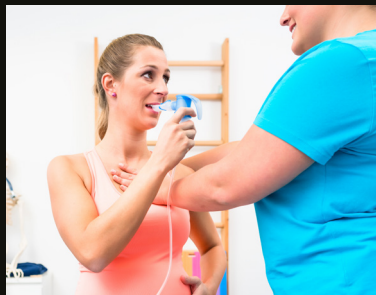


# **Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship**



# Programme Outline

## Overview

The Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship has been developed by a trailblazer group of NHS trusts and services, and higher education providers.

The apprenticeship provides an alternative to graduate recruitment and the opportunity to 'grow your own' talent. It includes a combination of work-based learning modules and specialist education, which leads to a BSc (Honours) Healthcare Science (Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Sleep Sciences) in line with the National School of Healthcare Science's Practitioner Training Programme curriculum.

## Key drivers

- Modernising Scientific Careers sets out the need to develop a 'healthcare science workforce that meets modern day demands and keeps up with the rapid advances in science and technology' and to provide a workforce with 'the right values and behaviours and a focus on outcomes and continual improvement'. (Healthcare Science Education and Training – Explaining the Facts, NHS Employers, October 2014)
- Fragmented career pathways have resulted in under-supply of healthcare scientists in specialisms. (Modernising Scientific Careers – Explaining the Facts, NHS Employers, January 2014)
- The introduction of the apprenticeship levy.

## Benefits for employers

- The Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship at Sheffield Hallam University fosters the skills, creativity and loyalty employers need for employees to commit themselves to an organisation and drive it onto the next level.
- Scientific principles, clinical techniques and practical skills learned at university are further developed in the workplace. Putting theory into practice develops confidence and professional competence.
- Attract and retain the best talent, whilst supporting the youth employment agenda.
- Enhance your learning and development strategy by establishing a clear progression route for aspiring and established healthcare science assistant practitioners and apprentices.
- Generate a return on investment through accelerated development and increased commitment.

- A useful way of ensuring that sponsored employees gain the necessary knowledge and skills to become fully qualified and professionally accredited.

## How we can help you

- Sheffield Hallam University's Faculty of Health and Wellbeing has a strong history of collaboration with employers to deliver work-focussed education and training, and is ready to help you capitalise on degree apprenticeships.
- Staff teaching on the course have extensive experience from across the range of professional disciplines associated with healthcare science. They include experienced and research-active teaching staff from Sheffield Hallam University and expert practitioners in the relevant aspects of cardiovascular, respiratory and sleep sciences, all of whom contribute both to formal taught material and to learning in the workplace.
- We can help you navigate the apprenticeship system, including the Apprenticeship Service and claiming additional funding incentives where they apply.
- As experts in student recruitment, we can support you to attract new apprentices, developing your future talent pipeline, as well as increasing the capability of your existing employees.



## Routes available

Apprentices study a common first year covering the fundamentals of healthcare science, and an introduction to the basics of cardiovascular, and respiratory and sleep sciences. For the second and third years, apprentices specialise in either cardiovascular or respiratory and sleep sciences, depending on their role in the workplace.

## Awards

BSc (Honours) Healthcare Science is an innovative work-based learning solution designed to meet the needs of the employer and the learner, putting them at the heart of the programme.

It consists of building blocks of learning comprising of the essential components of professional practice required to be successful in a complex and dynamic modern workplace.

The final year of the apprenticeship is largely work-based, including teaching blocks and distance learning to provide core teaching and support. Module content for the BSc (Honours) Healthcare Science is shown over the page.

## Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship

### Duration

The programme is usually delivered over three years.

### Delivery method

Learners attend the University on a block-study basis – four one-week blocks in year one and up to three one-week blocks in years two and three. During non-attending weeks learners will receive regular study material and support from their Sheffield Hallam tutors.

The programme adopts a blended learning approach with modules delivered through a combination of lectures, class-based seminars and discussions whilst in attendance at University, together with clinical work and further learning opportunities, such as seminars in the workplace. Learners have access to a range of academic and other resources, and are expected to support each other, engage with the subject matter, and question staff and their peers, including their colleagues in the workplace.

With sufficient demand from one or a small group of employers, we could offer a bespoke delivery model enabling apprentices to attend from further afield.

### Course description

This apprenticeship prepares learners for professional careers in healthcare science by providing the underpinning knowledge, clinical skills, and interpersonal skills the profession demands.

The course is intended to take advantage of apprentices' employment to develop their potential, and utilise and build upon their existing knowledge. Experience in the workplace will feed into a number of modules and the theoretical stance taught academically is designed to be applicable to the apprentices' working environment. It is expected that learners will be able to take the knowledge gained at Sheffield Hallam University and make immediate use of it in the workplace.

Additional material provided by the University and the workplace supports self-study. Through attendance at University and additional study, apprentices will meet the 20% required off-the-job learning.

### Assessment

The award incorporates a mix of innovative and traditional assessment types to monitor progress. Assessments will test attributes relevant for successful performance in the workplace, enabling learners to integrate academic learning and on-the-job training.

### End-point assessment

The end-point assessment checks that the employee meets the apprenticeship standard and is ready to join the profession with full occupational competence. In accordance with the final assessment plan for the trailblazer standard, the final assessments for the University award incorporate the requirements of the integrated end-point assessment.

### Professional recognition

The Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship at Sheffield Hallam University is accredited by the National School of Healthcare Science.

