

Nursing Associate Apprenticeship

"The creation of the Nursing Associate role is a landmark innovation for the nursing and care professions." (Health Education England)

A Nursing Associate is a new member of the nursing team and registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). Nursing Associates work with people of all ages and in a variety of settings in health and social care. The role will contribute to the core work of nursing.

This new NMC-approved apprenticeship will enable you to develop the specific knowledge, understanding, and skills set to meet the national requirements to bridge the gap between the healthcare support worker and Registered Nurse to deliver hands-on care across a variety of settings.

The University of Wolverhampton has a long established history of delivering NMC-validated nursing courses at pre and post-registration, undergraduate, and postgraduate level. This Apprenticeship has been specifically designed and delivered in line with NMC Standards of Education and proficiency to meet professional regulatory body requirements.

This work-based innovative Apprenticeship programme provides an opportunity for you to develop professionally and academically in order to graduate as a competent Nursing Associate able to register with the NMC and work at Agenda for Change Band 4 / equivalent on qualification. The Apprenticeship programme aims to develop the required knowledge, skills and behaviours to deliver compassionate competent care underpinned with evidence-based practice and develop the associated academic skills within this two-year Foundation Degree.

Employers can leverage the on-the job skills of apprentices to develop a practitioner with the required generic knowledge, skills and behaviours to work across a variety of health and social care settings as a valued member of the nursing family, under the direction of a registered nurse (RN). Once qualified as a Nursing Associate, you will have the underpinning knowledge, clinical skills and evidence base to competently deliver person-centred holistic care, promote health and work as part of a multi professional team across a variety of settings.



Job roles/Occupations

Higher/Degree Apprenticeships are accessible to those employed within a workplace in England. This Apprenticeship is designed for individuals working in health or care settings. The Nursing Associate role is a new support role that sits alongside existing healthcare support workers and fully-qualified registered nurses to deliver hands-on care to patients. The programme will be of interest if you are either entering/working in the health or care sector, or looking to progress from healthcare support worker, or support role equivalent. This Apprenticeship is suitable for those working in the public, private and third sectors and for companies of all sizes.

How it works

This Apprenticeship has been designed and developed to meet professional body requirements in collaboration with employers, service users, and students/apprentices. To access the Apprenticeship, you must be in employment in a health or care setting for a minimum of 30 hours a week in England. The employer must be able to provide the Nursing Associate apprentice with a practice assessor (Registrant with NMC) in the employed setting, and a practice supervisor, and/or practice assessor are required within external placements to meet NMC Standards for Student Supervision and Assessment.

This two-year, three-month programme runs over three trimesters (this timeframe includes the end point assessment). Attendance at University is for one day per week. There is a requirement to complete mandatory external placement hours that equate to 460 hours in total over the two-year programme that must be completed away from the employed/host setting. External placement experiences are essential to meet NMC requirements and benefit from experience of children and adults, and patients/service users with mental health conditions and learning disabilities in a variety of health and care settings. The NMC requires the Nursing Associate apprentice to complete 2,300 programme hours during the two years which must be **'protected for learning'**, in theory and practice. The 2,300 programme hours are an equal balance of theory and practice learning to meet professional body requirements. Hours which are not protected for learning, in which students are in effect working in their substantive place of work, do not count towards programme hours.

Modules:

The Apprenticeship programme includes the following modules:

- The Nursing Associate as a Reflective Practitioner
- Foundations of Healthcare Practice for Nursing Associates
- Exploring the Human Life Journey
- Demonstrating Inclusive and Collaborative Practice
- Promoting Health and Wellbeing in Communities
- Preliminary Skills for Safe and Effective Practice
- Contemporary Practice for Nursing Associates: an Evidence-Based Approach
- Foundations for Partnership Working in Order to Prioritise Care

A National Practice Assessment Document is completed for each year of the programme.

Qualifications

On successful completion of this professionally accredited course, you will have achieved a Nursing Associate Foundation Degree (FD Sci), and will be eligible to register with the NMC as a qualified Nursing Associate.

This Apprenticeship has been developed to provide seamless progression to the Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship or Bachelor of Nursing for qualified Nursing Associates wishing to follow a pathway to become a Registered Nurse.

Fees and funding

For employers with a payroll below £3 million: The Government will pay 95% of the cost of the Apprenticeship training and assessment for apprentices of any age, for employers who will not be paying the Apprenticeship levy. You may also be eligible for extra employer incentives.

For employers with a payroll above £3 million: From May 2017 employers will be able to use their Apprenticeship Levy contributions towards the cost of the Apprenticeship using their digital account.

We will agree a payment schedule and discuss funding availability before you start your Apprenticeship and ensure the cost to your business is clear upfront.

Entry requirements

- Applicants must be employed within a health or care setting for a minimum of 30 hours a week; evidence of care experience, and /or The Care Certificate is advised.
- Applicants must possess Level 2 / GCSE at grade C+ /4 in an English-based subject and Maths or equivalent (Please note that the ESFA does not currently recognise credits gained as part of a HE Access programme as an equivalence to Maths/ English Level 2).
- The employer will be required to evidence an enhanced DBS check and clearance for the apprentice within 12 months prior to starting the programme.
- The employer will be required to evidence that the applicant has received an occupational health assessment prior to starting the programme.
- Accreditation of prior learning will be considered in accordance with University, Apprenticeship and Professional Body requirements.

Other requirements

- Applicants meeting the entry requirements will be shortlisted for a values-based interview in line with NMC Standards of Proficiency for Nursing Associates (2018), and the Standards for pre-registration Nursing Associate programmes (2018).
- Evidence of digital literacy and technological literacy will be assessed during the recruitment process.

Register your interest today!

Call: 0800 953 3222

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