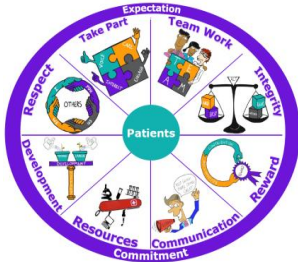


Healthcare Science Degree Apprenticeship 2018



1. What is the Healthcare Science Apprenticeship?

The Healthcare Science Degree Apprenticeship is a four year blended learning course offered by Staffordshire University.

The programme has been designed to provide you with the knowledge, skills and behaviours to apply for registration as a Biomedical Scientist working within a clinical pathology laboratory setting.

2. Who can apply for the apprenticeship?

- Permanent employee, who has completed probation
- Must be based in IBMS or National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS) accredited training laboratory
- Must have Managers' agreement – all applications will be discussed and signed by Line Manager
- No previous Biomedical Science or similar degree

3. What are the entry requirements?

The typical entry requirement is a UCAS tariff of 112 points although applicants with non-standard qualifications and laboratory experience can apply and will be assessed individually.

As a route leading to statutory registration, apprentices must demonstrate a good command of reading, writing and spoken English (equivalent of IELTS of at least 7.0, with no element below 6.5) and undergo a Disclosure and Barring check.

- Be in full-time permanent employment for at least 30 hours a week
- Have a contract of employment for the duration of the apprenticeship
- A citizen of a country within the European Economic Area (EEA**) or have the right of abode in the UK, and have been ordinarily resident in the EEA for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning
- Not be enrolled on another apprenticeship at the same time
- Has the right to work in England
- Able to complete the apprenticeship in contracted working hours.

Employer Commitments:

- Provide the apprentice with paid time to attend off-the-job training, including additional support for English and Maths, or support accessed for learning difficulties and/or disabilities
- Recognise that the apprentice must complete the apprenticeship within their working hours
- Ensure apprentice spends at least 20% of their time in off the job training (see explanation below)
- There will be an expectation that students will have some protected time to undertake on-line activities although this can be flexible to suit service delivery
- Support the apprentice to gain new skills.



4. What qualification will be achieved?

On successful completion of the course apprentices achieve IBMS Certificate of Competence and be eligible for HCPC registration as a Biomedical Scientist. They will be awarded a BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science in either Blood Sciences, Genetic Sciences, Cellular Sciences or Infection Sciences depending upon the host laboratory.

5. How long is the course and when does it start?

The apprenticeship typically runs for four years and begins in September each year.

6. How is the course structured?

The programme is delivered using a variety of methods, primarily a blend of online and workplace learning together with study days based within the Science Centre at our Stoke-on-Trent campus.

There are frequent online interactions between the tutor, teaching staff and fellow students supported by on-campus study days in which apprentices will undertake laboratory practicals, tutorials and collaborative sessions.

- Weekly online learning materials
- Discussion boards
- Collaborative activities
- Integrated work-based activities
 - Designed to be 'low impact' to the hospital laboratory and will capture learning obtained during day-to-day activities
- On campus study days
 - 9 days in year 1 and 2
 - 6 days in year 3
 - 3 days in year 4

Course Structure

Year 1 Scientific Basis	Bioscience Concepts and Practice Blended		Building Blocks of Life Blended		Structure and Function Blended	
Year 2 Techniques and Methods	Biology of Disease Blended	Molecular Genetics Blended	Cell Biology and Immunology Blended	Physiological Function Blended	Biochemistry and Blood Science Blended	Professional Practice for Biomedical Science Workplace
Year 3 Techniques and Methods	Public Health Blended	Infection Science Blended	Clinical Case Study Discipline Specific	Contemporary Issues in Biomedical Science Discipline Specific	Applied Healthcare Science Discipline Specific	Professional Practice and Placement Workplace
Year 4 Application to Practice	Diagnostic Healthcare Science Discipline Specific Workplace		Research Project Discipline Specific Workplace		Good Scientific and Clinical Practice (Apprentice end point assessment) Discipline Specific Workplace	



FAQ

Course structure explained

- Year one provides a broad knowledge base relevant to all aspects of the biosciences
- Year two introduces the concepts of biology of disease and the role of a healthcare professional
- Year three develops an understanding of biomedical science and begin to specialise in your chosen discipline
- Year four focuses on a research project and the scientific and clinical application of your chosen specialism in the workplace.

