

Healthcare Science Career of the Week



Health Promotion Officer

Area of HCS: Public Health Team

Pay Scale: £31k - £46k

AMAZING FACT

- In 1853 it became compulsory for all children under 3 to be vaccinated in the battle against smallpox. If your parents DIDN'T get you vaccinated then they'd be fine £1 (about £128 in today's money), most people only got paid the equivalent of £30 a day so that was quite a pricey fine!

As a health promotion officer you'll get to work directly in the community and with partner organisations such as charities to improve the nation's health. You'll identify the health needs of the community you work in and intervene appropriately to improve health. You could work on a variety of areas of health:

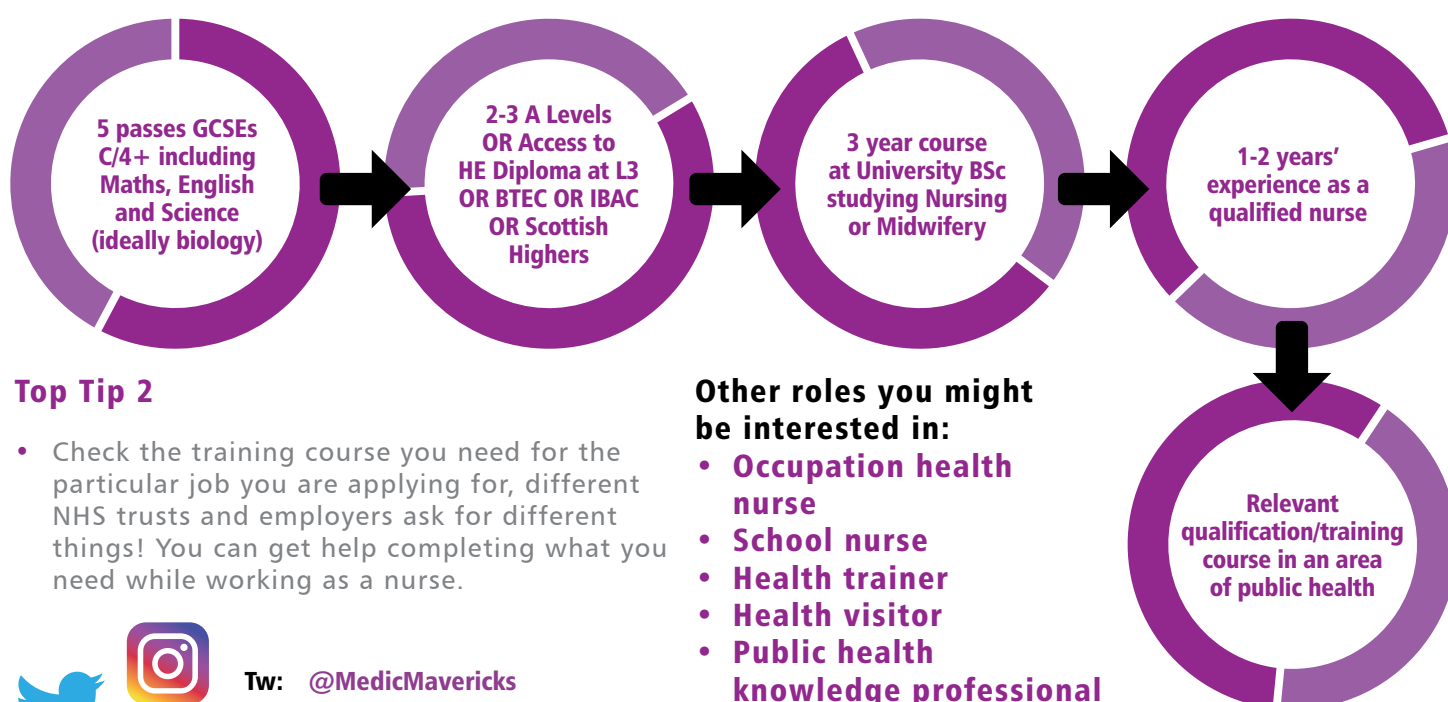
- Physical activity • Tackling obesity • Sexual health • Promoting self-care for long-term conditions • Educational outreach in schools

You'll need to keep up-to-date with the latest guidelines and research to provide your communities with the best possible advice. You'll also play a key role in the monitoring of public health by collecting and compiling statistical data for the government. You'll need to be a good communicator to deliver fantastic training and information sessions. This role also had the opportunity for education; you can help train, support and mentor junior staff as your experience grows. As well as working for the NHS, a health promotion officer also has the opportunity to work for private companies and other health organisations.

Top Tip

- This role can appear under lots of different names, as well as health promotion officer you could see advertised: health promotion nurse, health officer, health improvement practitioner, health and wellbeing nurse, health advisor.

What to do to get into this career...



Top Tip 2

- Check the training course you need for the particular job you are applying for, different NHS trusts and employers ask for different things! You can get help completing what you need while working as a nurse.

Other roles you might be interested in:

- Occupation health nurse
- School nurse
- Health trainer
- Health visitor
- Public health knowledge professional
- Environmental health professional



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