Designed for health professionals involved in teaching at all levels, the PGCert allows you to develop your knowledge of theory and practice in teaching and learning. The PGDip and MEd focus on your skills as a researcher in education.

Course details
This suite of three year-long, part-time programmes is for all health professionals involved in the education and training of undergraduates and postgraduates. Each year is self-contained and a qualification is obtained after each year: Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCert) in Year 1, Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Year 2, and Masters (MEd) in Year 3.
PGCert: Three modules (Year 1)
The PGCert is for doctors, dentists, nurses and other health professionals; it is based in the Health Professional Education and Research Unit (HPERU) in the School of Education. Teaching on each module is led by a clinician and an educational expert. There is a parallel PGCert which is a partnership between HPERU and the Medical School, which is specifically for Education Fellows involved in the education of medical undergraduates from the University of Birmingham.

Modules
PGCert – Year 1:
There are five teaching days on each of the three modules.
- Module 1: Teaching and Learning for Health Professionals – from the perspective of both teacher and learner this module will explore theories of education and themes of professional values and practice within clinical education.
- Module 2: Assessment for Health Professionals – the purposes and methods of assessment and relationships between learning theory and assessment will be examined; concepts of validity and reliability will be considered.
- Module 3: Developing and Sustaining a Curriculum for Health Professionals. Curriculum design will be examined and appraised.

PGDip – Year 2:
Successful completion of an additional three modules leads to the award of a PGDip in Education for Health Professionals. Modules 4 and 5 each involve five days of teaching and module 6 is research based.
- Module 4: Reviewing Education – local data as well as international literature will be reviewed to assess ