


NHS FINANCE INSIGHTS PLACEMENT SCHEME

**An exciting career opportunity for individuals
aged 18 and above from lower-socio economic
backgrounds**

A photograph of two young women standing together, looking at a document. The woman on the left is wearing a dark jacket over a yellow top and blue jeans. The woman on the right is wearing a striped shirt, a beige hijab, and a shoulder bag. They are both smiling and appear to be in a professional or educational setting.

What could a career in NHS finance offer? Watch our animation here: <https://www.youtube.com>

Benefits of a placement in the NHS

- Starting salary from £23,615 per annum.
- Access to training from recognised bodies.
- Access to qualifications from CIPFA.
- Blue Light Card – discounts across 100s of stores.
- Health Service Discounts - access further discounts.
- 27 days paid annual leave + bank holidays.
- 2 days paid leave for volunteering.
- Plus many more NHS employee benefits.

What is the NHS Finance Insights placement scheme?

The NHS Finance Insights placement scheme is a paid 12-month work opportunity for young people from lower socio-economic backgrounds. It's designed to give you real experience working in the finance department of an NHS organisation near where you live.

The NHS is not only a great place to work with good starting pay, yearly increases, and clear opportunities to progress, but it also gives you the chance to do something meaningful. By supporting NHS finance, you're helping the health service deliver care to thousands of people every day.

What you'll get from the scheme:

- 12 months of hands-on experience in an entry-level finance role.
- A chance to rotate through different finance departments and projects.
- Flexible working, with time in the office and at home.
- Training, development, and events throughout the year.
- The opportunity to meet other trainees across England.
- Experience of working with a wide range of people across the NHS.
- A unique insight into how the NHS runs behind the scenes.

By the end of the placement, you'll have valuable skills, real work experience, and the confidence to apply for NHS apprenticeships, entry-level jobs, or other exciting career opportunities.

Entry requirements

The initiative aims to support individuals aged 18+ from lower socio-economic backgrounds, and applicants interested must meet the following criteria:

- Attending state school or college, or have been in full-time education within the past two years, minimum Grade C / 4 in GCSE Maths is desirable but not essential, *and*
- Not planning on attending university, *and*
- The occupation of your main household earner is categorised as a lower socio-economic background*, *or*
- Have been eligible for free school meals** at any point in the previous six years

**Parental occupation classification is a national standard, and the Social Mobility Work's toolkit ([found here](#)) provides details on the categorisations.*

***Free School Meals are a statutory benefit available to school-aged children from families who receive other qualifying benefits and who have been through the relevant registration process. It does not include those who receive meals at school through other means e.g., boarding school.*

We are also interested to hear about any extra-curricular activities and hobbies/interests that may help support an application.

Why apply?

The NHS is a great place to start your career journey, this programme is perfect for anyone interested in a future job working with numbers and computers.

During this programme, you will get to:

- **See what it's like to work in the NHS.** You'll join a finance team and work on different projects to learn how the NHS works as a business.
- **Work within a team.** You will work within a team, who help the NHS run smoothly.
- **Learn new skills.** You will learn how to use computers, work with spreadsheets, and how to organise and prioritise work tasks. All of these skills will help you in your future jobs.

If you enjoy working with people, like solving problems, and find working with numbers fun, this opportunity is perfect for you! You may not know what you want to do for a job yet, and that's okay. This placement can help you learn new things and give you the confidence to start your career journey.

Whilst this opportunity is a step before an apprenticeship or a full-time role, and does not include a qualification or guarantee a permanent job at the end of the 12 months, it provides invaluable real-world experience and will be highly beneficial when applying for future jobs and roles.

Hear from previous trainee experiences by reading our case studies below:

- [Case studies from The Midlands](#)
- [Case studies from The South West](#)



How to apply

To apply you must meet the entry requirements outlined on page 3 of this brochure and complete an online application form where you will be asked to provide your personal details and answer a few short questions about why you are applying for the placement scheme.

Applications will open on the **1st of October, 2025** once applications are open, the application form will be live on the NHS Finance Insights placement scheme web page here: <https://financecareers.nhs.uk/opportunities/nhs-finance-insights-placement-scheme/>

Please complete and submit your application by the **6th of May, 2026**.

All applications will be reviewed and shortlisted. Shortlisted applicants will then be invited to attend a 30 minute interview in June and July. Following interviews, the successful applicants will be contacted via email to confirm their placement, ahead of beginning in September 2026.

If you have any questions about the scheme, or need help with an application please contact one.finance@nhs.net

Good luck!

The NHS is one of the world's best employers!

A career within the NHS can offer a fantastic array of opportunities to progress quickly with rewarding benefits. There is no single career path for NHS finance staff, a career in NHS finance can cater for all.

“

One thing that really motivated me was to choose a career that made a difference to people's lives. I knew that by working for the NHS, however small a job and no matter how far away from the front line, I would be able to contribute to the public.

”

Lei Wei, Chief Finance Officer
Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS
Foundation Trust

Regional contacts

If you have any questions specifically about your region, please contact your regional representative.

Region	Contact Name	Email Address
East of England	Jane Payling	jane.payling@eastamb.nhs.uk
London	Charlie Dolan	charlie.dolan@nhs.net
Midlands	Becky Vine	becky.vine@hfma.org.uk
North East	Laura Hartland-Adams	l.hartland-adams@nhs.net
Yorkshire & Humber	Ben Underwood	ben.underwood2@nhs.net
North West	Megan Mulhall	megan.mulhall@nhs.net
South East	Chris Fleckney	chris.fleckney@nhs.net
South West	Charley Spicer	charley.spicer@hfma.org.uk



The Regional Finance Academies support the delivery of the One NHS Finance programmes locally.

