

Date: 10th September 2026

**Could your idea help improve healthcare?
NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme applications opening soon**

WUTH colleagues with an idea that could improve patient care, staff experience or the way healthcare services are delivered are being encouraged to consider applying for the NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme.

Applications for Cohort 11 open on Monday 19th October 2026, offering NHS staff the opportunity to develop their ideas with support from a national community of healthcare innovators.



The NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme is open to all NHS staff across the UK, both clinical and non-clinical. This includes doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, pharmacists, healthcare scientists, managers, administrators, support staff and colleagues working across other NHS roles.

You do not need to have a fully developed product or solution. Whether you have identified a problem and have the beginnings of an idea, or are already working on an innovation, the programme is designed to provide the skills, knowledge and connections to help take it further.

What does the programme offer?

The free, 12-month programme is designed to fit around participants' existing NHS roles and responsibilities.

Participants have access to a range of development opportunities, including CPD accredited educational events, workshops and webinars, expert mentoring, one to one clinics, business planning support, networking and opportunities to connect with industry partners and fellow innovators.

The programme covers areas including healthcare systems, developing an idea, communication, funding, leadership and teams, and digital technologies. It aims to give colleagues practical skills they can use both to develop their innovation and within their existing NHS role.

Since launching in 2016, the programme has supported more than 1,800 entrepreneurs, helping build a national community of people working to develop and spread innovation across healthcare.

Key dates

Applications open at 8am on Monday 19th October 2026 and close at 4pm on Friday 20th November 2026.

Applications will then be reviewed between November 2026 and February 2027, with applicants receiving their outcome in February. The programme will begin in March 2027.

A series of online preparation sessions is also available ahead of applications opening, covering the programme, application process, preparing your pitch and an application Q&A.

If you have spotted a challenge in healthcare and think you might have an idea that could make a difference, this could be an opportunity to explore it further.

Visit the [NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme website](#) to find out more about the programme, preparation sessions and how to apply.