

# 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.

## • **Education and training roles** <sup>[1]</sup>

Educators and trainers in health informatics <sup>[2]</sup> are responsible for making sure that staff are able to use the latest technology so that the benefits it offers for patient care are realised.

### Training and qualifications required

Entry requirements into education and training roles in health informatics will depend on the role and level you are at in the Health Informatics Career Framework. It is possible to start in an entry level post without formal qualifications but GCSEs or equivalent qualifications are an advantage. Apprenticeships in health informatics are also available. Education and training qualifications at QCF level three or above may also be needed for some roles. More senior education and training posts are likely to need a degree or equivalent experience or even a master's qualification. You should always check the person specification for specific posts to fully understand the requirements. The NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme also has a health informatics strand for graduates with relevant degrees.

### Expected working hours and salary range

Most education and training jobs in the NHS are covered by Agenda for Change (AfC) pay scales. This pay system covers all staff except doctors, dentists and the most senior managers. You'll usually work standard hours of 37.5 per week. Terms and conditions for non-NHS employers and contractors will vary.

### Desirable skills and values

Good communication and team working skills are needed for all roles within education and training roles. Many roles will also require good presentation, IT and organisational skills. You'll also need to have strong influencing skills, show political awareness and sensitivity as health is a complex system. You'll need to be enthusiastic, be able to work under pressure and on your own initiative.

### Prospects

There are opportunities to progress your career into senior management roles. Most NHS organisations will now have chief information officers who lead the delivery of knowledge

management systems locally. Courses in health informatics are also offered by some universities at undergraduate and masters level. The NHS has also developed training and courses to support you through your career. Many of these will count towards your continued professional development and may lead to a formal professional qualification.

## Related roles

- [Knowledge and library services](#) <sup>[3]</sup>
- [Emergency care assistant](#) <sup>[4]</sup>
- [Health records staff](#) <sup>[5]</sup>
- [Patient Transport Service PTS call handler](#) <sup>[6]</sup>

## • [Reproductive science and andrology](#) <sup>[7]</sup>

Reproductive science is the science of creating life and providing solutions to infertility. Andrology focuses on the field of male reproduction.

### Training and qualifications required

For the NHS Scientist Training Programme you'll need a 1st or 2.1 either in an undergraduate honours degree or an integrated master's degree in a pure or applied science subject relevant to the specialism for which you are applying - reproductive science or andrology. If you have a relevant 2.2 honours degree, you'll also be considered if you have a higher degree in a subject relevant to the specialism for which you are applying. Evidence of research experience is desirable. To apply for Higher Specialist Scientist Training (HSST), you'll need postgraduate qualifications or considerable relevant experience as a clinical scientist, or both.

### Expected working hours and salary range

NHS staff 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. As a healthcare scientist working reproductive science or andrology, your salary will typically be between AfC bands 6-9, depending on the precise role and level of responsibility. Trainee clinical scientists train at band 6 level, and qualified clinical scientists are generally appointed at band 7. With experience and further qualifications, including Higher Specialist Scientist Training, you could apply for posts up to band 9. Terms and conditions of service can vary for employers outside the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

An interest in science and technology, good communication skills, comfortable using modern technology and complex equipment, great attention to detail, good interpersonal skills and the ability to work as part of a team.

### Prospects

An interest in science and technology, good communication skills, comfortable using modern technology and complex equipment, great attention to detail, good interpersonal skills and the ability to work as part of a team.

## Related roles

- [Biomedical science](#) <sup>[8]</sup>

- Genomics <sup>[9]</sup>
- Genomic counselling <sup>[10]</sup>
- Knowledge and library services <sup>[3]</sup>

## • Bricklayer <sup>[11]</sup>

Bricklayers build and repair walls and other parts of buildings.

### Training and qualifications required

There are no set entry requirements to become bricklayer. To train as a bricklayer, you usually need GCSEs in English and maths. Employers may ask for some experience in construction or other practical work. There are often apprenticeships in estates support work which could provide such useful experience. When you start as a trainee bricklayer, your training will include health and safety, how to use the tools and equipment, all aspects of bricklaying and you will be encouraged to study for vocational qualifications. Where employers are advertising for qualified bricklayers, they will usually expect applicants to have a recognised vocational qualification in construction. They may ask for a driving licence.

### Expected working hours and salary range

Estates staff working in the NHS are paid on the Agenda for Change (AfC) pay system. As an estates support worker, you could start on AfC band 2. As a qualified craftsperson in estates maintenance, you will typically start on AfC band 3. With further training and experience, you could apply for more senior positions at bands 4 and above. Bricklayers in the NHS work standard hours of around 37.5 a week. The job may involve early starts and weekend working. Terms and conditions will usually be different for bricklayers working outside of the NHS.

### Desirable skills and values

As a bricklayer, you need to be interested in construction, physically fit for lifting, standing and carrying, neat and methodical, health and safety aware, willing to work outside in all weathers, able to read plans and able to work alone or in a team, You'll also need practical skills, good manual (hand) skills and good organisational skills.

### Prospects

With experience, a bricklayer can become a team leader, supervising the work of others. With further experience you could progress to manager, responsible for a hospital, area or trust. There are opportunities outside the NHS.

## Related roles

- Tiler <sup>[12]</sup>
- Estates technician <sup>[13]</sup>
- Estates manager <sup>[14]</sup>
- Painter and decorator <sup>[15]</sup>

---

**Source URL:** [https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/compare-roles-health?field\\_field\\_role=438](https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/compare-roles-health?field_field_role=438)

## Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/education-and-training-roles> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Informatics> [3]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/knowledge-and-library-services> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/emergency-care-assistant> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/health-records-staff> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/patient-transport-service-pts-call-handler> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/reproductive-science-and-andrology> [8] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/biomedical-science> [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/Explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/genomics> [10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/genomic-counselling> [11] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/estates-services/bricklayer> [12] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/estates-services/tiler> [13] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/estates-services/estates-technician> [14] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/estates-manager> [15] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/wider-healthcare-team/roles-wider-healthcare-team/estates-services/painter-and-decorator>