



Promoting · Supporting · Influencing

RCM Career framework

Associate / Assistant lecturer / Midwifery tutor

Many HEIs have created an opportunity at an entry level for midwives interested in education to embark on a teaching role. HEIs use different titles for this role such as Practice Lecturer or Midwifery Tutor.

The focus of this post is to provide learning, teaching and assessment support to students of midwifery and to engage in scholarly activity to support teaching.

Requirements

Midwives wishing to pursue this role are required to be registered on midwifery part of the NMC's professional register, having qualified with a bachelor's or equivalent degree.

Many HEIs now require midwives to have postgraduate qualifications at master's, or equivalent knowledge and experience, in midwifery or related subject.

Midwives are required to bring with them experience across the scope of contemporary clinical practice and demonstrate their commitment to their personal and professional development through acquiring undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications.

Experience of mentoring students in practice is required and a recognised teaching or an educational qualification, such as clinical education qualification or NMC Teacher qualification or equivalent, is advantageous.

The midwifery tutor must have academic knowledge and expertise in the discipline of midwifery with experience of teaching adults. Although the requirements vary according to the employing HEI or the level of the post the main ones are academic knowledge of midwifery and contemporary midwifery practice, verbal and written communication, independent and multi-disciplinary team working and commitment.

Main duties and responsibilities

The main duties vary however assistant lecturers are required to:

- Contribute, with supervision, to the teaching, learning and assessment of the students in the HEI and placement setting.
- Assist in the planning and organisation of modules.
- Provide academic supervision to students, where appropriate.
- Contribute to the organisation and overseeing of student placements.

The terms and conditions and the role vary between organisations.

Some HEIs have a framework for clinical midwives with an interest in education to work with them on full/part time or on secondment basis to get engaged in academic activities such as teaching, research and scholarly activity. Midwives on such schemes capitalise on experience and continuous development opportunities and become lecturers in midwifery or further enhance their competence and develop and improve their practice.