Therapeutic radiographer

You’ll be a source of hope and care for those diagnosed with cancer. Using radiotherapy [1], you’ll collaborate with other healthcare professionals to create individual treatment plans that blend technical expertise with emotional support for your patients.

"I’ve already secured my job at Royal Stoke University Hospital for when I graduate so that’s where I will kick start my career!" Lily, a therapeutic radiography student

Read Lily’s story in full [2]

Watch this video to see what both therapeutic and diagnostic radiographers do.

Working life

As a therapeutic radiographer, you’ll be part of a team helping people who are dealing with cancer. Based in a hospital, you’ll work with patients and colleagues to design treatment programmes and support patients until their treatment ends. From taking an initial X-ray, to using a CT scanner or a linear accelerator, you’ll use some of the most complex and advanced technology to treat tumours. Therapeutic radiographers are also central to a wider multidisciplinary team, working and consulting with colleagues across various departments.

Entry requirements

To become a therapeutic radiographer, you must first successfully complete an approved degree or masters in radiotherapy [1]. Degree courses take three or four years full time, or up to six years part time. There are also some postgraduate programmes that can take two years. Once you’ve completed your degree, you need to register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC [3]) before you can start practising. The other option is to apply for an apprenticeship degree.
Entry requirements for an undergraduate course are typically:

- two or three A levels, including physics, chemistry or biology/human biology
- five GCSEs (grades A-C [4]), including English language, maths and science.

Or the equivalent qualifications:

- a BTEC, HND or HNC, including science
- a relevant NVQ
- a science-based access course
- Equivalent Scottish or Irish qualifications.

New annual payments

You’ll receive at least £5,000 a year to help fund your studies, through the NHS Learning Support Fund. And because therapeutic radiography is a shortage specialism you’ll receive an additional £1,000 a year. The best part? You won’t have to pay a penny back.

Degree apprenticeship

A degree apprenticeship is another way to become a therapeutic radiographer. Apprenticeships give you the chance to earn a living while gaining your qualification. Your employer and the government will pay the tuition fees, so apprenticeships aren’t eligible for student grants.

Must-have skills

Don’t forget - academic qualifications aren't everything. You’ll need to be interested in new technologies, be safety-conscious and have excellent observational skills. But this isn’t just a role for the technologically-minded. Along with planning and delivering treatments, you’ll offer emotional support to patients and their carers and will need to have an easy-going manner to reassure patients who are nervous about their treatment.

Training and career development

Once you’ve qualified, you’ll have annual Continuing Professional Development (CPD) check-ins, where we’ll discuss your career aspirations and plan how we can help you to achieve them, so you’re always moving forward. You’ll be encouraged to join the Society of Radiography where you can take courses, conferences and seminars.

You may also choose to specialise in treating certain cancers, work with children or with new, emerging technologies such as proton beam therapy. Research, teaching or management are other career pathways.
Pay and benefits

Your standard working week will be around 37.5 hours and may include a mix of shifts, such as nights, early starts, evenings and weekends. As a therapeutic radiographer, you’ll be paid on the Agenda for Change (AFC) pay system [5], typically starting on band 5.

You’ll also have access to our generous pension scheme and health service discounts, as well as 27 days of annual leave plus bank holidays.

- Live vacancies
  - View Vacancy [6]

Therapeutic Radiographer

Royal Preston Hospital, PR2 9HT

- **Salary:**
  - £24,907 - £30,615 per annum

- **Type:**
  - Permanent

- **Employer:**
  - Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

  - View Vacancy
  - View Vacancy [7]

Therapeutic Radiographer

Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, Norwich, NR4 7UY

- **Salary:**
  - £24,907 - £30,615 per annum

- **Type:**
  - Fixed term
**Band 5 Therapeutic Radiographer**

Reading and Bracknell, RG1 5AN

- **Salary:**
  
  £24,907 - £30,615 per annum

- **Type:**
  
  Permanent

- **Employer:**
  
  Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust

**Specialist Gynaecological Therapeutic Radiographer**

Worcester Royal Hospital, WR5 1DD

- **Salary:**
  
  £38,890 - £44,503 per annum (pro rata)

