

# **AHCS Lay Assessor Opportunity**

The Academy for Healthcare Science is the single overarching body for the entire UK Healthcare Science (HCS) workforce, working alongside the healthcare science professional bodies, and also professionals from the life science industry and clinical research practitioners, helping to strengthen the visibility of the contribution of those workforces.

**Could you play an important role by becoming a Lay Assessor for the Academy for Healthcare Science?**

**Are you able to demonstrate professionalism and strong interpersonal skills?**

**Do you have a sound understanding of assessment principles and a keen sense of objectivity and consistency?**

Then this may be the perfect opportunity for you.

## **Role Description**

As a Lay Assessor with the Academy, you will work alongside professional scientific and academic assessors to play a decision-making role in confirming that Healthcare Scientist applicants are eligible for registration for either on one of our registers accredited by the Professional Standards Authority, or with the Health Professions Council (HCPC). We run an Equivalence assessment process which leads to eligibility to apply to join the HCPC's statutory register as a clinical scientist.

No prior experience is required. You will undergo training and gain the skills required in assessing candidates against key values and standards.

The role is flexible in terms of commitment.

This is a Healthcare focused role and if you feel you have excellent team working skills, a strong patient and public orientation, the ability to exercise impartial judgement and complete confidentiality, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

In return you will be paid between £150 per full day (shorter sessions are paid on a pro-rata basis).

We are seeking to recruit to a diverse panel of Lay Assessors and welcome applications from all, particularly applications from people from ethnic minority groups, all ages, people from the LGBTQ+ community and applicants who may be neurodiverse or have a physical disability.

## **Role opportunities**

- Review portfolio or documentary submissions to recommend an outcome about Equivalence and co-ordinate with other panel members to come to a final agreement. The time commitment can vary, normally between three hours, half a day and a couple of day's work in total.
- Chair the interview panels that are used in one of our Equivalence assessment processes. These normally take place Monday – Friday and are virtual meetings. They last for two hours, including pre and post interview discussion with the panel. The Chair will need to pre-read portfolios prior to the interview. We will consider your availability when allocating assessment sessions.
- Contributing to short term task and finish groups to take forward particularly pieces of work.

## **How to get in touch**

To express your interest and receive further information by completing the online form available at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AHCSLayAssessors>

If you would prefer to submit your expression of interest in a different format, please contact:

[equivalence@ahcs.ac.uk](mailto:equivalence@ahcs.ac.uk) .

Closing date for expressions of interest is **31<sup>st</sup> January 2024.**

## **Lay Assessor person specification**

You should not currently be on a statutory register. You should also have:

- Proven ability to undertake assessment processes related to complex educational and / or professional requirements.
- Proven ability to question information and explanations supplied by others who may be experts in their field.
- Proven ability to influence and persuade others by engaging in constructive debate and taking a balanced view to come to a decision.
- Proven ability to take an objective view, seeing issues from all perspectives, especially external and lay perspectives.
- An understanding of the importance of upholding public interest in activities undertaken by the Academy for Healthcare Science.
- Proven ability to work within defined processes and systems.
- An ability to devote time and commitment to the lay assessor role.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate professionally with a range of stakeholders and within a complex organisation.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, as well as being IT literate.
- A general interest in encouraging accountability to the public and professionals.
- Proven ability to consider a wide range of issues in order to make informed and sound decisions.
- Proven ability to explain and justify decisions.
- Demonstrated a proactive approach to achievement of tasks working as part of a team.
- Demonstrated an understanding of the principles of quality assurance in relation to assessment processes and standards.
- Commitment to the Seven Principles of Public Life (see appendix one).

## **Appendix 1**

### **The seven principles of public life**

All applicants for public appointments are expected to demonstrate a commitment to, and an understanding of, the value and importance of the principles of public service.

The seven principles of public life are:

- **Selflessness**  
Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves, their family or their friends.
- **Integrity**  
Holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.
- **Objectivity**  
In carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.
- **Accountability**  
Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.
- **Openness**  
Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands it.
- **Honesty**  
Holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.
- **Leadership**  
Holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.