### Options for larger employers

Where an organisation has 15 or more learners, Sheffield Hallam University can work with you to co-create tailored content to meet individual business needs.

### Entry requirements

The Healthcare Science Practitioner Apprenticeship is suitable for both new recruits (eg school leavers entering into the industry) and for developing existing or aspiring healthcare scientists already in employment, who do not have a relevant degree.

For new recruits, the usual entry requirements are

- GCSE (or equivalent) mathematics, English language or literature, and a science subject at grade C or grade 4, or above

Plus **one** of the following

- 112 UCAS points from at least two A levels (including at least 32 points in biology) or equivalent BTEC National qualifications (including suitable chemistry and biology modules.) The study of chemistry is useful, but not essential. We accept AS Levels. We do not accept general studies.
- 96 UCAS points from three A levels (including 32 points in biology). The study of chemistry is useful, but not essential. We do not accept general studies.
- Access to HE Diploma from a relevant QAA-recognised Access to HE course which has mainly biology and chemistry related modules, or an equivalent Access to HE certificate. Normally we require 15 credits at level 2 and 45 at level 3 of which at least 15 level 3 credits should be graded at distinction level.
- Successful completion of level 3 Healthcare Science Assistant apprenticeship

Please note that this information is based on the new UCAS tariff points system for courses starting from September 2017. This is significantly different to the current points system and uses an alternative method of calculation. You can find information about these changes on the UCAS website ([www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/entry-requirements/tariff/new-tariff-2017](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/entry-requirements/tariff/new-tariff-2017)) and use the UCAS tariff calculator to work out your points.

Applicants also need to demonstrate an ability to

- study academic subjects at degree level
- debate topics and issues
- draw on conclusions from written material
- study independently as well as a member of a group
- use computers and technology associated with contemporary teaching, learning and assessment methods
- successfully complete a range of assignments, including researched essays and practical examinations

Applicants who do not meet the above academic criteria but have sufficient relevant experience in the workplace will be considered on an individual basis provided they have undertaken some level 3 study. Please contact us to discuss your options.

For those already in employment the apprenticeship provides access to development opportunities for applicants who may already have practical experience but wish to improve their theoretical understanding, want to develop their skills further and obtain an academic qualification and professional recognition.

## Healthcare Science Practitioner Degree Apprenticeship

Academic level	BSc (Honours) Healthcare Science (Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Sleep Sciences)						Academic qualification
<b>120 CREDITS</b>							
4	Professional Practice 1	Healthcare Science: Anatomy and Physiology	Fundamentals of Healthcare Science	Healthcare Science in Context	Scientific Basis of Healthcare Science: Cardiovascular Science	Scientific Basis of Healthcare Science: Respiratory and Sleep Sciences	Certificate of Higher Education
<b>120 CREDITS</b>							
5	Professional Practice 2	Research Methods	Pathology of Common Cardiac and Respiratory Conditions	Instrumentation Signal Processing and Imaging	Cardiac Physiology <i>or</i> Respiratory and Sleep Physiology		Diploma of Higher Education
<b>120 CREDITS</b>							
6	Professional Practice 3	Advanced Specialist Topics in Cardiovascular <i>or</i> Respiratory and Sleep Sciences	Applying Cardiac Physiology in Practice <i>or</i> Applying Respiratory and Sleep Physiology in Practice		Research Project		BSc (Honours) Degree

### Work-based learning

All modules are 20 credits each, except for cardiac physiology, respiratory and sleep physiology, applying cardiac physiology in practice, applying respiratory and sleep physiology in practice and the research project, which are 40 credit modules.

The availability of the course is subject to a minimum student number requirement.

### Fees

Typically £27,000 per learner, however tailored programmes may vary depending on requirements.

- Levy paying employers with wage bills above £3 million per annum can use their levy payments and a 10% government top-up to pay for apprenticeship course fees and any end-point assessment up to the funding cap.
- Non-levy paying employers (below the wage-bill threshold) can access government funding of 90% of the course fees (or 100% for learners below the age of 19 at the start of the course for small employers with less than 50 staff) up to the funding cap.

Apprenticeship funding is set by the government's rules on the apprenticeship levy and operated through your apprenticeship service accounts.

More information on the apprenticeship funding arrangements, including how the levy works, can be found on the Department for Education website [www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-levy-how-it-will-work](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-levy-how-it-will-work)

As a leading provider of higher and degree apprenticeships, Sheffield Hallam University is working closely with government to maximise the benefits of our apprenticeship programmes for both individuals and businesses.

Please contact us to find out more and to get started.

### Next steps

You can offer apprenticeships to upskill existing staff and recruit new talent.

Working with our partners, Sheffield Hallam University can offer a range of services to prepare and source candidates for apprenticeships. This will include advertising through the National Apprenticeship Service and other channels relevant to your sector.

We can also provide guidance to employers and apprentices on funding eligibility, and advise on whether a candidate meets the entry requirements of the course.

For more information about higher and degree apprenticeships contact [apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk) or 0114 225 3433.

We can also help school and college leavers to prepare for apprenticeships and support their recruitment process. With the employer's support, the apprentice can apply by emailing [admissions@shu.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@shu.ac.uk) identifying the course they wish to study.





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## Find out more

Whatever your query, our  
dedicated team are here to help.

Email: [apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@shu.ac.uk)

Phone: 0114 225 3433



SHUApprentice

[shu.ac.uk/apprenticeships](http://shu.ac.uk/apprenticeships)

All information is correct at the time of print – June 2017.