



UP TO **£12k**
GOVERNMENT
FUNDING BAND

TYPICAL DURATION **18-24mth**
APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME

Level 5
ASSOCIATE DEGREE EQUIVALENT

Assistant Practitioner (Health)

Apprenticeship Standard CACHE Solution Brief

Overview

Part of the wider health and social care team delivering high quality and compassionate care, Assistant Practitioners have direct contact with patients, service users or clients. Working at a level above that of Healthcare Support Workers, they have a more in-depth understanding about factors such as anatomy and physiology that influence health and ill-health. Upon successful completion of this standard, individuals will have obtained the core skills, knowledge and values/behaviours to become an Assistant Practitioner.

Your apprentice will undergo an 18–24 month apprenticeship training programme at Level 5, gain the Level 5 Diploma for Assistant Practitioners in Healthcare, complete the Care Certificate and achieve Level 2 English and maths. Throughout the apprenticeship CACHE will ensure a rigorous and professional assessment process to ensure that high standards of quality across the care sector are maintained.

Role profile

Assistant Practitioner is a job title applied to a very wide variety of roles that have been developed locally by employers to meet individual service needs. Assistant Practitioners can be found working in a range of areas such as Cancer Services, Physiotherapy, Genito-Urinary Medicine, Orthopaedics, Hospice Care, Mental Health, Social Care, Community, Occupational Therapy, Learning Disabilities as well as hybrid roles that cross traditional occupational areas. Assistant Practitioners will therefore develop additional skills and knowledge based on their employer's requirements, which will depend on the clinical or professional area within which they are working.

Apprenticeship journey



Mock Assessments

Ensuring everyone has the most accurate expectations of end-point assessment (EPA) is essential. Providing mock assessment materials and guidance for all of our assessment methodologies, we empower providers and apprentices to structure learning towards the EPA format to assure the best chance of success.



Gateway

The decision to take an apprentice through Gateway is made between the employer, Independent Training Provider (ITP) and apprentice. The apprentice must have achieved all the required on-programme elements before they enter Gateway. We provide a Gateway guide to all of our providers to support them with this process. This ensures that the apprentice is only put forward when they are ready and comfortable to take the EPA.

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End-point assessments



Multiple Choice and Short Answer Question test

This assessment features 40 multiple choice test questions carrying one mark each and 4 short answers carrying 5 marks each that are limited to 250 words. The candidate is presented with a range of real-life scenarios about which they have to answer questions that align to all knowledge requirements of the standard.



ASSESSMENT DELIVERY – digital first, on-demand delivery via an online platform.



GRADE WEIGHTING – the grade boundaries are set to allow candidates to achieve a Pass with over 40%, a Merit with over 60% and a Distinction with over 75%.



Reflective Journal and Interview

The apprentice carries out work defined by their employer, assembling a 2000 word Reflective Journal that demonstrates their learning and development activities and the application of these in the workplace. The Reflective Journal should showcase the apprentice's development of 2 components:

- Case management - manages own work and case load and implements programmes of care in line with current evidence, taking action relative to an individual's health and care needs.
- Supervision and teaching - allocates work to and supports the development of others and may supervise, teach, mentor and assess other staff as required.

Following the journal submission, the IEPA will digitally connect with the apprentice for a 30–60 minute Interview that enables the apprentice to further showcase their knowledge, skills and behaviours from across the standard. During the Interview the IEPA also has the opportunity to check and clarify any matters arising from the Multiple Choice and Short Answer Question test results, the Reflective Journal and the Observation of Practice.



ASSESSMENT DELIVERY – Reflective Journal - digital first, created on-programme, submitted and reviewed by the assessor via an e-portfolio; the Interview via an online video conference platform.



GRADE WEIGHTING – the Reflective Journal and Interview are graded as a Pass where the standard is met, Merit where the standard is exceeded or Distinction where the standard is far exceeded.



End-Point Assessment

Defined by the employer-led trailblazer action group, the assessment plan for Assistant Practitioner (Health) has 3 modes of assessment; a Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) and Short Answer Question (SAQ) test, an Observation of Practice and a Reflective Journal with an Interview. CACHE will ensure the appropriate allocation of the Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA) to see each apprentice through all modes of assessment and assure consistent quality of assessment.

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Certification

Once the IEPA verifies the apprentice has successfully completed all EPAs, CACHE will activate certification. Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, we'll ensure the apprentice receives their certificate – a worthy recognition of their hard work and achievement and the currency that can help further their career.

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Observation of Practice

Lasting for a minimum of 90 minutes the Observation of Practice will take place during the course of an apprentice's normal work day and is essential to assessing the retention of learned skills. During the observation, an Independent End-Point Assessor (IEPA) will use their professional judgement to limit impact to business operations and will ensure sensitivity in delicate situations. The apprentice will be required to demonstrate they are able to:

- Communicate effectively with individuals, their families, carers and healthcare practitioners using a range of techniques, keeping information confidential.
- Handle information (record, report and store information) related to individuals in line with local and national policies.
- Demonstrate person centred care and support.
- Treat people with dignity, respecting individual's diversity, beliefs, culture, values, needs, privacy and preferences.
- Show respect and empathy for those they work with; have the courage to challenge areas of concern and work to best practice; be adaptable, reliable and consistent.
- Show discretion and self-awareness.
- Work as part of a team, seeking help and guidance when they are not sure.
- Maintain a safe and healthy working environment.
- Use a range of techniques for infection prevention and control including waste management, hand washing and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Move and position individuals, equipment and other items safely.



ASSESSMENT DELIVERY – on-site, at the apprentice's normal place of work, during which they will have the opportunity to demonstrate the above elements.



GRADE WEIGHTING – the Observation of Practice is ungraded above a pass by the IEPA.

Grading

| OBSERVATION OF PRACTICE | MCQ AND SAQ TEST | REFLECTIVE JOURNAL AND INTERVIEW | OVERALL GRADE |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| PASS | PASS | PASS | PASS |
| | | MERIT | PASS |
| | | DISTINCTION | MERIT |
| | MERIT | PASS | PASS |
| | | MERIT | MERIT |
| | | DISTINCTION | MERIT |
| | DISTINCTION | PASS | MERIT |
| | | MERIT | MERIT |
| | | DISTINCTION | DISTINCTION |

Progression

Once the Level 5 Assistant Practitioner Apprenticeship is complete, the learning doesn't stop. A suggested apprenticeship pathway is illustrated below.



Delivery and pricing

CACHE is committed to offer value for money, high quality EPAs. Our 'digital first' approach provides flexible assessment methods for apprentices that limit the impact on the productivity of their working day. This enables us to provide the EPA for Assistant Practitioner at a highly competitive rate. For levy payers within their digital account limit, 100% of this price is covered by government funding. For non-levy payers, 90% is covered and just 10% requires an employer contribution.

100%

of the price is covered with government funding for levy payers within their limit.

10%

employer contribution for non-levy payers.

Why CACHE?

With over 70 years of assessment experience, we are a 'digital first' apprenticeship assessment organisation, making use of innovative new technology approaches to enhance the delivery and management of assessment. As the UK's leading sector specialist, our expertise and continued investment in high quality qualifications has enabled us to maintain and build our deserved reputation for excellence and leadership.

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Let's get to work.

Visit: cache.org.uk/epa | Call: 0191 240 8950 | Email: epa@ncfe.org.uk