



JOB of the Week



Job name: Midwife

Job description: Midwives provide advice, care and support for women and their babies during pregnancy, labour and the early postnatal period. You'll help women to make their own decisions about the care and services they access and will provide health education and parenting advice until care is transferred to a health visitor. You're responsible for the health of both mother and child and will only refer to obstetricians if there are medical complications. Work is carried out in multidisciplinary teams in both hospital and, increasingly, community healthcare settings.

Tasks you will undertake in the job: As a midwife, you'll need to:

- monitor and examine women during pregnancy
- develop, assess and evaluate individual programmes of care
- provide full antenatal care, including screening tests in the hospital, community and the home
- identify high risk pregnancies and make referrals to doctors and other medical specialists
- arrange and provide parenting and health education
- provide counselling and advice before and after screening and tests
- offer support and advice following events such as miscarriage, termination, stillbirth, neonatal abnormality and neonatal death
- supervise and assist mothers in labour, monitoring the condition of the foetus and applying knowledge of drugs and pain management
- give support and advice on the daily care of the baby, including breastfeeding, bathing and making up feeds
- liaise with agencies and other health and social care professionals to ensure continuity of care
- participate in the training and supervision of junior colleagues.

Qualifications you will need for this job: To practice as a midwife in the UK, you must be registered with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC). You'll need to have completed an approved pre-registration midwifery degree programme to do this, which lasts three years full time. Half of the course is spent studying at university, while the other half is based around practical placements to provide you with hands-on experience. Part-time courses are available for those who are working in a relevant role and usually take five to six years. If you're already a qualified nurse, you can take a midwifery short programme, which allows you to qualify sooner than the three-year course. Acceptance on to a course is subject to satisfactory health clearance and a disclosure and barring service (DBS) check.

From September 2020, all pre-registration midwifery students can receive funding support of £5,000 - £8,000 per year. You don't have to pay it back and can still access funding for tuition and maintenance loans from the Student Loans Company.

Skills required for this job (core competencies):

Communication	Resilience	Organisation	Teamwork
Problem Solving	Initiative	Creativity	Digital literacy

Sectors in which Midwives would normally work:

Most midwives are employed by the NHS. They work in: hospitals; maternity and birthing centres; GP surgeries and in the community. You can also find employment in private hospitals, independent practices and the armed forces.

Self-employment is possible. University hospitals employ midwives in joint partnerships between the trust and the university to work in lecturer-practitioner positions, or to conduct research.

Many recruitment agencies, such as [Pulse](#), regularly handle vacancies and a searchable directory is available at [Nursing Agencies List](#). Job vacancies, for information on being a midwife and making your application use the link for [Your Midwife Career](#).

Career path and progression within the industry:

As a newly qualified midwife, you'll be given a formal period of support under the guidance of an experienced professional colleague. They'll be on hand to offer advice and help in the first few months of professional practice. Throughout your career, you'll need to maintain your registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), which has to be renewed every three years. To do this you must show you've met revalidation requirements within that time. These include: 450 practice hours, which can be made up of providing direct care to patients, managing teams, teaching others or running a care service; 35 hours of continuing professional development (CPD), including 20 hours of participatory learning; five pieces of practice-related feedback; five written reflective accounts; reflective discussion; health and character declaration and professional indemnity arrangement.



Salary: Average salary for a midwife is £39 620, average salary in the UK is £28 758



Working hours: 35 average working hours in the week (37.5 working hours in the average working week). Some work will be weekends and evenings.

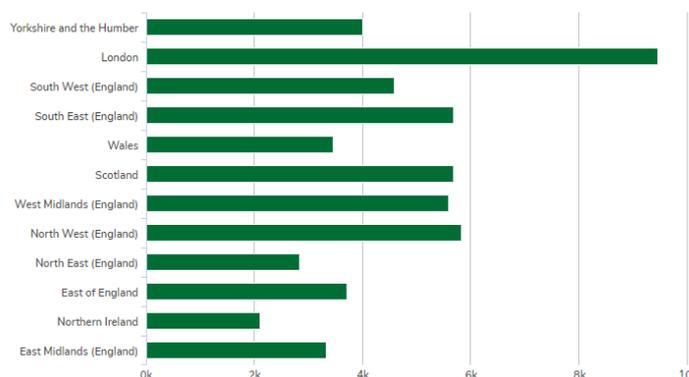
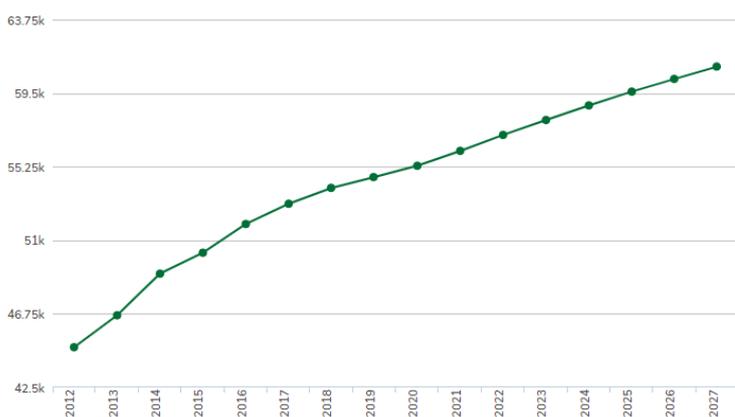
Workforce in the UK: 0.4% male / 99.6% female workforce

You can develop experience and knowledge in a number of different healthcare settings, including becoming a clinical specialist in an area such as: antenatal screening; breastfeeding advice; home birthing; intensive care neonatal units; labour ward supervision; parenting education; public health; ultrasound and foetal medicine.

You might become a consultant midwife, dividing your time between working directly with patients and training and leading improvements in practice.

Or, you may seek a higher management opportunity, such as the position of head of midwifery services, or as a supervisor of midwives with the local supervising authority. Alternatively, you could go into teaching or research within a healthcare setting or a university.

This job in the future: The workforce is projected to grow by 8.7%, creating 6 900 jobs; in the same period, 53.7% of the workforce is likely to retire, creating 30 200 job opportunities.



www.icould.com

www.successatschool.org

www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk

www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors

www.ucas.com/careers-advice

www.kudos/cascaid.co.uk/#/ (you all have a log on for this service)

www.careersbox.co.uk (careers videos)



Helpful sites for careers information
GAT careers links

<http://airhead.io/public/launchpads/XqbuOMJgb00fqvMPCykcZA>

