

Senior Healthcare Support Worker

1. What the role entails

As an already experienced Support Worker, your apprentice will carry out a range of clinical and non-clinical healthcare or therapeutic tasks, under the direct or indirect supervision of the registered Healthcare Practitioner. They'll provide high-quality, compassionate healthcare, following standards, policies or protocols and always act within the limits of their competence.



Entry: apprentices selected for the Senior Healthcare Support Worker standard may have prior experience as a Support Worker.

2. On-programme assessment

Before entering Gateway, the apprentice must complete the following on-programme assessment requirements:

- The 15 standards as set out in the Care Certificate
- A regulated Level 2 occupational competence qualification as specific in the option chosen
- Level 2 English and maths.

3. Gateway requirements

The employer, independent training provider (ITP) and apprentice make the decision to take the apprentice through Gateway. The apprentice must achieve all the required on-programme elements before they enter Gateway, including:

- Learning journal – which is compiled once the apprentice has completed their on-programme training and development, which will be in the final 3 months of the apprenticeship.



[View the full IfATE Senior Healthcare Support Worker standard](#)



4. End-point assessment

The end-point assessment (EPA) for Senior Healthcare Support Worker contains 2 methods of assessment:

Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) and Short Answer Question (SAQ) test

This assessment features 30 MCQs carrying one mark each and 4 SAQs carrying 5 marks each, which are both limited to 250 words. The test will last for 60 minutes and will be in the form of real-life scenarios to answer questions that align to all knowledge requirements of the core and chosen option.

Grade weighting – the Observation is ungraded above a Pass by the Independent End Point Assessor (IEPA).

Observation of Practice

The Observation of Practice will last a minimum of 90 minutes and will take place during the course of the apprentice's normal work day to assess higher level skills and behaviours.

Grade weighting – the Observation is ungraded above a Pass by the IEPA.

Learning Journal and Interview

The Learning Journal must contain a minimum of 3 reflective accounts, totalling 1000 words (+/-100 words) which demonstrate the apprentice's learning and application of knowledge to their chosen area of practice, in addition to their skills, values and behaviours. These pieces of evidence will make up the body of the Interview with the IEPA. The Interview will take place following the submission of the Learning Journal. This will last for a minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes.

Grade weighting – the IEPA grades the Learning Journal and Interview is as Pass, Merit or Distinction.

5. Grade aggregation table

Observation of Practice	MCQs/SAQs	Learning Journal and Interview	Grading
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
		Merit	Pass
		Distinction	Merit
	Merit	Pass	Pass
		Merit	Merit
		Distinction	Merit
	Distinction	Pass	Merit
		Merit	Merit
		Distinction	Distinction

6. Completion and certification

We'll activate certification once the apprentice has successfully completed all EPAs, and the IEPA has verified this. Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, we'll ensure the apprentice receives their certificate.

7. What next?

The apprentice could progress onto the Level 5 Assistant Practitioner or Nursing Associate or, providing the apprentice meets the entry requirements, apply to university to become a registered Healthcare Practitioner.

Why choose NCFE?

We're an approved End-Point Assessment Organisation (EPAO) specialising in EPA delivery across health, education and care, and business apprenticeship standards. We offer flexible and reliable EPA solutions supported by sector expertise, guidance documents and proactive service and support.