NHS Career Opportunities for Service Leavers & Veterans
Regardless of your rank, Service (Military and Civilian), trade or how long it has been since you left the Armed Forces there is a career for you in the NHS.

This booklet has been produced as part of Defence’s relationship with NHS Employers, the employers’ organisation for the NHS in England. Whilst some of the information covered is specific to the NHS in England, the majority will be equally applicable to whichever part of the NHS you are interested in joining.

In the last 5 years around 1,200 Service Leavers and Veterans have moved into careers in the NHS, over half of these were in non-medical roles during their time in Defence.
The NHS is the UK’s largest employer, involving over 1.5 million people undertaking a wide variety of roles across the community, from health centres, to ambulance trusts and hospitals.

Opportunities are available everywhere across the country and could be close to where you live or wish to settle after leaving the Armed Forces. Many NHS roles do not require prior healthcare training or experience.

The NHS provides access to opportunities to develop new skills and build a new career in one of a wide range of healthcare settings. You can find out more here – www.militarystepintohealth.nhs.uk
The NHS offers over 350 career roles, such as administration, education, human resources, facilities and estate management, domestic support, recruitment and drivers.

The NHS offers a transparent pay structure that comes with competitive flexible benefits and a generous pension scheme.

Everyone in the NHS works together to make the difference to people’s lives every day.

You can explore the various roles available in the NHS with associated rates of pay here - [www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles](http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles)

If you are unsure of which job will best suit you, take the NHS career quiz here - [www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/findyourcareer](http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/findyourcareer)
Why You?

As a Military or Civilian Service Leaver, Veteran, or family member of someone who is, you have skills that are not only transferrable to the NHS but are also extremely sought after. These skills may include:

- Communication skills
- Leadership & Management
- Information technology
- Problem solving
- Decision making
- Team working
- Commitment
- Resilience
- Flexibility
- Adaptable to change

YOU have a wide range of skills and experience that are valuable to healthcare organisations like the NHS and you can find out how your current skills could be transferred to the NHS by visiting -
www.militarystepintohealth.nhs.uk
You may find that the NHS career you are interested in may require you to undertake some additional education or training. This could vary from learning roles via a mix of on the job training, academic study or University education. You can find more information on accessing Healthcare Education and Training for careers in healthcare here - www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/career-planning
Learning New Skills
NHS Jobs is an online recruitment service for the NHS and other health-related organisations. The site hosts around 20,000 job adverts every month.

If you are looking for a career in the NHS or in a health-related organisation, the NHS Jobs site should be your first port of call.

Once registered on the site, you can quickly search and apply for NHS jobs online and take advantage of many useful features, such as saving job details and applications, as well as tracking your progress against vacancies online - [www.jobs.nhs.uk/advice/intro.html](http://www.jobs.nhs.uk/advice/intro.html)
Applying for NHS Jobs

Whether you are applying for an NHS job or to undertake healthcare training at a University, you will need to complete an application form and attend an interview so that your suitability for employment or course application can be assessed.

You can find useful tips on completing application forms and preparing for interviews here - www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/applications-and-interviews with information on developing your CV here - www.jobs.nhs.uk/nhsjobs2/docs/CV_Application_Guidance.pdf

To stand the best chance of receiving an invitation for interview you will need to demonstrate you have the necessary skills and experience required. The best way to do this is by providing clear examples within your supporting information. Take particular care to explain military roles and experience in terms that can be understood by someone who has not served in the Armed Forces.

Useful tips on how to make sure your application content is presented clearly and effectively can be found here - www.jobs.nhs.uk/advice/write_appform.html
The role you apply for in healthcare may require you to undertake a Disclosure and Barring System (DBS) check, which was previously known as the Criminal Record and Barring Checks (CRB).

The prospective employer may check whether you have a criminal record.

More information regarding DBS checks can be found here - [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service/about](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service/about)
'Step into Health' is an NHS programme dedicated to providing support to the Armed Forces community to access NHS career opportunities.

Step into Health can help facilitate training opportunities, general and clinical work placements as well as provide overall support with the NHS job application process.

Access to the support provided by Step into Health is open to all Service Leavers, Veterans, Reservists, Cadet Force Adult Volunteers, as well as their families members. Further information on Step into Health can be found here - www.militarystepintohealth.nhs.uk
Further Information for Service Leavers

The Career Transition Partnership is provided by the Ministry of Defence to support those thinking of leaving the Armed Forces, or who have recently left service.

Those with access to Career Transition Partnership resources can read an NHS Industry Sector Guide at the following link - [www.ctp.org.uk](http://www.ctp.org.uk)