

Entry requirements, skills and interests (trauma and orthopaedic surgery)

This page provides useful information about the entry requirements needed for this specialty up to and including foundation training [1]. It also includes information on the skills and interests you will need.

Entry requirements

Before you train as a surgeon you must complete a degree in medicine and have obtained a MBBS or equivalent qualification. Find out about getting into medical school. [2]

You then need to complete a two-year foundation programme [3] and then two years of core training. After successfully completing your first year of foundation training [1] you become eligible for registration as a doctor with the General Medical Council (GMC) [4]. Foundation training [1] includes undertaking rotations in a range of specialties including surgery.

To find information about the Foundation Programme, visit our [applying for foundation training \[5\]](#) page.

Entry to T&O surgery is extremely competitive and you need to be highly academic and well-rounded as a person. Being a team-player is also important.

Skills and interests

Trauma and orthopaedic surgeons need:

- practical skills such as good hand-eye co-ordination and manual dexterity
- excellent vision and the ability to visualise in 3D
- good organisational ability and stamina with a busy and demanding role
- the ability to both work in a team and in isolation
- enthusiasm, commitment and the ability to cope in a crisis
- excellent communication skills to deal with patients and colleagues

Anyone applying for a role providing NHS healthcare will be asked to show how they think the NHS values would apply in their everyday work.

Find out more about NHS values [6].

Source URL: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/doctors/roles-doctors/surgery/trauma-and-orthopaedic-surgery/entry-requirements-skills-and-interests>

Links

[1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#Foundation_training

[2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/studying-medicine/applying-medical-school>

[3] <http://www.foundationprogramme.nhs.uk>

[4] <http://www.gmc-uk.org>

[5] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/working-health/information-doctors/foundation-training-programme/applying-foundation>

[6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/working-health/nhs-constitution>