



Expanding opportunities
Enhancing futures

Prior Pursglove College Careers Service



**Maximise your chances of success in...
Allied Health Professions**

Allied Health Professionals... work in health care teams to make the health care system function by providing a range of diagnostic, technical, therapeutic and direct patient care and support services.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

OT's assess and treat physical and psychiatric conditions using activity to promote independence. They work with people of all ages.

Best website to use for researching the job role: College of Occupational Therapists www.cot.co.uk.

Entry: You need a 3 year degree (BSc in Occupational Therapy). A science subject at A Level is usually required (Biology), although check with each University as some accept Health and Social Care or Psychology. Most ask for around ABB - BBC. Alternatively, there are 2 year graduate entry schemes for graduates of a Health or Biology related degree.

Work Experience

OT is competitive and the Universities would like you to have some work experience. Teesside Uni ideally want you to undertake 2 days of work shadowing any Occupational Therapist. You would need to apply for James Cook placements (Jessica Bailey is in charge of this). Jessica.Bailey@stees.nhs.uk or better still, download the application form from the website.

How to better your application

Be knowledgeable about the role of an OT. Show that you understand how an OT's role is different to others roles. Reflect on any visits to OT departments in your personal statement - describe the visit in full and what you learned. Understand the difference between OT's working in different environments - in a social services field as opposed to a mental health field.

Physiotherapy

Physiotherapists work with people of all ages to maximise their range of movement and promote health and wellbeing.

Best website to use for researching the job role:

Chartered Society of Physiotherapists: www.csp.org.uk

Entry : A science subject at A Level is always required (Biology or PE). You need a 3 year degree (BSc in Physiotherapy). Alternatively, there are 2 year graduate entry schemes for graduates of a Health or Biology related degree. Most degrees ask for around ABB-BBB.

Work Experience

Universities expect you to have undertaken some work shadowing with a Physiotherapist, ideally in an NHS setting, but within the community is also acceptable, for example in gyms, GP surgeries, sports clubs. You can apply to James Cook University Hospital for a 2 day placement, download the application form from the placements website.

How to better your application

Be knowledgeable about the role of an Physio: look it up on the CSP website. Reflect on any visits to Physio departments in your personal statement - describe the visit in full and what you learned. Understand the difference between different environments - in the community as opposed to in a hospital. Keep up to date with the latest news affecting the sector, using the CSP website.

RADIOGRAPHY

Radiographers use different kinds of radiation, such as x-rays, radioisotopes, ultrasound and magnetic resonance to help diagnose or treat patients who are ill or injured. There are two types of radiography, and at the point of applying for a degree, you must make a decision which one to persue. Diagnostic – using imaging technology to produce images that are used to diagnose injury or disease. Therapeutic – (sometimes called Oncology) the treatment of cancers, using radiation.

Best websites to use for researching the job role

Society of Radiographers: www.sor.org

Radiography Careers: www.radiographycareers.co.uk

Entry: A degree in Radiography - usually needing AAB-BBB, needing one Science A Level (Biology preferred). Alternatively, a degree in a Health or Science subject followed by a 1 year postgraduate course (PGDip or MSc) in Radiography.

Work Experience

Ideally you need at least one day in an Imaging Department. You can apply to JCUH for a placement in Neuroradiology for 2 days.

Please note:

if you want to apply to either Liverpool or Salford you must download their 'Clinical Visit' form and take this with you so it can be completed by a health professional. If you want to apply to Cumbria, you must download their 'Evaluation of Clinical Visit form' and submit this after your work shadowing/visit. See your progress tutor or faculty manager for details.

Competition per place and how to better your application

Be knowledgeable about the role of an Radiographer. Reflect on any visits to Radiography/ Imaging departments in your personal statement - describe the visit in full and what you learned. Understand the vital nature of teamwork as a Radiographer - understand what is meant by 'multi-disciplinary team'.

Know what skills are the most necessary for the role, namely: confidence with IT/ technology, ability to understand the emotional needs of patients who are ill, accuracy and attention to detail to 'read' scans, and excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Know about the SOR's Code of conduct and ethics which all radiographers should work to. Keep up to date with the latest news affecting the sector, using the SOR website.

SPEECH THERAPY

Assess and support people with communication problems. You would also use your skills to help people who have difficulties with eating, drinking and swallowing.

Entry: a 3 year degree in Speech Therapy is needed. You usually need one Science A Level to get onto this (usually Biology). Grades around ABB-BBB are needed.

Best website to research job role:

<http://www.rcslt.org/>

Work Experience

Volunteering in a special needs school is a good idea - often children there have speech therapists coming in. James Cook Hospital runs a one day training session delivered by speech therapists. Also, Therapeutic care volunteering at James Cook is also very beneficial.

How to better your application

Reflect on how inability to communicate can affect people emotionally. Name some actual speech disorders. Name methods you have seen to help people with speech difficulties e.g. Makaton, PEC's. Practical support/aids to help.

Finance

Allied Health Profession students now have to pay tuition fees just like any other student and take out maintenance loans to fund their way through university. NHS Bursaries were removed by the government for 2017 entry onwards.



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Working as part of



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