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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.

Peer support worker [1]

Peer support workers are people who use their lived experience of mental health problems to support others.

Training and qualifications required

A national training programme is being developed which will be delivered by people with lived experience, with support from the NHS, to help individuals develop the skills they need to be a peer support worker. On-the-job training will also be provided as appropriate.

Expected working hours and salary range

Peer support workers are employed on Agenda for change band 3 or 4.

Desirable skills and values

Open, honest and friendly; good communication skills or willingness to develop these; ability to use lived experience in a positive and appropriate way; awareness or own personal recovery journey; able to work as part of a team or want to work as part of a team.

Related roles

- Education mental health practitioner [2]
- Children's wellbeing practitioner [3]
- Employment specialist [4]
- Support, time and recovery worker [5]

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[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles-psychological-therapies/peer-support-worker [2] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles-psychological-therapies/education-mental-health-practitioner

[3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/psychological-therapies/roles-psychological-therapies/childrens-wellbeing-practitioner

[4] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcareteam/clinical-support-staff/employment-specialist [5] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/widerhealthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/clinical-support-staff/support-time-and-recovery-worker