



Career Seekers Direct
Career Management Services

Career Seekers Direct Focus On The Health & Social Care Industry

Careers in health and social care are undoubtedly amongst the most challenging, but they can also be the most satisfying. If you have empathy, like responsibility, can demonstrate perseverance and, above all, have a strong desire to help others, a job in the health and social care sector may be right for you.

It's all about helping people. Careers in healthcare are about helping people who are having problems with their physical health. Careers in social care are concerned with helping vulnerable people in the community and providing them with support so that they can benefit from a much more improved way of life.



Health and social care is an especially broad career sector. Tons of different career paths are available for people from all different kinds of academic backgrounds. Careers in healthcare are much more likely to require a combination of further study and on-the-job medical training, whereas careers in social care are more likely to start with on-the-job training and allow people to work towards professional qualifications later on in their career.

Everybody is dependent on the specialist skills of healthcare professionals at some point (even if it's only when they are born). Not everybody becomes directly involved with social care initiatives. However, everyone is likely to encounter the many social issues that require the hard work of social care professionals. Careers in health and social care are some of the most important in the world. These employees not only help people on an individual basis, but make a difference to society as a whole.

Understandably, the key word to consider when contemplating a career in this sector is 'care'. People who work in this sector truly care about helping other people. Without that level of concern and desire to make a difference, it is impossible to succeed in the health and social care world.

In order to thrive in these careers, you need to have the ability to build relationships with patients and service users. It is essential that people trust you, and therefore patience, friendliness and fantastic communication skills are needed. These careers are some of the most rewarding you can pursue, but can also be the most challenging emotionally. You certainly need to be genuinely compassionate and caring, but you need to be thick-skinned too.

Who are the employers in the health sector?

The NHS (National Health Service) is the largest employer in Europe (over one million employees); however, many private institutions also employ tons of people in the healthcare arena. A large amount of these people are employed as doctors, dentists, paramedics, nurses and midwives but there are plenty more engaged within managerial, I.T. and administration work.

There are many different specialist careers available within the healthcare system too, including: clinical support staff, occupational therapists, speech therapists and art therapists

Who are the employers in the social care sector?

There are so many different paths to take when pursuing a career in social care. Social care work can be done in a variety of different environments: in people's own homes, in residential care units, in

shelters for the homeless, and in young offender institutes. However, people tend to specialise in one



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area, which is defined by the kind of service users they work with and their specific type of social problems, such as domestic violence, mental health or asylum.

Most people will have heard social workers who operate at a more senior level and deal with the complex problems of service users with critical social needs. They assess the specific needs of individuals and offer them expert advice and support. They also work closely with social care workers and direct them in what extra specialist care the service user should receive.

Social care workers tend to be more actively involved with providing personal and hands-on care to service users. The professionals employed in this area of work include: people who provide physical support for people with mobility issues, counsellors who provide mental health advice and support, and advisors who support people who are looking to foster. Many areas of social care also require support staff who do not provide active care functions, such as managers and administrative support staff.

How do you know if a job in this industry is right for you? If you are choosing your first career or looking for a career change, our Career Seekers Direct Programmes can help you see if you are a good 'career fit' for this industry and help you create an action plan to get a role.

Please contact Eva on 07901 517012 or email enquiries@careerseekersdirect.co.uk