

Entry requirements (public health practitioner)

Here, you can find out more about the various entry requirements for working as a public health practitioner.

Public health practitioner giving presentation

An example entry route would be to get a qualification and experience working in a public health-related area.

There are no set entry requirements to become a public health practitioner. Many roles do not have clearly defined training routes and, currently, registration as a “practitioner” with the [UK Public Health Register](#) ^[1] (UKPHR) is voluntary. This is unlike some other public health roles, for example, [public health nurse](#) ^[2] and [health visitor](#) ^[3] for which registration is mandatory in order to practise.

At present you can only apply to register as a public health practitioner with UKPHR through a local assessment and verification scheme.

An example entry route would be to get a qualification and experience working in a public health-related area. Depending on the specific practitioner role, related qualifications could include a first level degree in [public health or related area](#) ^[4], [nursing](#) ^[5], [environmental health](#) ^[6], or sport and exercise. Experience might include working with communities or groups, or working in a [knowledge and intelligence role](#) ^[7].

A degree apprenticeship standard for environmental health practitioners and a degree apprenticeship standard for public health practitioners have been approved for delivery. Vacancies will appear on the [Government Find an Apprenticeship website](#) ^[8] and in other locations listed under the [Job market and vacancies section of our role page](#) ^[9]

For more senior posts a Master’s Degree in Public Health (or equivalent experience) is often a requirement.

Partner logos

Faculty of Public Health ^[10]

Local Government Association ^[11]

Royal Society for Public Health ^[12]

Source URL:<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/roles-public-health/public-health-practitioner/entry-requirements-public-health-practitioner>

Links

[1] <http://www.ukphr.org/> [2] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/public-health-nurse> [3] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/health-visitor> [4]

<http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/courses/options/public-health/> [5]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/nursing> [6] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/environmental-health-professional> [7] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/public-health-knowledge-and-intelligence-professional> [8]

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch> [9]

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/public-health/roles-public-health/environmental-health-professional> [10] <http://www.fph.org.uk/> [11] <http://www.local.gov.uk/> [12] <https://www.rsph.org.uk/>