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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.

Nursing associate [1]

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

Training and qualifications required

To become a nursing associate, you will undertake academic learning one day a week and work-based learning the rest of the week. You will need to demonstrate your ability to study to level 5 foundation degree level, and commit to completing the Nursing Associate Apprenticeship programme.

Expected working hours and salary range

During the two-year training programme, you'll work in a range of settings to gain as much experience as possible. This will mean travelling to placements and working a mix of shifts.

Desirable skills and values

Your skills and responsibilities will vary, depending on the care setting you work in. You'll need to demonstrate the values of the NHS Constitution and a knowledge of physical health, mental health and illness prevention.

Prospects

Qualified nursing associates can go on to train as a registered nurse by putting their training towards a shortened nursing degree or completing a degree-level nurse apprenticeship.

Related roles

- Healthcare assistant [2]
- Adult nurse [3]
- Assistant practitioner [4]
- Cytopathology [5]

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Links

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[2] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-support-worker/roles-healthcare-support-worker/healthcare-assistant [3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing/roles-nursing/adult-nurse [4] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/clinical-support-staff/assistant-practitioner [5] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/cytopathology