



Job overview

Data Collection to Support the COVID-19 Response

We are writing to you regarding the recruitment of 3rd to 5th year medical students (excluding intercalated year) to support the COVID-19 response. An agreement has been reached between NHS England (NHSE), Public Health England (PHE) and the Medical Schools Council (MSC) to recruit around 400 3rd to 6th year medical students to support the collection of data on patients with possible or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 in hospitals based in England.

We urgently need your help to systematically capture data on possible and confirmed COVID-19 patients across England. The exact job role will vary between trusts but will involve collection of data from either electronic records or paper notes. This data will then be directly input into national databases which are used for decision making at the highest level. Some data may be able to be collected remotely whilst other data will need to be collected from clinical settings. We can assure that you will be supported by both the NHS and PHE in collecting this data.

We are approaching medical students as we need data collected accurately and urgently and believe you have the skills to do this. We will initially focus on recruiting medical students to NHS trusts in London, rolling it out to the rest of England as soon as possible.

As this is a rapidly moving scenario we ask you to appreciate that we are still working through aspects of this job and will give you more detailed information as we have it. If your question is not covered by the FAQs below please email medical.students@phe.gov.uk

You will be playing a vital role in the COVID-19 response and we thank you for your consideration of this post.



FAQs

Who will I be employed by?

The NHS will be your official employer and provide you with a contract. It will also be responsible for inducting you into the trust in which you work.

When will this role start?

We are aiming to employ medical students in these roles as soon as possible, possibly from week commencing 13th April. If you are unable to commence on this date that is fine, please indicate on the application form when you will be able to commence the post. We will concentrate on recruiting to London trusts initially as this is where the majority of COVID cases are.

How many hours will I work a week? How many days will I work a week?

This will depend on how many patients from whom you are collecting data. We envisage it will take 2-3 hours a day. We will encourage medical students to balance and manage their own work load with support from NHS and PHE supervisors. We will liaise with you directly about how many days a week you are able to work. Ideally we would like to cover 7 days a week between the students allocated but will discuss this with you

How long will I be required to work for?

As you can imagine, we are not sure when this incident will end. At present we envisage needing your support from now until the end of June. However, the actual duration may be less or more. You are welcome to apply even if you can only work for part of this time.

What is the deadline for this post?

There is not a deadline for applying for this post as recruitment will be ongoing for the next few months depending on need.



Protecting and improving the nation's health

Why am I collecting data?

Data are the building blocks for decision making in this crisis. We need accurate, national data which can be used to build a picture on what impact COVID-19 is having on hospitals in England and what actions are needed to support the response. Data are already being collected, but with your help we can increase the amount of data being collected and improve its accuracy.

Where will I work?

In the application form, it will ask you to nominate hospitals you are willing to work at. These hospitals should be within easy commuting distance from where you currently reside.

Do I have to work at a hospital which is affiliated with my current medical school?

You should only volunteer to work at a hospital which is within easy commuting distance of where you currently reside. It does not matter whether they are affiliated with your medical school or not.

Do I need to ask for permission from my medical school to do this role?

If selected for this job, we will liaise with both you and your medical school prior to commencing the role.

Will I work with anyone?

We are aiming for there to be a minimum of 2 students in every trust. You will be encouraged to manage the workload between you.

How much will I be paid?

You will be paid minimum wage to carry out this job. The trusts will inform you on how to submit your hours.



Public Health England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

I am from a vulnerable group / I live with a vulnerable person, can I still volunteer for this job?

If you are from a vulnerable group or live with someone from a vulnerable group, we will look to post you to a trust which has electronic records and you can work remotely.

What about training?

The NHS and PHE will provide training on how to input data into the databases.

I live in Wales / Scotland / Northern Ireland, can I get involved?

At present, we are only recruiting those who are able to commute easily to hospitals in England. PHE have invited Scotland, Wales and NI to carry out a similar scheme and you will be contacted if your assistance is required.

When will I hear if I have been recruited?

We will aim to provide you with a response within 2 weeks of application.