

Maternity Support Worker

Maternity support workers help midwives and other medical staff care for mothers and babies, before, during and after childbirth.

The Work

You could be:

- taking blood samples at patient's antenatal appointments
- helping out in antenatal classes
- supporting family members during childbirth
- helping move patients in their beds to make them more comfortable
- keeping a record of patient's progress
- taking note of any change in patient's condition, and report to medical staff
- helping patients bathe, shower or wash themselves
- helping new mums care for their babies.

Pay

Under NHS Agenda for Change, maternity support workers start on Band 2, £26,658 to £28,947 a year. With promotion your salary would rise to Band 3, £29,061 to £31,364 a year. The current pay scales are from April 2025.

Conditions

- You would work in a hospital ward, clinic or birthing centre.
- You would work under the supervision of a midwife.
- You work shifts including nights, evenings and weekends.
- You wear a uniform and sometimes protective clothing.

Getting In

- A good general education is useful.
- You can enter through a Modern Apprenticeship in Healthcare Support (Clinical) at SCQF Level 6.
- You may need to sit an entrance test.
- Previous experience in a paid or voluntary role in a health care setting would be an advantage.
- It is useful to have done some first aid or have experience of working with people.
- You can use experience of caring at home to apply for jobs.
- You will require a satisfactory criminal record check from Disclosure Scotland to show that you are suitable for this type of work. Contact [Disclosure Scotland](#) for details on the type you would need.

What Does It Take

You need to be:

- able to communicate with people of all ages and from different backgrounds
- able to remain calm in stressful situations
- supportive and encouraging
- patient and caring
- able to work as part of a team.

Training

- Training is on the job. You would work towards SVQ Health Care Support (Clinical) at SCQF Level 6.
- You may be able to move on to SVQs at SCQF Level 7.
- You would follow an induction process which is reviewed yearly. Additional training includes hygiene and infection control, breastfeeding support, risk management, child protection and health and safety.

Getting On

- With experience and particularly if you take qualifications, you may be able to move to a higher grade, such as a senior maternity support worker.
- You would also be encouraged to work towards further qualifications such as HNC Care and Administrative Practice (SCQF Level 7).
- With experience in the job, you could study for the CertHE Maternity Care Assistant (SCQF Level 7), available at the University of the West of Scotland. It is a 6-month course fully funded by the NHS.
- You could work for a private company as well as for the National Health Service (NHS).

Contacts

NHS Scotland Careers

Website: www.careers.nhs.scot

Website (2): jobs.scot.nhs.uk

Statistics

Employment Status : Not available this career.

Past Unemployment - Scotland

No Claimant statistics available for Scotland.

Predicted Employment Statistics : Not available this career.