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Training, development and registration (infection sciences)

Depending on the point at which you enter a career in infection sciences, you'll train via either an accredited undergraduate degree, or, if you're entering as a graduate, a Master's programme.

Education and training

The education and training you'll take, depends on the level at which you're working.

- If you're entering through the NHS Practitioner Training Programme (PTP) [1] you will need to take a full-time (usually 3-year) accredited integrated BSc degree in healthcare science at university, specialising in infection sciences. At least 50 weeks of workplace-based training in the NHS is included in these programmes. For the most up-to-date list of accredited BSc healthcare science degrees, please use our course finder [2]. Applications for full-time courses are made through UCAS [3].
- As a graduate entering the NHS Scientist Training Programme (STP) [4] you will be employed in a fixed-term, salaried training post and will study towards a Master's degree in clinical science (infection sciences).

Programmes are often supported by the development of workplace-based assessment tools, assessment of equivalent learning and the development of academic careers.

Find out more about the entry requirements, skills and interests required to enter a career in infection sciences [5].

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**CPD, ASP and
registration**

Continuing professional development

No matter what level you are working at, as part of your development you will be expected to do continuing professional development (CPD) to show that you are keeping yourself up to date with the policies and procedures in your area of work.

Find out more general information about professional development [6]

Accredited Scientific Practice- development opportunities for healthcare science staff

Accredited Scientific Practice (ASP) provides an additional route for your ongoing professional and scientific development as part of the healthcare science (HCS) workforce. ASP allows employers to develop bespoke, responsive, short course programmes to meet training needs within the HCS workforce. ASP programmes provide you with a quality assured, rigorously assessed qualification which can lead to voluntary professional registration with the Academy for Healthcare Sciences (AHCS).

An ASP programme involves work based learning with academic study of modules from the National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS) portfolio programmes. Access to an e-portfolio is provided to record learning in the workplace while associated academic study is completed independently through an accredited university provider. In some cases, completion of academic study may also lead to an award of a postgraduate qualification from the university provider.

Read more about ASP on the NSHCS website [7].

Registration

Many healthcare science roles require registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) [8].

If you successfully complete the PTP [9], you can apply for registration as a biomedical scientist with the HCPC [10]. If you complete the STP [11], you can apply for registration as a clinical scientist with the HCPC [10].

For registration as a clinical scientist, you must also hold an Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS) Certificate of Attainment granted upon completion of the MSc Scientist Training Programme or AHCS Certificate of Equivalence.

Find out more about the Academy's Certificates on its website [12].

Please check individual job vacancy details for information when applying.

Source URL:<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/healthcare-science/roles-healthcare-science/life-sciences/infection-sciences/training-development-and-registration-infection-sciences>

Links

- [1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/studying-healthcare-science>
- [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/looking-course> [3] <http://www.ucas.com>
- [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/not-studying-health-related-degree/nhs-scientist-training-programme> [5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/life-sciences/infection-sciences/entry-requirements-skills-and-interests> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/working-health/professional-development> [7] <http://www.nshcs.hee.nhs.uk/join-a-programme-asp/accredited-scientific-practice> [8] <http://www.hcpc-uk.org> [9] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#PTP>
- [10] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#HCPC> [11] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#STP>
- [12] <http://www.ahcs.ac.uk/>