

University of Worcester



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First cohort start date:	Sept 2024	Cohort size:	20 - 25
Number of cohorts per year:	1	Length of course:	24-30 months
Scope of delivery:	Regional		
Delivery methods:	<p><b>Blended learning in a flexible model.</b> The apprenticeship has been designed to be responsive to employer and apprentice needs. There will be a choice of delivery modes with theoretical aspects of 'off the job training' delivered either in person on-campus and/ or via a highly blended delivery mode through synchronous and asynchronous online delivery. 'On the job training' will be delivered in person at the employing organisation. The final calculation for off-the-job hours requirement will be made in collaboration with the employer and apprentice. However, this must meet the EFSA requirement.</p>		
Number of academic hours covered by self-directed study:	80 hours across two years		
Proportion of practice hours and academic hours required:	<p>Year 1: Sept to Jan - Approximately one day a week 'on-the-job', increasing to approximately two days a week 'on-the-job' in February.                      Year 2: A minimum of 1400 hours of clinical placements. Over the 30 month apprenticeship this is 75:25% one-the-job:off-the-job training.</p>		
Is a direct entry PA programme already offered?	Yes		
If so, will Apprenticeship cohorts share tuition with direct entry PA cohorts?	Yes		

<p><b>If all employer partners committed to rotation of placements, would the university coordinate placements for the cohort?</b></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>
<p><b>Application process</b></p>	
<p>Application deadline in May.</p> <p>The academic team review candidates and accompanying supporting documents and arrange joint interviews between the employer and university for successful applicants.</p> <p>Prior to interview applicants complete an Initial Needs Assessment (INA) and submit it for review by the academic team. Academic team communicate outcome of INA/ interviews to employers. The academic team will check for evidence of Level 2 Maths and English, degree qualifications and relevant work experience and assurance that the minimum contracted hours are met (30 hours).</p> <p>A university Registry application link will be sent to successful applicants (via the employer) on receipt of employer confirmation to proceed with applications. Applicants apply through online link to create a university account through SOLE. Line manager briefings to provide information about documentation completion. Employer Provider Contract Agreement (EPCA) sent to employer leads for signature.</p>	
<p><b>Entry requirements</b></p>	
<p>Minimum A 2:i honours degree (relevant subject) and 150 hours of health or care experience</p> <p><b>OR</b> A 2:i in a physical science or social work and completed degree level biology modules and 150</p> <p><b>OR</b> A 2:ii honours degree in a relevant life sciences subject (to include a transcript with <b>no more than 4 modules</b> graded at less than 50%) with 300 hours of health of care experience.</p> <p>GCSE A-C/4 and above in: Maths and English Language</p> <p>If English is not the applicant’s first language: IELTS minimum of 7.5 overall with 7.0 in each element (<a href="#">GMC requirement</a>)</p> <p>Additional criteria: DBS check and Occupational health clearance</p> <p>Where applicants do not have sufficient healthcare experience, subject to confirmation of previous experience through initial needs assessment and in collaboration with the employer and university, the apprentice may be able to undertake an agreed period of on-the-job time prior to the start of the teaching of the knowledge component of the apprenticeship. In addition, employers will need to confirm occupational health clearance and DBS checks</p> <p>For candidates that do not meet the criteria, we will work with the candidate and employer to identify possible options for them to improve their application or, in the case of GCSE (or equivalent) grade A-C/4 in Maths and English to confirm opportunities to achieve this during the apprenticeship.</p>	
<p><b>APEL process and support</b></p>	

Prior learning, against the apprenticeship standard knowledge, skills and behaviours and module learning outcomes will be assessed during the Initial Need Assessment (INA). In this way, the university, employer and apprenticeship can take assurance that the apprentice will meet all elements of their programme. Should the INA demonstrate prior learning, the duration and cost of the apprenticeship would be negotiated with the employer and apprentice.

Applicants can apply for three forms of recognition of prior learning:

- a. Credit transfer,
- b. Recognition of prior certificated learning (such as professional development awards or employment-based awards),
- c. Recognition of prior experiential or informal learning.

In all cases, a member of the course team will support the applicant through the APEL process.