

General Enquiries

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FdSc Assistant Practitioner in Health and Social Care

Location	Stockport College
Course Type	University Level
Department	Health & Social Care
Start Date	Monday 14th September 2026
Duration	Full-time, 2 Years
Time	-
Fee	£ 8000.00
Course Code	SFP-HL5J-1100

Course Overview

This Foundation Degree and Higher Technical Qualification is validated by Sheffield Hallam University, developed in collaboration with hospital trusts, private healthcare providers and voluntary sector organisations. The course offers a natural progression from the T level or the L3 Extended Diploma in Health and Social Care.

It is suitable for both new recruits and more experienced assistant and support workers in health, social and community care. It offers an opportunity to develop the skills and competencies needed for NHS band 3 and 4 roles. This programme provides a principal route for the training and education of those in an Assistant Practitioner role and can serve as a stepping stone for individuals who wish to pursue further education and training to become fully qualified healthcare professionals, such as nurses or allied health practitioners.

The completion of 200 hours each year in an appropriate setting over the duration of the course, is a requirement of the programme. Applicants should be willing to complete this Higher Technical qualification alongside paid employment or voluntary work.

Course Requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths at grade C/4 or above or equivalent Level 2 qualifications

48 UCAS points or equivalent from either a Level 3 qualification, GCE A levels or an Access to HE Diploma in a relevant subject

Mature students with relevant work experience and/or professional qualifications are welcome to apply and may be invited to interview

Applicants need to have the opportunity to complete 200 placement hours each year, either voluntary or in paid employment.

If applicants do not meet the minimum entry requirements outlined, their employment, caregiving, volunteer work, or private study may be assessed for relevant skills and experience against the requirements of the course.

What You Will Learn

We begin your academic journey with the Transition to Higher Education module, which provides a foundation framework for students to learn academic reading, writing referencing, digital literacy and researching skills to support the academic learning journey. Through the work-based learning modules in years 1 and 2, you will develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours required for safe and effective practice in the workplace.

With a focus on the assessment and delivery of health and social care, students will identify and apply theoretical frameworks that underpin an integrated service user assessment, be able to identify key issues impacting on service users' ability to function effectively and will develop, implement and evaluation an intervention to enhance the wellbeing of a service user. An introduction to the core biological, psychological and social science principles that underpin effective person-centred care underpins the content of the Essential Sciences module.

At Level 5 students will explore, examine and develop the knowledge, skills and attributes of a compassionate leader in contemporary health and social care practice. You will also acquire the knowledge and develop the skills to critically examine and apply public health, rehabilitation and reablement approaches to service provision. The Transition to Professional Practice module is to help you to develop readiness and confidence in your future employability as you reflect upon personal attributes, experiences and skills to identify specific learning needs.

Assessment

Modules are assessed through course work and work-based learning. A variety of learning opportunities are offered including practical activities, role plays, work-based learning, written assignments, presentations and reflective portfolios.

Progression

Students may complete their undergraduate studies at L6 on top-up course such as:

BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care Studies

Career Options

In addition to offering progression for assistant practitioners, this course prepares you for a career in:

Physiotherapy

Occupational therapy

Combined rehabilitation

Dietetics

Operating department practice

Diagnostic radiography

Therapeutic radiography

Mandatory Units

At Level 4 you will study the following modules to gain 120 credits:

Transition to Higher Education

Work based learning 1

Integrated holistic assessment and delivery of health and social care interventions

Essential sciences for person centred care

Progression to Level 5:

Transition to professional practice

Promoting health, wellbeing and independence

Work based learning 2

Leadership and management

Extra Costs Involved

Students need an enhanced DBS certificate, issued within 12 months of the start of the course.

Exam Validation Body

Sheffield Hallam University

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Hours Per Week

Full time, 12 hours per week

How Long To Complete

2 years

Programme Structure

The course is delivered over two Semesters in each year. Students will complete 120 credits at Level 4 and 120 credits at Level 5.

Contact Details

For further information please email HEenquiries@tcg.ac.uk

Disclaimer

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained within this document is accurate, there may be changes to this programme and provision. We will endeavour to keep prospective and current students updated where appropriate and when the information becomes available.