

# PHLEBOTOMIST



## **Summary of profession**

You will take blood samples from persons of all ages for testing. The samples are examined in a laboratory and the results can be used to diagnose diseases and conditions.

## **Working hours, patterns and environment**

You will usually work 37.5 hours a week and often need to work shifts including evenings and weekends. You will need to follow the strict health and safety procedures of the laboratory when taking and handling blood samples.

## **Education and skills**

There are no set entry requirements to become a trainee phlebotomist. Employers usually ask for at least two GCSEs or equivalent. They may ask for certification from an accredited phlebotomist program or equivalent vocational qualification in health and social care or healthcare. Even where this is not specified, it would be an advantage if you have worked in health or social care, in either paid or voluntary work.

## **Job and Growth Opportunities**

With experience you could be a senior phlebotomist and have responsibility for more complex work. You could also become a team leader or manager. It is also a stepping stone to becoming a medical technologist. Your skills and experience in phlebotomy could give you an advantage.