

CHIROPODIST & PODIATRIST

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Chiropodists, also known as Podiatrists, diagnose and treat ailments, diseases and deformities of the foot and advise patients how to avoid a recurrence of foot problems. Chiropodists/Podiatrists carry out their work in the NHS, social services health centres, clinics, GP Surgeries and hospitals. Chiropodists/Podiatrists may also teach in educational institutions. The majority of Chiropodists in the private sector are self employed.

INDUSTRY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify as a Chiropodist/Podiatrist in the UK you must have a degree or diploma in Chiropody, Podiatry or Podiatric Medicine that has been approved by the Health Professionals Council (HPC).

REGISTRATION WITH A PROFESSIONAL BODY

The titles Chiropodist and Podiatrist are protected by law. Anyone practicing Chiropody or Podiatry in the UK must be registered with the HPC. This register is on-line at <http://www.hpc-uk.org/index.asp>. Only EEA Nationals will be offered a period of adaptation training. Non EEA nationals must submit their qualifications to HPC international department to apply for registration. For more information about HPC registration please see [Appendix 1](#).

CASEWORKER TREATMENT

B&C

If the Chiropodist/Podiatrist is HPC registered they meet the skills criteria. Applicants should provide a HPC registration number and caseworkers should check this against the HPC register.

TWES

Training

This occupation is unsuitable for training.

Work Experience

Chiropodists and Podiatrists are suitable for work experience when the worker is HPC registered and the TWES criteria are met. The Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists felt that we should not receive many of these applications. An overseas national would already have to have a high level of knowledge to gain HPC registration. If caseworkers have any queries about these applications they should contact policy.

SALARY

The majority of NHS staff are now paid according to the new Agenda for Change program. All NHS staff salaries are based on a 37 ½ hour week. The pay bands for Chiropodists are-

Band Level	Agenda for Change 01 Nov 2007
Band 4 (points 271-325) technician/assistant practitioner	£16,853-£20,261
Band 5	£19,683- £25,424
Band 6 (specialist)	£23,458-£31,779
Band 7 (Team Leader/advanced podiatrists)	£28,313-£37,326
Band 8a-d (Principal Podiatrist, Head of Service, Registrar/Consultant Surgeon)	£36,112-£75,114
Band 9 (Consultant surgeon head of service)	£71,646-£90,607

Earnings in the public sector should be used as a guide for pay in the private sector.

ADVERTISING

The following journals are the main sources of advertising for Chiropodist/Podiatrist posts:

Podiatry Now

The Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists
1 Fellmongers Path
Tower Bridge Road
London SE1 3LY
Tel: 0845 450 3720

The Chiropody Review

Institute of Chiropodists,
27 Wright Street,
Southport,
Merseyside
PR9 0TL
Tel: 01704 546141

The Chiropody Review does not carry NHS advertising.

CONTACTS

Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists

Helen Basarad Horwath
1 Fellmongers Path
Tower Bridge Road
London SE1 3LY
Tel: 0207 234 8620 Contact: Joanna Brown.

Website: <http://www.feetforlife.org/>
e-mail: enq@scpod.org
Phone number: 0845 450 3735

The Health Professionals Council

Tel: 0207 582 0866
Website - www.hpcuk.org
e-mail – info@hpcuk.org

Appendix 1

HPC registration

Registration with HPC can take between 6 weeks and a few months. To be eligible for HPC registration an individual who has been trained in the UK must have successfully completed a Degree or diploma course that has been approved by the HPC. The list of approved courses can be found on-line at http://www.hpc-uk.org/aboutregistration/aboutregistration/educationandtraining/approvedcourses_ch/

If the Chiropodist / Podiatrist was trained overseas they must apply to the HPC international department who will assess whether the applicant's qualifications, work experience and ethics are equivalent to UK standards. The HPC can suggest that a Chiropodist or Podiatrist undertakes a test of competence if the applicant is already in the UK. This can include an interview or clinical test and should only take a few days. The HPC will not offer adaptation to any non EEA applicant.