The logo for the HSJ Awards 2025, featuring the text 'HSJ AWARDS 2025' in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the text is a small circular logo with the text 'In Partnership with' and 'vodafone business'.

DELIGHTED TO BE A FINALIST

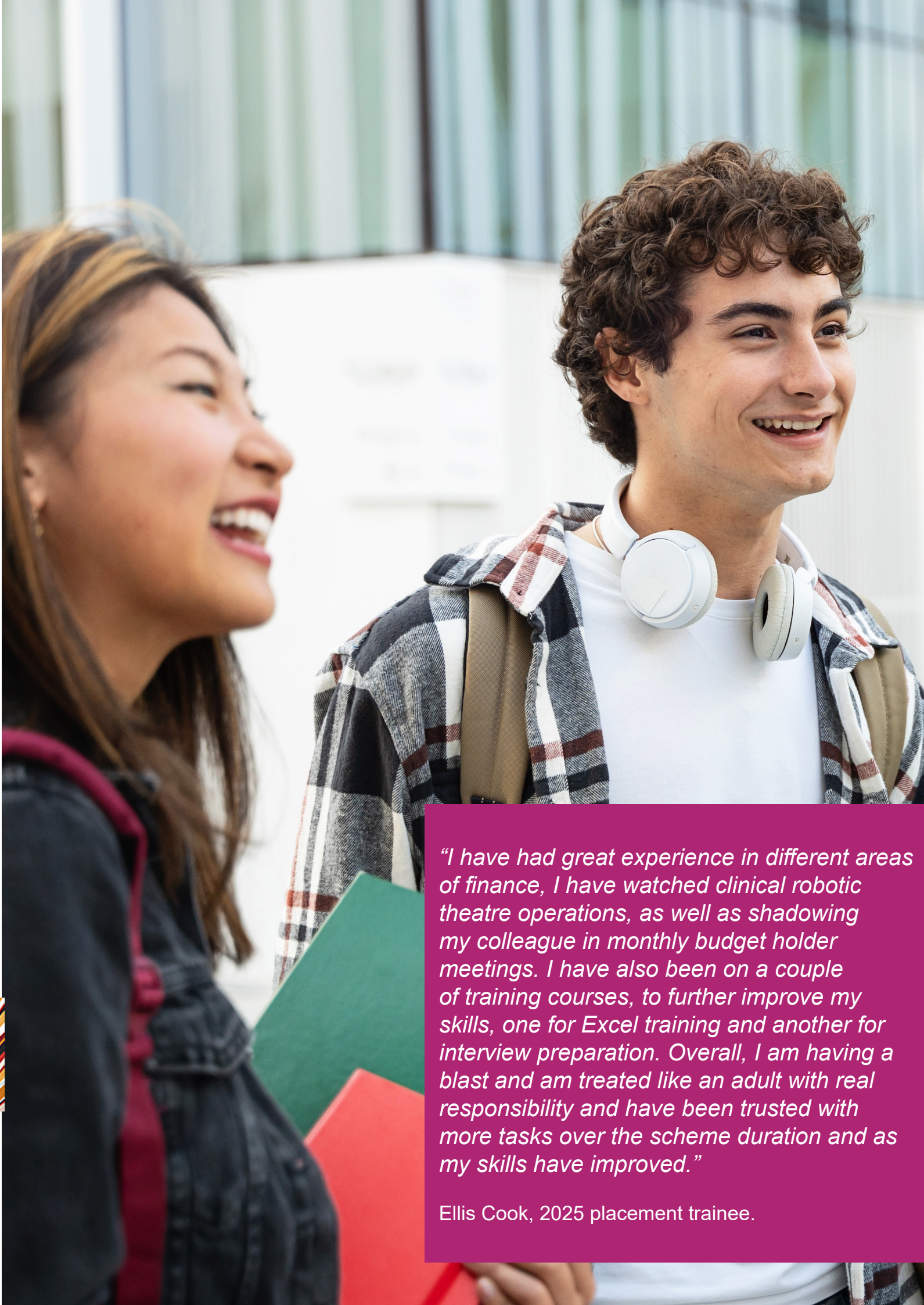
Workforce Initiative of the Year

LEADERSHIP OF THE YEAR

FINALIST 2024

UK SOCIAL MOBILITY AWARDS

In association with nationalgrid



“I have had great experience in different areas of finance, I have watched clinical robotic theatre operations, as well as shadowing my colleague in monthly budget holder meetings. I have also been on a couple of training courses, to further improve my skills, one for Excel training and another for interview preparation. Overall, I am having a blast and am treated like an adult with real responsibility and have been trusted with more tasks over the scheme duration and as my skills have improved.”

Ellis Cook, 2025 placement trainee.



Acknowledgements



This opportunity is provided by One NHS Finance - supporting the delivery of world class health and care.

<https://onenhsfinance.nhs.uk/>



Learn more about careers within NHS finance.

<https://financecareers.nhs.uk/>



2025/26 cohort of trainees supported by The King's Trust, who believe that every young person should have the chance to succeed, no matter their background or the challenges they are facing.

<https://www.kingstrust.org.uk/>