



Department of

**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

An Roinn

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT



“ Healthcare professionals provide a vital role in the management and implementation of health and social care programmes by adding quality to life and having time to listen. ”

THE HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TEAM NEEDS YOU

HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT

Healthcare assistants, also known as clinical support workers, therapy assistants and nursing auxiliaries, support the work of nurses or allied health professionals such as podiatrists, occupational therapists, orthotists, dietitians, physiotherapists, radiographers, and speech and language therapists assisting with treatment or looking after patients' comfort and well-being. They are employed in many areas in the hospital and community settings, including mental health services, children's services and learning disability.

The exact role will depend on the area in which you work. For example, therapy assistants in physiotherapy might show patients how to use mobility aids and work on exercises with them. On wards, nursing auxiliaries monitor patients' condition by taking temperatures, pulse and respiration. You would help patients with washing, feeding and mobilisation. Specific tasks and care programmes are agreed with the assessing professional and carried out as prescribed by the supporting assistant. Progress reports are discussed, agreed and jointly signed by the supervising professional.

Entry Qualifications:

There are no national minimum requirements, but you will probably be expected to have a good general education and/or work experience.

Career Pathway:

Healthcare Assistants and Auxiliary Nurses may have the opportunity to obtain an NVQ 3 qualification in care. Often, obtaining NVQ 2 will lead to the person having more responsibility in terms of the role they are fulfilling. An NVQ Level 3 will meet the minimum entry requirements for entry into undergraduate nurse training.

How to Apply:

Directly to Trusts in response to job recruitment adverts in the local press and the Belfast Telegraph and through Job Centres.

Web Links:

Further Education in NI - www.femeansbusiness.com
Belfast Telegraph – www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk
Job Centre Online – www.jobcentreonline.com

Contact address for further copies

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