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## **NIHR Health and Care Professional Internship Programme - Applications Now Open**

NHS R&D North West has announced that applications are now open for the 2026 NIHR Health and Care Professional (HCP) Internship Programme.

This regional initiative is designed for Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professionals, Pharmacists, Healthcare Scientists and colleagues working in Social Care who want to develop their research skills and begin a practitioner research career.

The internship provides a funded, 12-month opportunity with dedicated time away from your substantive role to engage in research-based activities. It supports colleagues at all levels of research interest, from those looking to build confidence in research within clinical practice through to those exploring a pathway into future research leadership.



*Better Connected Health & Care Research*

The programme aims to:

- Provide tailored learning and development for registered health and care professionals (excluding doctors and dentists)
- Support a broad range of research career aspirations
- Build collaborative partnerships across NHS organisations, higher education institutions and professional networks
- Embed a positive and inclusive research culture within health and care services
- Offer insight into the world of practitioner research

Create significant developmental opportunities to help participants realise their research potential

This is an excellent opportunity for anyone curious about putting research into practice or wishing to develop their research capability in a structured and supported way.

For more information, including eligibility and how to apply, visit:

<https://research.northwest.nhs.uk/our-work/nihr-health-care-professional-hcp-internship-programme/>

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