

Health and Social Care Foundation Apprenticeship v1.1

☆ Level 2 £ £3,000 🗓 8 months

1. What the role entails

Foundation apprenticeships are employed positions and are for younger people who will benefit from a wide range of experiences. The Health and Social Care (HSC) foundation apprenticeship provides a mix of employability skills and behaviours, technical knowledge and skills, and associated English and maths. It combines valuable hands-on practice in the workplace with off-the-job learning. The apprentice's experiences will not only help them to grow their skills but will also help to inform their next career steps.

Health and care support assistants work in a range of health and care settings, for example in a care home, hospital, General Practice, as part of community team and in individuals' homes where their wider team may include workers from both health and social care.

The broad purpose is to provide high quality and compassionate care and support to individuals. Daily duties will vary dependent on where they work and whether their work is focused on supporting healthcare professionals in providing clinical healthcare or in providing personal care and support in adult social care.

The main occupations mapped to this apprenticeship standard are Adult Care Worker and Healthcare Support Worker. Further information on these occupations can be found on the Skills England website.

2. On-programme assessments

An apprentice must spend a minimum of 8 months on-programme working towards the occupational standard, with a minimum of 187 hours off-the-job training as stated in the assessment plan. The apprentice must receive training to develop the occupational standard's knowledge and skills criteria. As a minimum:

- the apprentice must complete the Knowledge Test
- the apprentice must compile a Personal Development Plan (PDP)
- the ITP must complete a minimum of two Observations and a maximum of five Observations, directly observing the apprentice in the workplace
- the apprentice must have achieved English and maths qualifications in line with the apprenticeship funding rules, if required.

3. Apprenticeship assessment

Apprentices may be assessed at appropriate points (or milestones) throughout their foundation apprenticeship. The assessment of the Level 2 HSC apprenticeship consists of two assessment methods:

Knowledge Test

The Knowledge Test is comprised of 20 multiple-choice questions. These questions include a mixture of knowledge recall and scenario-based questions that align to selected knowledge requirements from the standard. The duration of the test is 40 minutes. The Knowledge Test is graded fail or pass.

Observations and Personal Development Plan (PDP)

Throughout the duration of the apprenticeship, the apprentice must be observed by the ITP a minimum of two times and up to a maximum of five times. The observations may be supported by questioning if knowledge and skills are not fully met. The apprentice must also complete a PDP over the course of their apprenticeship. NCFE will provide a template to support apprentices to gather the necessary information.

4. Gateway to completion requirements

The apprentice **must** only enter the Gateway to completion once the ITP is content that the apprentice has completed all the on-programme elements, and the employer has confirmed that the apprentice has demonstrated the required Employability skills and behaviours (EBs).

5. Grade aggregation information

Knowledge Test	Observation with PDP	Final Grade
Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	Fail	Fail
Fail	Pass	Fail
Fail	Fail	Fail

6. Completion and certification

Once NCFE verifies the apprentice has successfully completed all apprenticeship assessment methods and Gateway to completion requirements, they will activate certification. Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, NCFE will ensure the apprentice receives their certificate.

7. What next?

Upon successful completion, the apprentice will be competent in the technical knowledge and skills, and employability skills and behaviours outlined in this standard. Someone who completes some or all of this content will be part-way through a journey to a more specialist occupation. The typical progression routes will likely include employment or progression onto another level 2 or level 3 apprenticeship such as Level 2 Adult Care Worker, Level 2 Healthcare Support Worker, Level 3 Lead Adult Care Worker and Level 3 Senior Healthcare Support Worker.

Why NCFE?

We are an approved Assessment Organisation (AO) specialising in apprenticeship assessment across health, education, social care, business, active leisure and digital apprenticeship standards. NCFE offers flexible and reliable apprenticeship assessment solutions supported by sector expertise, guidance documents and proactive service and support.