

Medical Illustrator

Medical Illustrators produce photographs, videos and graphical images for use in health care.

ANNUAL SALARY

£22,000 to £41,500

Average UK salary in 2019 was £29,588 (source Office for Statistics)

WORKING HOURS

37.5

+3%

FUTURE EMPLOYMENT

There will be 3% more Medical Illustrator jobs in 2024.
In your local area



What's it all about?

What you'll do

You'll work in a specialist area, like:

- graphic design
- medical art
- photography
- videography

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- recording a patient's condition using a digital camera or video
- taking photographs to monitor the effectiveness of operations and treatments
- using specialist equipment and techniques to capture 3D images of structures like the eye, and to record specific procedures
- working closely with doctors, nurses and patients in hospitals and university medical departments.
- photographing non-accidental injuries, in forensic photography
- providing bereavement photography for grieving parents
- copying evidence from slides and x-rays
- using software to produce presentations
- creating visual materials for teaching and research purposes

- producing photography and artwork for publicity materials, annual reports, staff newspapers and websites.

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What you will need

- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- design skills and knowledge
- knowledge of computer operating systems, hardware and software
- thinking and reasoning skills
- the ability to use your initiative
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- to be flexible and open to change
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Working Environment

You could work in a photographic studio, in a hospital ward or theatre, clinics or private labs. You may also need to wear PPE (protective clothing)

You'll usually work as part of a team.

You may need to travel between sites.

Entry requirements

2-3 A Levels, or equivalent, to access a degree.

You'll need a relevant foundation degree, HND or degree in clinical photography or medical illustration.

If you've a degree in photography you can apply for a trainee position as a clinical photographer and take a one-year postgraduate certificate in clinical photography.

If you've a degree in graphic design and you're in relevant employment, you can also do a postgraduate certificate in graphic design for health.

Work experience or work shadowing in a university or NHS trust's medical photography department will be useful.

Employment by region

Region	Jobs
East of England	5,450
Scotland	3,022
North East	1,083
East Midlands	2,138
London	18,418
Yorkshire and the Humber	3,732
South West	5,476
Wales	1,877
West Midlands	2,553
South East	9,013
North West	4,113

Salary

£22,000 to £41,500

Starter salary: £22,000 to £28,500

Experienced salary: Up to £32,250

These figures are a guide.

Working hours

37.5

You'll usually work 37.5 hours a week, Monday to Friday. You'll need to be available for on-call duties.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could progress to a management role. With further study, you could also move into research or teaching.