salary range

Staff in the NHS will usually work a standard 37.5 hours per week. They may work a shift pattern. Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists, and the most senior managers (where very senior managers pay apply). You could work your way through supervisory level roles in hospitality/domestic services at AfC bands 3 and 4 to managerial roles in facilities management at bands 5-8. Terms and conditions of service can vary for employers outside the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

To work in facilities management, as a guide you'll need an up to date awareness of Health and Safety issues and appropriate legislation, good organisational skills, good communication skills, the ability to manage and motivate a team, be able to work under pressure, solve problems as they arise, an understanding of finance and being able to manage a budget, the ability to create and maintain effective working relationships, be able to sustain housekeeping supplies, to maintain information systems, maintain a safe and secure working environment and a commitment to the ideals of quality and fairness in delivering healthcare.

### Prospects

With further training and/or experience, you may be able to develop your career further into more senior managerial roles – often combined with other areas of responsibility - typically within operational management.

### Related roles

- Estates manager [13]

- Hotel services management <sup>[14]</sup>
- Human resources (HR) manager <sup>[15]</sup>
- Project management and procurement <sup>[16]</sup>

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### Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/dramatherapist> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/clinical-support-staff/creative-therapy-support-roles> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/music-therapist> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/art-therapist-art-psychotherapist> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/mental-health-nurse> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/emergency-medical-technician> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/paramedic> [8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/emergency-care-assistant> [9] [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/paramedic](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/roles-allied-health-professions/paramedic) [10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/experienced-paramedic> [11] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/emergency-medical-dispatcher-call-handler> [12] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/operational-management/facilities-management> [13] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/estates-manager> [14] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/operational-management/hotel-services-management> [15] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/human-resources-hr-manager> [16] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/project-and-programme-management/project-management-and-procurement>