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Entry requirements (information and communication technology)

This page has information on the entry requirements and skills needed for information and communications technology (ICT) roles in health.

ICT staff deliver a variety of different services so people with different qualifications, knowledge and skills are needed. You may have a background in web development or IT helpdesks for example.



Entry requirements will differ depending on the role but it may be possible to enter an entry-level post with no formal qualifications, but GCSEs or equivalent qualifications are an advantage.

A level 3 apprenticeship for digital support technicians has been approved. Entry requirements for apprenticeships will be down to the employer offering the apprenticeship. Apprenticeships will be with employers, with study at university and vacancies will appear on the NHS Jobs website [1] and the Government's Find an Apprenticeship website [2].

Apprenticeships [3] in health informatics [4] are available. Find out more on the City and Guilds [5] website. Other roles will require specific professional qualifications such as computer science.

The NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme [6] also has a health informatics [4] strand for graduates with relevant degrees.

- **Personal characteristics and skills**

Staff working in ICT will need good technical skills and an ability to diagnose problems systematically.

Most roles will need experience and knowledge of Microsoft Windows operating systems and Microsoft Office packages. You'll also need:

- enthusiasm
- problem solving skills
- experience of working as a team
- to be able to work under pressure

ICT staff employed directly by health organisations, such as the NHS, will need a good understanding and knowledge of healthcare systems. Those employed by contractors to deliver ICT systems won't necessarily need this but it is always best to check any job descriptions and person specifications.

Source URL: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/health-informatics/roles-health-informatics/information-and-communication-technology/entry-requirements-information-and-communication>

Links

[1] <http://www.jobs.nhs.uk> [2] <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch>
[3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/secondary-school-or-fe-college/apprenticeships-traineeships-and-cadet-schemes> [4] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Informatics>
[5] <http://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/it/it-user/7450-health-informatics#tab=information> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/not-studying-health-related-degree/nhs-graduate-management-training>