

National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead

The Academy for Healthcare Science

Role Descriptor, Specification and How to apply

Role:	AHCS (Professional Bodies Council) National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead
Reports and accountable to:	AHCS President
Liaises with:	Chief Executive of the AHCS
Terms of Office:	12 months with the option to extend. Term can be extended by mutual agreement.
Remuneration:	There is no remuneration for the post, but the Professional Bodies Council pays travel and subsistence for the role (where it is not claimable from outside organisations). It is expected that where possible digital working would be the norm. Travel would need to be agreed with President beforehand
Time Commitment:	The National Health Science Clinical Lead commits a nominal number of one PA / half a day per week as appropriate.

The National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead is an important and critical role in the link with a country and the Professional Bodies Council of the Academy of Healthcare Science (AHCS).

The President is supported by four National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads, one for each of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as agreed by the Professional Bodies Council. National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads will provide support and ensure there is four-country representation on the AHCS Professional Bodies Council.

National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads can deputise for the President at meetings as required.

Role and duties of the National Health Science Clinical Leads

- The National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads provide country specific leadership to the Professional Bodies Council and promotes the Council's agreed strategy and policies regarding the promotion of Healthcare Science within the relevant country.
- Act as the professional representative of the AHCS / Professional Bodies Council and as such articulate and represent the collective views of the AHCS to Government, other stakeholders and the media within the relevant country
- The National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead supports the realisation of the AHCS Professional Bodies strategy to introduce new initiatives and to champion change and developments within the relevant country.

- The National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead must ensure they demonstrate an awareness and commitment to equality and diversity in all its actions both at an individual level and collectively.
- Liaise with the AHCS President to seek views and develop consensus on cross-specialty issues as appropriate.
- Working with the President, ensure a four-country perspective and approach on issues where appropriate.
- Represent the AHCS at appropriate external events, with the support of the other officers and staff.
- Develop and maintain a strong professional media profile (LinkedIn etc.) with relevant healthcare professionals and organisations.
- Develop and maintain personal relationships with the appropriate senior individuals in key stakeholder organisations.
- Membership as the AHCS National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead of key external groups to be agreed with the President.
- Through all the above activities, ensure the maintenance and enhancement of the AHCS's profile and reputation, liaising with the CEO to understand any operational matters, including the understanding of the AHCS on key matters such as Regulation.
- Connect with Trainee Healthcare Scientists (PTP, STP, HSST and Apprentices) at appropriate and/or relevant national and local meetings and events.

Skills and expertise

- High level negotiation skills to manage and convey the views gathered from the relevant country.
- Ability to represent the views of AHCS professional bodies on the PBC clearly to officials and other senior stakeholders.
- Ability to engage constructively with Government and stakeholders so the AHCS and healthcare professional bodies and scientists are seen as constructive contributors to policy development and implementation.
- Ability to chair meetings, manage discussions and reach consensus.
- Effective written, oral and media communication.
- A high-level understanding of the Healthcare Science landscape and the range of professions within Healthcare Science.

A future National Health Science Clinical Lead should:

- Be a registered Healthcare Scientist who has practised in the UK for more than 10 years.
- Not be a current head of a professional body or professional body representative on the Professional Bodies Council (when they take up office as National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead).
- Be a fully paid-up member of a professional body which is a full member of the Council.

Process for National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead Election

- Calls for 'Expressions of Interest' to become one of four National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads (for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) will be advertised via the Academy for Healthcare Science on **30th July 2025**.
- The call for 'Expressions of Interest' for National Health Science Clinical Lead will also be communicated directly to all UK professional bodies in Healthcare Science, who are fully paid-up members of the Professional Bodies Council.
- Candidates are asked to express their interest for a specific role directly to the PBC Secretariat (william.smith@ahcs.ac.uk).
- National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead application forms will then be sent to the interested applicants by the PBC Secretariat (william.smith@ahcs.ac.uk) and they must be returned to PBC Secretariat (william.smith@ahcs.ac.uk), accompanied by a letter of endorsement by their Professional Body, by the closing date, **22nd August 2025**. The closing date, **22nd August 2025** will also be identified on the form. Forms received after that date will not be taken forward.
- All applications will be collated before being sent to the President and Professional Bodies Council to allow veto of any candidates who do not meet the criteria in this specification.
- Final shortlisted applicants will have an informal meeting with the President, and the opportunity to meet with the AHCS CEO.
- Where there is only one candidate meeting the pre-requisites of the role (for England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland), the Professional Body Council will be invited to ratify the candidate's appointment via business conducted electronically.
- If there is more than one candidate, then a secret ballot of all full members of the Professional Body Council members will take place, this will be managed by the AHCS President and the candidate with the most votes shall be duly elected.
- If there is a tie in the ballot the AHCS President shall have the casting vote.
- The successful applicant for each country will be informed in writing by the PBC Secretariat (william.smith@ahcs.ac.uk) when they have been elected by the Council, which will be by **3rd October 2025**.
- The four National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads will take up office on the **20th October 2025** to hold office for 12 months.

