If you’re looking to move into your first recognised leadership or team management role, or have recently done so, and you want to do more to champion compassionate patient care, then this programme is for you.

The Mary Seacole programme – Leading Care I is a professional leadership programme, which leads to a postgraduate certificate in Healthcare Leadership.

As this is a postgraduate certificate, you need to be prepared for the level of commitment the programme involves through personal study, face to face workshops and assessments.

Overview

- This programme will transform your natural empathy and resilience into an inspiring, practical and resourceful leadership style – and make you a prime candidate for your first recognised leadership role.
- You will boost the skills needed to be a great leader, including inspiring others, making informed decisions and focusing even more on the patients, service users, carers and families you support, while learning how to make the NHS values even more central to your daily role and working environment.
- You do not need a degree to access this programme.
- The strong practical focus means you can apply your new skills immediately, making a difference for your colleagues as you learn.
- Learning is delivered through a combination of face-to-face and online learning to fit around your schedule.
- You will be guided by a personal tutor who as well as being a subject expert is a specialist in supporting learners to combine learning with busy lives.
- Having successfully completed this programme you will gain credits to exempt yourself of the first 7 months of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson – Leading Care II programme, leading to an MSc in Healthcare Leadership.
Eligibility criteria

The Mary Seacole Programme – Leading Care I is aimed at people who are in, or are thinking of applying (within a year or so) for their first formal leadership or team management position; you might be in a clinical or non-clinical role. You will need to have the support from your line manager to be eligible to apply and be able to attend all face-to-face workshop sessions.

You will need to have either:

• **One of the following qualifications:** a bachelor’s degree, masters degree, nursing or doctor qualification, professional or vocational qualification at QCF level 6, or chartered status from chartered body

or

• **Relevant work experience**

Time commitment

The programme consists of nine units studied through the year. You should expect to spend ten to 12 hours studying each week.

You’ll be reading articles, watching videos and taking part in discussions, all designed to stimulate your thinking and help you to develop as a leader.

As well as studying online, you will attend six face to face workshop sessions with fellow participants. This is a compulsory part of the programme and so you must be able to attend all six sessions.

Please note that although these workshops are regional, there will be some travel involved.

Gaining your manager/sponsor’s support

You must have the full support of your manager/sponsor to attend the programme. Ideally, you should have had an appraisal or similar talent conversation within the past year where your aspirations to develop into a leadership position were discussed and agreed, but we recognise that formal appraisals may not have taken place for everyone. Please make sure you have had a discussion with your line manager around this before applying.

Applications always exceed places available so in some regions a priority application processes may also apply. Also in some regions you will not be able to apply unless you first have the agreement of your line manager, and then also are supported corporately by the identified lead in your organisation. Please check the position locally before applying.

Your authorising manager/sponsor is the person who can agree to your attendance, authorise your study leave and is able to underwrite the programme costs should you withdraw before completion.

Applying
For more details on the assessment criteria, cost and how to apply for this programme please look at the NHS Leadership Academy website:

http://www.leadershipacademy.nhs.uk/grow/professional-leadership-programmes/mary-seacole-programme/

If you have any questions regarding this programme please do not hesitate to contact me

Best wishes

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Leadership saves lives – Leadership for a purpose