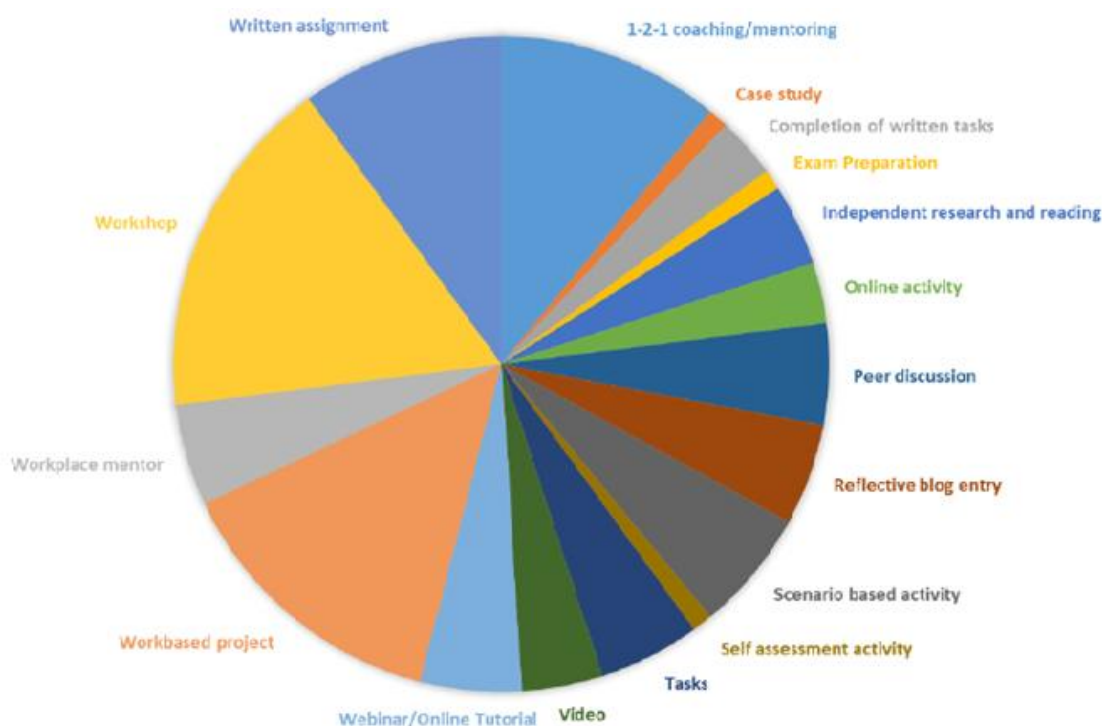
Clinical practice is an integral part of the Healthcare Science Degree and your day to day workplace experiences and learning are embedded throughout your course. The course is accredited by the National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS) and the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) and approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Upon successful completion of this degree and its integral work-based element, you will be eligible to apply for HCPC Registration as a Biomedical Scientist.

7. What does the 20% off the job training entail?

Off-the-job training is defined as learning which is undertaken outside of an apprentice's current normal working duties and practices that leads towards the development of new, or improved knowledge, skills and behaviours and ultimately the achievement of an apprenticeship.

Off-the-job training must be directly relevant to the apprenticeship and can be delivered through the many following methods:





Off the job training does not include the following:

- English and maths (up to level 2)
- Progress reviews or on programme assessment
- Training which takes place outside of the Apprentices paid working hours.

8. How is the course funded?

The course will be fully funded by L&D through our VIAcademy, travel cost for study days at Staffordshire University will be funded through L&D expenses.

9. How is the Apprenticeship assessed?

A range of formative and summative assessment methods are used across the modules including portfolio course work, workplace competency assessments, assignments and exams.

Apprentices achieve the BSc (Hons) in Healthcare Science that includes an integrated End Point Assessment to complete the apprenticeship. In addition, apprentices work towards completing the Institute of Biomedical Science Registration Portfolio which confers eligibility to apply for registration as a Biomedical Scientist.

10. How is the IBMS Portfolio verified?

The student's Registration Portfolio will be verified by an examiner from IBMS as usual in the workplace.

11. When can you apply for HCPC registration?

At the end of the four year programme, once the IBMS Registration Portfolio and degree has been completed

12. What happens when you have qualified?

On completing your Healthcare Science Apprenticeship and obtaining your HCPC registration, there are many opportunities at Viapath for you to apply for, and progress, to a BMS post (Band 5 equivalent) where you can work towards your IBMS Specialist Portfolio.

If you have any queries that are not answered above, please contact:

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