NHS Project Futures

Project Management Education Programme

SUMMARY

Course information
on the Project Management offerings within the NHS

NHS

ABOUT THIS SUMMARY DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Education Programme Summary Document is to provide course information on the Project Management offerings within the NHS.

The document includes what is involved in each education programme, learning content, and expected time commitment.

This document supports the Project Management Education Programmes – expressions of interest survey which intends to provide baseline data on projected pipeline numbers to support commissioning of the various education programmes in Project Management across three main levels: L4, L6, and L7.

This Education Programme Summary Document will cover the following areas;

Project Data Analyst
L4 Foundation Degree level or NVQ

Associate Project Manager
L4 Foundation Degree level or NVQ

Project Manager
L6 BSc Degree

Systems Thinking Practitioner
L7 MSc Master's Degree

For more information on education programmes detailed in this document or to discuss available learning offers in project management please email us at: nhsprojectfutures@hee.nhs.uk

Education Programmes at a glance

Project Data Analyst - L4 Foundation Degree level or NVQ
- Estimated course duration of 15 months
- You will complete the course with a BCS Level 4, certificate in Data Analysis Tool, Diploma in Data Analysis Concepts
- You will need to have achieved a minimum of 2 x A Levels with one in Maths or ICT or an apprenticeship in a similar subject, or a BTEC extended Diploma (180 credits) in ICT, plus GCSEs in English and Mathematics (or equivalent at grade C or above)
- You may also be considered for entry based on previous relevant experience

Associate Project Manager - L4 Foundation Degree level or NVQ
- Usually lasts 12-15 months
- You will take the APM Project Management Qualification (PMQ) (IPMA Level D equivalent) during the programme
- You will need to have achieved a minimum of grade C or above in at least 5 GCSEs including English and Mathematics, and hold a minimum of 48 UCAS points, or equivalent

Project Manager - L6 BSc Degree
- Usually lasts four years
- You will take the APM Project Management Qualification (PMQ) (IPMA Level D equivalent) during the programme
- You will need to have achieved a minimum of 96 UCAS points and hold GCSE English and Mathematics, or equivalent
- When you successfully complete this programme you will also receive a BSc Project Management degree

Systems Thinking Practitioner - L7 MSc Master's Degree
- Duration to end point assessment is 30 months
- On successfully completing the programme you would be eligible for recognition at Advanced Practitioner level of the professional body: Systems and Complexity in Organisations (SCiO)
- Those undertaking the programme without a (Grade C) GCSE pass in English and Maths will need to achieve this level prior to taking the end-point-assessment. For those with an education, health and care plan or a legacy statement, the apprenticeship's English and maths minimum requirement is Entry Level 3.
- A British Sign Language (BSL) qualification is an alternative to the English qualification for those whose primary language is BSL

EDUCATION PROGRAMMES IN FURTHER DETAIL

Project Data Analyst - L4 Foundation Degree level or NVQ

The world is rapidly changing and tremendous data driven advancements are being delivered across a wide range of sectors. But project delivery is late to catch on. Our mission is to change this.

Organisations are turning to advanced analytics to automate processes, improve data quality and extract deeper and predictive insights from project data. However, there is a shortage of people who have the skills to apply data science in a project delivery environment, which will be exacerbated as organisational demands for data insights grows.

Recognising this lack of capacity, we created the Project Data Analyst Programme. Our highly qualified industry practitioners deliver the data analyst syllabus, but centre training around the real-world constraints of projects, underpinned by challenges from parent companies. We encourage applicants from all sectors and all project delivery functions.

Programme Overview:
- Target duration of 15 months
- Qualifications: BCS Level 4, Certificate in Data Analysis Tools, Diploma in Data Analysis Concepts
- 20% off the job learning
- £15,000 fee (within the ESFA funding limit)
- Tutor led training - flexibilities agreed that are in line with the Covid-19 guidance

What is involved?
- Intensives: 2 x 1 week intensives
- Hackathons: 4 x 3 day hackathons (1 day prep, 2 day hack)
- Hack feedback & troubleshooting: 2 days
- Meetups: 15 x 1 day training and meetups (inc. industry experts)
- Self-Study & Exercises: 16 days
- Drop in Mentoring: 1 day
- Exam Prep: 3 days
- Synoptic Project & Exams: 6 days (not classified as training)
- Off the job training
- Total = 59 days over 15 months

We meet with employers & learners every 10 weeks to ensure that you are getting the support you need and that the business is getting results. We work with employers to ensure that hackathons and exercises are centred around their own challenges rather than stock data. Solutions have included data pipelines, dashboards, automation, apps and AI solutions.