- **Type:**
  
  Fixed term

- **Employer:**
  
  Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
Senior Therapeutic Radiographer - Pre-treatment

University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH), London, NW1 2PG

- **Salary:**
  
  £37,638 - £44,780 per annum inclusive

- **Type:**
  
  Permanent

- **Employer:**
  
  University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

  - View Vacancy
    - View Vacancy [11]

Bank - Senior Therapeutic Radiographer Band 6

London, NW1 2PG

- **Salary:**
  
  Band 6

- **Type:**
  
  Bank

- **Employer:**
  
  University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

  - View Vacancy

Find your course to become a therapeutic radiographer

Region
- Any

Type of qualification
- Any
**PgDip Therapeutic Radiography/MSc (Top-up)/MSc**

London, South Bank University

View course  Opens in a new window [12]

**Region London**

**Type of course**
Postgraduate/accelerated programme

**Full or part time**
Full time

**Duration**
2 years (PgDip); 2 years (MSc)

Contact details
course.enquiry@lsbu.ac.uk [13] 0800 923 8888

Course webpage http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/courses/course-finder/therapeutic-radiography-pre-registra... [12]

Admissions address
Southwark Campus
103 Borough Road
London
SE1 0AA

Course webpage http://www.lsbu.ac.uk/courses/course-finder/therapeutic-radiography-pre-registra... [12]

Accelerated courses are for graduates with a relevant degree. See our FAQ for more information [14].

**BSc (Hons) Therapeutic Radiography**

London, South Bank University

View course  Opens in a new window [15]
Region **London**

Type of course **Undergraduate**

Full or part time **Full time**

Duration **3 years**

Contact details
course.enquiry@lsbu.ac.uk [13] **0800 923 8888**


Admissions address

Southwark Campus  
103 Borough Road  
London  
SE1 0AA


**BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy and Oncology**

Glasgow Caledonian University

View course [16] Opens in a new window

Region **Scotland**

Type of course **Undergraduate**

Full or part time **Full time**

Duration **4 years**

Contact details
studentenquiries@gcu.ac.uk [17] **0141 331 8630**

Course webpage [16] http://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/details/index.php/P01641 [16]

Admissions address
BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy & Oncology

Sheffield Hallam University

View course  Opens in a new window
[18]

Region Yorkshire and The Humber

Type of course Undergraduate

Full or part time Full time

Duration 3 years

Contact details admissions@shu.ac.uk [19] 0114 225 5555

Course webpage https://www.shu.ac.uk/courses/radiotherapy-and-oncology/bsc-honours-radiotherapy... [18]

Admissions address

City Campus
Howard Street
Sheffield
S1 1WB

Course webpage https://www.shu.ac.uk/courses/radiotherapy-and-oncology/bsc-honours-radiotherapy... [18]

BSc (Hons) Radiotherapy & Oncology

Hatfield, University of Hertfordshire

View course  Opens in a new window
[20]
Region **East of England**

**Type of course**
**Undergraduate**

**Full or part time**
**Full time**

**Duration**
**3 years**

**Contact details**
ask@herts.ac.uk [21] 01707 284800

**Course webpage** https://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/radiotherapy-and-oncology [20]

**Admissions address**
College Lane
Hatfield
Hertfordshire
AL10 9AB

**Course webpage** https://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/radiotherapy-and-oncology [20]

- Load more [22]

**Register for more details about becoming a therapeutic radiographer**

We’ll email you a step-by-step guide to help you on your way to joining us

Let's go [23]

**Other roles that may interest you**

- Diagnostic radiographer [24]
- Radiography assistants and imaging support workers [25]
- Radiotherapy physics [26]
- Radiation physics and radiation safety physics [27]

**Source URL:** https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/therapeutic-radiographer

**Links**
[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Radiotherapy
[3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#HCPC