



# Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) for Health and Science



Recent data shows that there are **125,572** vacancies across the NHS.\*

## HTQs are a sign of quality

HTQs have been developed by employers to provide the skills, knowledge, and behaviours you need in the health and science sector. Futureproof your workforce, fill skills gaps and boost productivity with HTQs.

You may already be familiar with HNCs, HNDs, foundation degrees and other level 4 and 5 qualifications. HTQs are those same qualifications but with a stamp of quality. Whether you're hiring HTQ graduates who are job-ready or upskilling your employees, HTQs are an investment in your workforce.

**Health and Science HTQs are now available, preparing learners for work or further training in the following occupations:**



**Sports coach**



**Health play specialist**



**Nursing associate**



**Assistant practitioner**



**Hearing aid dispenser**



**Mammography associate**



**Healthcare science associate**

\*The Nuffield Trust, The NHS Workforce in Numbers, Feb 2024



please scan here for more information



HM Government

## Where do HTQs fit in?

HTQs are at level 4 or 5. They offer a great progression route for those who have completed a level 3 such as a T-Level or an Apprenticeship. HTQ graduates can either progress into work or further study like a Higher or Degree Apprenticeship or an Undergraduate Degree.



For further information on HTQs and progression routes:

<https://occupational-maps.instituteforapprenticeships.org/>

## Where can I find an HTQ?

HTQs are delivered at Further Education Colleges, Universities, Institutes of Technology and Independent Training Providers, so contact your local provider or visit <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/choosing-course/higher-technical-qualifications> and start creating your skills pipeline today.

## How are HTQs funded?

Learners studying HTQs on both a full and a part-time basis may be eligible for HE student finance, including tuition fees and maintenance loans to cover the cost of study. As an employer you may wish to contribute to tuition fees, as an investment in your workforce or as part of a benefits package.

## What are other employers saying about HTQs?



*“Courses like the Health Play Specialist HTQ are helping to meet the demands of the NHS, encouraging recruitment and upskilling people with relevant, real-world experience.”*

**Sallyanne Pitt**, Head of Play Services,  
Great Ormond Street Hospital

*“The HTQ makes our workforce more dynamic. I would feel confident employing a HTQ graduate. They have the skills, knowledge, and qualification for the role and also a level of competency to lead on a project or scheme”.*

**Susan Fairclough**, Therapeutic and Specialised Play Service Manager,  
Royal Manchester, Children’s Hospital



**Want to find out more?**

<https://find-employer-schemes.education.gov.uk/schemes/higher-technical-qualifications>