Process Timeline

Date	Process Stage
30 th July 2025	Open of Expression of Interest
22 nd August 2025	Close of Application Receipt
5 th September	Final list of Candidates collated and applicants informed
12 th September	Final candidates meet with AHCS President and AHCS CEO
3 rd October	Final outcome ratified and candidates informed
20 th October 2025	The four National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads will take up office and hold office for 12 months.

Term of Office

A 12-month term. There will be an option for the term to be extended by two years, by mutual agreement. Either party may end the relationship, by giving notice in writing to the other party in this case to the President.

Remuneration / Expenses

The role of National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead is an unpaid, voluntary position. It is not employment.

There is no remuneration for the role, but the Professional Bodies Council pays travel and subsistence for the National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead (where it is not claimable from outside organisations including the National Healthcare Science Clinical Leads own professional body).

Fit and Proper Person

The individual would be expected to comply with Nolan Principles, complete a declaration of interest form and comply with standards relating to confidentiality UK GDPR.

Time Commitment

The National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead commits a nominal number of days. One PA / ½ day per week as appropriate. Whilst there is control over the timing of some commitments, others are outside the AHCS's control.

AHCS National Health Science Clinical Lead Application Form

The application form will ask for the following:

In no more than 1000 words, please outline how you fulfil the pre-requisites required for this post and must include a statement of support from the candidates own professional body (statement not included in the word count).

- Demonstrate that you are a registered Senior Healthcare Scientist, (current or previous). AfC Band 8/9 or equivalent.
- Provide a brief history of senior leadership of professional body and related organisations.
- Provide evidence of how you fulfil the skills required to be a National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead for the AHCS Professional Bodies Council:
 - Examples of why you would be an appropriate candidate to represent the Professional Bodies Council and the President at a country-specific national level.
 - Examples of formal presentations and/or published academic papers.
 - Flexibility for networking and developing/maintaining personal relationships with the appropriate senior / high profile individuals in key stakeholder organisations.
 - High-level political and communications skills to manage and feedback information relating to the specific country to the Professional Bodies Council.
 - Demonstrate tactful and respectful negotiation skills.
 - A high-level understanding of the Healthcare Science landscape and the range of professions within Healthcare Science.

To accompany the response, you must also include a statement of endorsement from your own professional body.

Guidance Notes

- i. The National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead role requires delivery against the PBC strategy and may also require representation of the AHCS at national/regional or local events/occasions as they arise.
- ii. The National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead role will require approximately*:
 - a. Four virtual AHCS Professional Bodies Council meetings per year.
 - b. Monthly strategic teleconferences and update meetings with the AHCS President.
 - c. At least one annual meeting with the National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead's respective country's Chief Scientific Officer/Advisor.
 - d. Attendance at specialist Healthcare Science meetings where appropriate (NHSE LIA Group, Scotland (NES) Study days, Welsh Healthcare Science meetings).
 - e. Attendance at awards ceremonies in the respective country of the National Healthcare Science Clinical Lead (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales).
 - f. A knowledge of the [Fit and Proper Persons requirement](#) (Professional Standards Authority)

* Some events can be unscheduled because of changing political and strategic landscapes and spontaneous events around healthcare and involving Healthcare Scientists. This list is not exhaustive.

Interested?

Please send an email headed "National Health Science Clinical Lead Expression of Interest" to: william.smith@ahcs.ac.uk, who, when your email is received, will send you an Application Form. Please clarify within this email as to which specific role you are expressing interest for. (i.e. for England, for Wales, for Scotland or for Northern Ireland)

If you have not received your Application Form within two working days of sending your expression of interest, please follow up.

AHCS Governance Structure

