

NHSE Yorkshire and the Humber Foundation Schools

Guidance – Application Form for a F2 Specialised Foundation Programme Research Placement (YHAF2)

Year of FY2 Placement: August 2025 to August 2025

This form should be completed by the Academic F1 trainee and the Academic Supervisor who wishes to host the trainee for a 4-month academic research placement during the 12-month period August 2025 to August 2026. There will be an approval process for F2 academic placements, and projects will be assessed against standard criteria as agreed by the Foundation School Committees and Board.

Principles of the F2 Academic Foundation Placement:

- The Yorkshire and Humber Foundation School and the Medical School of the University of Sheffield, University of Leeds and Hull York Medical School (HYMS) have created 87 Specialised Foundation F2 rotations, allowing 87 trainees the opportunity of an academic placement in either research or medical education.
- These Specialised Foundation F2 rotations provide the opportunity for trainees to work alongside senior academics and their research teams to develop their understanding of clinical and basic scientific research. Potential future clinical academic trainees can explore their aptitude for and enjoyment of working in an academic environment. For those who choose to, the post will provide time to obtain preliminary data and prepare for application to the next stage in the academic training pathway, the Academic Clinical Fellowship.
- Each Specialised Foundation F2 rotation comprises three placements, each of 4 months duration (two clinical and one academic).
- Two placements will provide clinical training and deliver Foundation skills within specialist units at the NHS Trust(s) that are highly research active. The third 4-month placement will be dedicated to research training or medical education training. This placement, although intended to have no service commitments, will provide opportunities if required, to help those trainees acquire the F2 competencies for successful completion of their F2 training period.
- A portfolio of potential supervisors within the Medical Schools will be made available to the Specialised Foundation F1 trainees. These trainees will, wherever possible, be offered attachment to units whose research programme and clinical specialty most closely reflects their own current career aspirations. In the event that a trainee has an ongoing research project within the Medical School or has a prior research interest as an undergraduate, it may also be possible for them to continue with this work during their placement - this is subject to the availability of suitable supervision arrangements and where a “personal” project is being submitted, the application will be looked at carefully to make sure that appropriate competences will be met.
- In addition to being released for Foundation generic training, Specialised Foundation trainees will be offered the opportunity to attend other research training events organised by the Medical School.
- The F2 Specialised Foundation trainee will be expected to have completed a literature review, a presentation of his/her research and written up his/her research project within the 4-month academic placement. These three outputs will be formally assessed by their named Academic Supervisor.
- There is an annual Academic Presentation Day, which is mandatory for all F2 Academic trainees. There will be the opportunity for trainees to either give an oral presentation (subject to a selection process) or poster presentation.

- The UKFPO have published a “Rough Guide to the Academic Foundation Programme”. This and other information about the Academic programme are available on their website:
<https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/>
<https://foundationprogramme.nhs.uk/programmes/2-year-foundation-programme/specialised-foundation-programme/>
- Hull York Medical School (HYMS) requires trainees to study a PG Certificate for trainees in a Medical Education placement and to complete a PG Certificate in Health Research and Studies for Research for those in a Research placement. These courses run over the 2-year Academic Foundation programme.
- University of Leeds trainees in Medical Education posts complete a PG Certificate in Health Research and Studies
- Trainees in a University of Sheffield Research placement complete a PG Certificate in Clinical Research and those in a Medical Education placement complete a PG Certificate in Medical Education.

Medical Education posts already have agreed aims and outcomes and are not part of the Specialised Foundation research matching process.

Where there are a limited number of placements in each Research specialty, if there are a number of trainees that wish to do the same project, we will ask you to preference the placements in numerical order and you will be allocated by EPM / SJT / interview score.

If you have adequate support to complete a “new / novel” project that is not listed, it will be considered via your application. “New or novel” projects must however support all of the principles of the Foundation Academic programme and be supervised by an experienced Academic supervisor, who can provide the adequate support and training required. It is strongly recommended that if you do plan a “new / novel” programme that you start as early as possible ensuring all of the requirements are met.

If a placement receives more applications than there are places (i.e.>3), student ranking in the application process will be the first criterion used to allocate applicants. You are asked to rank a minimum of 21 posts via the Oriel application programme.

Specialised Foundation Trainee Placement Matching Timeline

Date	Event
Dec	Specialised Foundation trainees, scoring and ranking
August	F1 start
September - April	Specialised Foundation trainees to meet with potential supervisors and agree applications using the application form
September	YHFS Induction
31 March 2025	Deadline for submission for YHAF2 Placement Application Form
Throughout April	Allocation local panel meetings
30 April 2025	Confirmation of F2 Placement from Foundation School
May - June	Trainee to arrange to meet with their Academic supervisor

August	F2 start
23 June 2025	Yorkshire and the Humber SFP Presentation Day

4 Month Placements Available in East Yorkshire (EY)

Research	21	Hull, Scarborough or York
Medical Education	3	Hull

[http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation_training/academic/north_yorkshire_and_east_coast_\(nyec\)_academic_posts/](http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation_training/academic/north_yorkshire_and_east_coast_(nyec)_academic_posts/).

4 Month Placements Available in West Yorkshire (WY)

Research	18	Leeds
Medical Education	3	Leeds

Details of the WY projects can be found on our website:

[http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation_training/academic/west_yorkshire_\(wy\)_academic_posts/](http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation_training/academic/west_yorkshire_(wy)_academic_posts/).

4 Month Placements Available in South Yorkshire (SY)

Research	9	Sheffield
Medical Education	24	Sheffield (12 Sheffield, 6 Barnsley, 6 Doncaster)
Medical Education	3	Doncaster (F1 in DPOW, Grimsby)

Further information about example posts are available on our website:

[http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation_training/academic/south_yorkshire_\(sy\)_academic_posts/](http://www.yorksandhumberdeanery.nhs.uk/foundation_training/academic/south_yorkshire_(sy)_academic_posts/)

Instructions for Submitting the Application Form

Deadline for Submission of Form:	31st March 2025
Submission of Completed Application Form:	1 x copy to be returned to: england.foundation.yh@nhs.net Please note: The Foundation School will arrange for the Deputy / Foundation School Director to sign
Approval confirmation:	30th April 2025

For information – the following competencies are a guide as to your (essential) Specialised Foundation curriculum goals:

No.	Competency	Evidence
1	Identifying a research supervisor / key stakeholders / collaborator	Organises meetings with research supervisor / stakeholders / collaborators Emails / notes of meetings
2	Identifying a research topic / systematic review of literature	Describes different research methods available
3	Defining a research question	Formulates a credible / realistic research question
4	Observational and experimental research design / developing a research proposal	Develops mechanisms to ensure translation of the research into the clinical setting
5	Critical appraisal of a paper / topic	Step by step / checklist
6	Carrying out a study / experiment	Description of systematic and scientific methods / approach used Reflective writing
7	Qualitative data collection, statistical analysis, interpretation and presentation	Evidence of appropriate statistical data Data is collected, analysed and presented
8	Poster Design	Completed Poster
9	Familiarisation of research ethics and how it is monitored	Describes the general ethical principles that underpin research Describes the process for ethical approval
10	Knowledge of issues around misuse of research	Ability to recognise misuse of research and describe what should be done if a project proposal raises concerns
11	Research and integrity (awareness of complex dilemmas in scientific research)	Knowledge of robust practice across the full <i>research</i> process i.e., the planning and conduct of <i>research</i> , the recording and reporting of results, and the dissemination, application and exploitation of findings
12	Understanding PPIE (Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement)	Recognising the value of PPIE