

Anaesthetist

Anaesthetists are the largest group of specialist doctors in hospitals and provide anaesthesia and pain management to patients who are undergoing surgical, medical or psychiatric procedures.

As an anaesthetist, you'll assess patients' health and discuss which type of anaesthetic is suitable for them (general, local or regional), administer appropriate anaesthetics before surgery, monitor their wellbeing during surgery and provide care after medical procedures. You'll also deal with emergencies in theatre.



Skills:

You'll need to have:

- a comprehensive knowledge of anaesthetics and procedures
- the ability to organise and prioritise your workload
- strong communication skills, both written and spoken
- steady hand-eye coordination
- a knowledge of your clinical and professional strengths and limitations
- teamworking skills

Qualifications:

University- To become an anaesthetist, you'll need to complete: a degree in medicine recognised by the General Medical Council/a 2-year foundation programme of general training/specialist training which can take up to 8 years. A medical degree normally takes 5 years to complete. Entry tests - When you apply for a course in medicine, you could be asked to take the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT), BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) or Graduate Medical Schools Admissions Test (GAMSAT). Work experience - Medical schools will also expect you to have some relevant paid or voluntary work experience. The British Medical Association provides information on how to find a placement. Entry requirements for this university course: 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English, maths and science/3 A levels, or equivalent, including biology and chemistry.

Apprenticeship – From September 2024, you might be able to do a doctor degree apprenticeship which will take around 5 years to complete. You could then progress to the foundation course of general training before completing the specialist training. Entry requirements: Employers will set their own entry requirements.

Volunteering - You can get valuable caring skills from volunteering in health, education, charity, or social care settings. You can find opportunities through: the NHS/The National Council for Voluntary Organisations/Do IT.

Working hours:

Working hours can be long and may include nights and weekends, as well as on-call hours. Realistically, a typical day can start before 8am and will often involve unsocial hours. However, once established, it's possible to arrange part-time hours or job sharing.

Salary:

- Foundation Training level is £29,384 to £34,012.
- As a doctor starting your specialist training, you can earn between £40,257 to £53,398.
- Salaries for specialty doctors (staff grade) range from £50,373 to £78,759.
- Salaries for newly qualified consultants start at £88,364 rising to £119,133 for consultants with ten to 19 years' experience.

