

National 5 Health Sector: Skills for Work

The health sector includes the National Health Service (NHS), independent healthcare, complementary therapies, the life sciences and retail pharmaceutical industries, and the community and voluntary sector.

It is seen as a growth industry across Scotland, offering a wide variety of employment opportunities at a range of levels. The NHS is a major employer in Scotland, and Scotland also has one of the largest life sciences industries in Europe, with a worldwide reputation, particularly in research and development and manufacturing.

AWARD RECEIVED:

This course gives 24 SCQF credit points. To achieve the award of National 5 Health Sector: Skills for Work, you must achieve all the required units. Skills for Work courses are not graded, they are assessed on a pass/fail basis within the school.

This Skills for Work course emphasises the development and application of skills; skills for learning, skills for work and skills for life, as well as enhancing skills and attitudes for employability.

ENTRY LEVEL: What do I need to do it?

No specific qualifications are needed for entry to this course, however the literacy demands are at National 5 level, and so you need to be able to work at that level or above. An interest in the Health Sector and a strong work-ethic and willingness to get involved will allow you to get the most from the course.

If considering this course, you need to be willing to do the following:

- develop employability skills and attitudes valued by employers in the health sector and beyond.
- review your employability skills and seek feedback from your peers and teacher.
- evaluate your own strengths and weaknesses, personal skills, qualifications and experience against career options.

COURSE CONTENT: What will I learn?

This course gives you a broad experiential introduction to clinical and non-clinical roles in the health sector, and the team-working and fundamental practical skills involved. You will produce a CV and take part in a mock interview. You will investigate different job roles, taking part in supervised role plays and considering health and safety, and risks. You will look at how technology and pharmaceuticals are used in diagnosis and treatment. You will learn how the cardiovascular system works and practice taking measurements and providing basic practical life support. You will also look at health and lifestyle issues and how you could apply and provide help and advice in a health sector role.

ASSESSMENT: How will I be assessed?

This course is internally assessed on an on-going basis using a variety of approaches, with no final examination.

You will produce a portfolio of written and/or recorded oral and performance evidence for each unit.

Unit	Assessment criteria
Health Sector: Employability skills in the health sector (Scotland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce a CV for a specific job role• Prepare for and participate in a mock interview for a specific role• Complete learner reviews on three occasions during the unit, detailing progress in development of specific employability skills
Health Sector: Medical devices and pharmaceuticals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigate the use of medical devices and technology in the diagnosis and treatment of a specified medical condition or illness• Demonstrate an understanding of the use of pharmaceutical products
Health Sector: Improving health and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work as part of a team to investigate a current health and lifestyle issue and the range of options available from the health sector to address it• Work as part of a team to give health promotion advice on a current health and lifestyle issue• Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of workplace stress and the importance of a healthy lifestyle for health sector workers
Health Sector: Physiology of the cardiovascular system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the structure and function of the cardiovascular system• Take part in a practical activity that involves taking physiological measurements at different activity levels• Participate in a practical activity that demonstrates your skills in providing basic life support for an adult casualty
Health Sector: Working in Health Sector setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigate clinical and non-clinical job roles• Demonstrate an understanding of health and safety responsibilities• Complete a risk assessment• Take part in role play under supervision, in a real or simulated health sector environment

HOMEWORK:

Homework may contain numeracy, literacy and problem-solving tasks and aims to develop skills and consolidate knowledge and understanding. It may also include revision of class work, completion of unfinished work and opportunities to complete small projects at home on selected areas of the curriculum. You will be given the chance to present your findings to your peers.

PROGRESSION:

The employability skills developed during this course will be applicable in many settings beyond school and will be particularly useful to anyone who wishes to pursue a career in the health sector. National 5 Laboratory Science may be an effective progression in the senior phase.