

What is the Echocardiography Training Programme?



The Echocardiography Training Programme (ETP) is a fast-track programme developed to rapidly respond to the urgent workforce need for Accredited Echocardiographers. This 18-month, funded, full time integrated training scheme delivers the academic and work-based training leading to both a Post Graduate Certificate in Echocardiography and level 2 British Society of Echocardiography (BSE) Transthoracic Echocardiography Accreditation.

The curriculum for the programme is comprised of 2 scientific modules. Each of these modules is made up of academic learning delivered and assessed in the university and work-based learning and training. At the end of the programme, trainees will take the BSE Practical Assessment to complete their Accreditation.

What can the programme offer me?

If you are committed to improving the health of patients by applying your science, a career as an Echocardiographer in the NHS could not be a more rewarding choice. This patient focused role offers real scope for personal and career development. It also offers opportunities to operate at the cutting edge of practice in diagnosis, treatments, patient care and communication. The programme will help you become an accredited Echocardiographer, who will contribute to scientific and clinical services that are both routine and highly specialised.

What does the ETP entail?

The ETP offers excellent training opportunities in hospitals and health services throughout England. You will work directly with patients and have an impact on patient care and outcomes. The education and training you receive will prepare you to perform and report transthoracic echocardiograms on a wide range of patients and pathologies.

What are the requirements of joining the programme?

You should have a committed, in-depth interest in echocardiography in healthcare and disease and its application to direct clinical care of patients in a clinical environment, together with excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Highly developed co-ordination skills with good dexterity and hand-eye co-ordination are required for the performance of fine analytical techniques.

Entry requirements include:

| 1st or 2:1 in either an undergraduate honours degree (including an integrated master's degree) in Cardiac Physiology (PTP) or a relevant scientific subject (examples include Pure or Applied Physics, Biology or Human Biology, or Sports Science (if significant scientific content)). Or

| 2:2 undergraduate honours degree plus relevant cardiology experience and approval from the relevant HEI. Or

| Alternative/vocational qualification plus sufficient and relevant experience and appropriate underpinning knowledge and skills in cardiology – as evidenced for example by appropriate Voluntary Registration with the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists or Academy for Healthcare Science and approval from the HEI.

How can I apply to join the ETP?

For further information about the programme and details on how to apply please visit: www.nshcs.hee.nhs.uk