

Enhanced Clinical Practitioner Apprenticeship FAQ's

What is an Enhanced Clinical Practitioner?

Enhanced Clinical Practitioners (ECP's) work as part of a multi-disciplinary clinical team across a wide range of settings, including hospitals, community clinics, individual's homes and in dental and general practices. Specific examples of settings in which Enhanced Clinical Practitioners work include critical care units providing complex interventions to critically ill patients, GP premises providing specialist services for patients in the community and Children and Families Services units within a local council providing therapeutic interventions to children, young people and their families.

How is the Enhanced Clinical Practitioner different to the ACP?

The Enhanced Clinical Practitioner apprenticeship is an extended role rather than advanced role, they work at an enhanced level of practice with specific knowledge and skills in a field of expertise. They manage a discrete aspect of a patient's care within their current level of practice, which will be particular to a specific context, be it a client group, a skill set or an organisational context. This is in contrast to Advanced Clinical Practitioners who have developed their knowledge and skills to an advanced level of practice and would manage the whole episode of a patient's clinical care, from the time they first present, through to the end of the episode.

What academic level is the Enhanced Clinical Practitioner apprenticeship?

The Enhanced Clinical Practitioner is a level 6 apprenticeship with a funding band of £7,000. The typical duration of the apprenticeship is 18 months.

The level of this apprenticeship is level 6, but employers can opt to use level 7 education within the apprenticeship too.

Please note, academic levels do not correlate to agenda for change pay bands – see [HERE](#) for more information about UK academic levels.

Are any qualifications delivered as part of the ECP apprenticeship?

There are no mandated qualifications as part of the Enhanced Clinical Practitioner apprenticeship, during the programme apprentices must compile a portfolio of evidence. Training providers should deliver training to develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours (KSBs) of the occupational standard; this may include modules, units or qualifications that meet the KSB's of the occupational standard.

Is the ECP apprenticeship multidisciplinary / multi-professional?

Yes, the ECP apprenticeship is multidisciplinary and can be found across many professions such as:

- Dietetics
- Dental
- Healthcare Science
- Mental health
- Physiotherapy
- Nursing
- Ambulance urgent care
- Oncology

What are the entry criteria for the ECP apprenticeship?

A stipulation of the entry criteria for the apprenticeship is that clinicians need to be registered with either one of the statutory healthcare regulators, Social Work England or with one of the following accredited voluntary registers: The Academy for Healthcare Science, Register of Clinical Technologists or Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists. They must undertake revalidation processes or audit of their continuing professional development where these apply.

Is there a list of 'clinical specialisms' that the ECP apprenticeship covers?

There is no definitive list for Enhanced Practitioners, this apprenticeship is about the level of practice so is not limited to traditional boundaries of clinical specialisms. Therefore, there is freedom in how employers use this apprenticeship in a creative way.

The trailblazer group recognises that employers also want a list of specialisms, to support initial conversations the group will be developing some guidance material to highlight some example specialism.

Can the ECP form part of a career framework towards Advanced Clinical Practitioner (ACP)?

Yes, the apprenticeship can form part of a career framework that can APEL / lead to ACP, for example:



Will there be support and guidance available about the ECP apprenticeship?

Yes, the national Talent for Care Team and trailblazer group will be developing ways to guide colleagues in understanding and implementing the ECP apprenticeship, this will include:

- Employer scoping will be undertaken during the summer with the aim of capturing employer demand and feedback – [Closing 30th Oct 2021, find the employer scoping HERE](#)
- Development of national guidance material
- Targeted support both regionally and nationally
- Development of a national procurement framework, outlining national providers and areas of specialism – [in development to launch Oct 2021](#)
- Employer support webinar in Autumn 2021 – [completed 30th Oct 2021](#)

Where can I find more information?

You can find full details of the apprenticeship standard [HERE](#)

You can also find lots of useful information about apprenticeships on our website, where you will find a wide range of apprenticeships, case studies, resources and all the latest apprenticeship news - <https://haso.skillsforhealth.org.uk/>