What can I expect?
- The knowledge and experience to become pathfinders within the new discipline of project data analytics
- Practical experience of solving real world data driven challenges and inspiring others
- Development of a portfolio of data driven solutions that demonstrate your proficiency
- Improved certainty of employment, upskilling in a discipline where demand will outstrip supply
- Options. It will open up an increased range of opportunities where you can make a difference
- Level 4 qualifications equivalent to a foundation degree. A network of people who work at the cutting edge and who are happy to provide help when you need it

Associate Project Manager - L4 Foundation Degree level or NVQ

An Associate Project Manager knows what needs to be achieved, how it will be achieved, how long it will take and how much it will cost and works with the project team to achieve the required outcomes.

Associate Project Managers need good planning, organisation, leadership, management, and communication skills.

An Associate Project Manager utilises resources with suitable skills, qualifications, experience, and knowledge to work together in a motivated and integrated team, with clearly defined reporting lines, roles, responsibilities, and authorities. Dependent upon the size of the organisations and the complexity of projects, associate project managers' job titles will vary, but typically they can include assistant project manager, junior project manager, project team leader.

For further information on the Associate Project Manager programme standards please click here

Project Manager - L6 BSc Degree

Project managers are responsible to the project sponsor/owner for the end-to-end delivery of a project or a subset of a project dependent on the complexity and criticality to the business. They have responsibility for delivering the project in line with defined objectives, taking decisions to manage stakeholder expectations by leading a multi-skilled, cross-disciplinary team to deliver the project to time, cost and quality requirements. Using their unique knowledge, skills and leadership behaviours project managers will manage the social, legal and environmental implications of their project. In addition, they will manage a variety of interfaces with the organisational entities involved in the project, reporting to the project sponsor and working within the requirements of the programme and portfolio as appropriate. A project manager must also have the competencies to contribute to benefits management and realisation, consolidating appropriate metrics to report thus ensuring that identified business benefits are achieved.

To achieve these objectives, project managers will apply appropriate governance and project management methods and techniques to initiate and execute projects, interfacing with other projects within larger project programmes to meet the strategic objectives of the organisation. They will have an appreciation of programme management techniques and an understanding of how projects are managed within a larger programme. These skills and behaviours require the project manager to be an effective leader of change, able to develop a group of direct, sub-contract, or temporarily aligned resources into a coherent team that delivers the project objectives. They will have management responsibilities, including resource budget planning, and may also hold people development accountabilities. They will have an understanding of the diversity of roles and challenges facing project professionals and an appreciation of tailoring needs, recognising the different contexts and technical requirements that exist in different industry sectors and/or organisation sizes.

For further information on the Project Manager programme standards please click here

What is the APM Project Management Qualification (PMQ) (IPMA Level D equivalent)?

The APM Project Management Qualification (PMQ), is a knowledge-based qualification developed by APM, the chartered body for the project profession. Candidates will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how these elements interact and how their project fits into their strategic and commercial environment. PMQ is an internationally recognised qualification. The APM Project Management Qualification is aimed at those wishing to achieve a broad level of project management knowledge sufficient to participate in projects from individual assignments through to large capital projects. Applicants typically have some pre-existing project management knowledge, and it is the ideal next step for anyone holding the APM Project Fundamentals (PFQ) qualification

Systems Thinking Practitioner - L7 MSc Master's Degree

The Level 7 Systems Thinking Practitioner programme is designed to support strategic and leadership decision-makers to aid greater understanding of complex and sometimes even 'wicked' problems through the provision of expert systemic analysis, advice, and facilitation. It comes at a pivotal time where complex healthcare problems exist that cannot be addressed by any one organisation or person, but which require cross-boundary collaboration within and between NHS organisations. Learning outcomes will include the ability to facilitate meaningful collaboration between organisations (and individuals) through specialist systemic knowledge, skills, and behavioural mindset. This will aid informed strategic decision-making to co-develop effective systemic interventions.

Further details of the Systems Thinking Practitioner can be found here

Links to resources

- Healthcare Project Delivery Community on Knowledge Hub

https://khub.net/healthpdc

- Sign up link for online community

https://khub.net/healthpdc-sign-up

- Core Skills Online Learning Modules

https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/nhs-project-and-change-academy/

- NHS Project Futures Contact and to Register to Receive Updates

nhsprojectfutures@hee.nhs.uk

- NHS Project Futures YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVibbYkxRw7gNDAdK5mABCw

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