



**FdA Health and Social Care
(Assistant Practitioner (Health) Higher Apprenticeship Route) –
Specialising in Mammography
Frequently Asked Questions**

Who will deliver the programme?

The programme will be delivered by the University of Bolton

[FdA Health and Social Care \(Assistant Practitioner \(Health\) Higher Apprenticeship Route\) \(bolton.ac.uk\)](https://www.bolton.ac.uk)

The mammography modules will be developed and delivered by:

- NBIA/Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
- St. George’s National Breast Education Centre
- The Jarvis/InHealth

What will the course cover?

Core Modules Y1	Level	Credits	Total
Enhancing Communication and Academic Study Skills	HE4	20	20
Accountability and Ethical Practice in Health and Social Care	HE4	20	40
Anatomy and Physiology for Health and Social Care	HE4	20	60
Principles of Care and Support Across the Lifespan	HE4	20	80
Introduction to Research Evidence-Based Practice	HE4	20	100
Elective Modules Y1			
Mammography – Advanced Mammography Skills 1	HE5	20	120
Core Modules Y2			
Leadership in Health and Social Care	HE5	20	140
End Point Assessment	HE5	40	180
Elective Modules Y2			
Developing Clinical Skills or Working Within Allied Care Profession (Level 2)	HE5	20	200
Mammography – Advanced Mammography Skills 2	HE5	20	220
Negotiated Studies	HE5	20	240





Advanced Mammography Skills 1*

- Advanced/Supplementary Views (tomosynthesis, magnification, male imaging, implant imaging and Eklund views, medical devices, etc.)
- Alternative Imaging Modalities

Advanced Mammography Skills 2*

- Interventional Procedures
- Stereo/Needle QC Tests
- Basic Mammography interpretation

*Please note final content is tbc

What are the entry requirements?

- Level 2 functional skills, GCSE (grade A – C or 4 – 9) or equivalent in maths and English*
- One of the following:
 - Level 4 mammography associate apprenticeship
 - NVQ level 3 Assistant Practitioner in mammography
 - Equivalent qualification/relevant experience
- Apprentices should ideally be employed for a minimum of 30 hours per week*
- Apprentices must meet apprenticeship funding rules

*will be reviewed on an individual basis

Can mammography modules be completed as 'stand alone' modules?

The mammography modules are being delivered as part of the Assistant Practitioner (Health) Higher (Level 5) Apprenticeship.

We don't have any plans to deliver the mammography modules as stand-alone as our intention is to allow apprentices to develop their academic skills, gaining a University Foundation Degree Award whilst developing the workplace knowledge, behaviours and skills to support the wider scope of practice.

Can apprentices bypass the L4 mammography associate apprenticeship and start with the L5?

No. The L5 will not cover 'standard' two-view mammography. The L5 apprenticeship is there to offer career and personal development to existing assistant practitioners and mammography associates.

The L5 will allow apprentices to develop their academic skills, gaining a University Foundation Degree Award whilst developing the workplace knowledge, behaviours and skills to support the wider scope of practice.

Does the L5 apprenticeship/foundation degree lead to HCPC registration?

Assistant practitioners remain part of the support and supervised workforce; the foundation degree does not lead to HCPC registration.





After completion of the L5 apprenticeship/foundation degree can assistant practitioners' step onto Y2 of an undergraduate radiography degree programme?

Initial conversations with undergraduate clinical tutors indicate that the academic content and assessments (extremities, thorax, abdomen etc.) in Y1 cannot be bypassed. However, a conversation around APEL of specific content (communication, for example) may lead to a reduction in time on programme.

We cannot comment/speculate on individual HEIs responses to enquiries.

After completion of the L5 apprenticeship/foundation degree will assistant practitioners be an AfC Band 5?

The job description, person specification and AfC banding will, as with other roles, be the employer's responsibility.

How much does it cost?

£14,000 – Like the L4 apprenticeship, funding via the Apprenticeship Levy (Growth and Skills Levy as of April 2025) should be applied for.

Please contact your Trust apprenticeship team for guidance on local Apprenticeship Levy application processes.