

# 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.

## • Assistant psychologist <sup>[1]</sup>

Assistant psychologists work in a variety of roles to support people with mental health conditions.

### Training and qualifications required

Applicants for these posts usually need a degree in psychology, recognised by the British Psychological Society (BPS).

### Expected working hours and salary range

Most jobs in the NHS are covered by the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. Assistant psychologists in the NHS will usually be at band 4 and work standard hours of 37.5 per week. Terms and conditions can vary for employers outside of the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

You'll need a skills, including a knowledge of psychological theory, an interest in how people think and behave and the ability to relate to a wide range of people including patients and colleagues. You'll need to be patient and sympathetic.

### Prospects

Working as an assistant psychologist can lead to training as a fully qualified clinical, counselling, forensic or health psychologist, because you'll have gained practical, hands-on experience while working under the direct supervision of an experienced professional. You may also be able to train as a psychological wellbeing practitioner.

## Related roles

- Counselling psychologist <sup>[2]</sup>
- Mental health nurse <sup>[3]</sup>
- Health psychologist <sup>[4]</sup>
- Psychological wellbeing practitioner <sup>[5]</sup>

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### **Links**

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/assistant-clinical-psychologist> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/counselling-psychologist> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/mental-health-nurse> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/health-psychologist> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles/psychological-wellbeing-practitioner>