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.

-
Knowledge and library services [1]

Knowledge and library service staff make sure crucial evidence and information is available and accessible when and where NHS staff need to use it.

Training and qualifications required

Most library assistant posts require GCSEs or equivalent qualifications. Apprenticeships in knowledge and library services are available in some organisations. Courses in this subject are offered by some universities at Master's level and are usually accredited by CILIP, the Library and Information Association. A full list of accredited courses is available on the CILIP website.

Expected working hours and salary range

Most jobs in knowledge and library services 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. Knowledge and library service staff in the NHS will 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 knowledge and library services. Many roles will also require good presentation, IT and organisational skills. Strong influencing skills, being outgoing and confident are also desirable. You'll need to be enthusiastic, able to work under pressure and on your own initiative. You will need to have at least five GCSEs, including English and Maths. More senior roles may require a postgraduate qualification in library or information science or an equivalent qualification or experience. You may also be required to be a chartered member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP).

Prospects

There are opportunities to progress your career in a number of ways, for example moving into senior management roles and working collaboratively with different teams in the organisation. Knowledge and library staff are actively encouraged to develop skills throughout their careers and continue learning from colleagues. There are opportunities for accredited professional development through our professional body

CILIP, the UK's Library and Information Association.

Related roles

- Information and communication technology [2]
- Clinical informatics [3]
- Administrative management [4]
- Project manager [5]

Links
[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/knowledge-and-library-services [2] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/information-and-communication-technology [3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/explore-roles/health-informatics/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/clinical-informatics/clinical [4] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/operational-management/administrative-management
[5] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/management/roles-management/project-manager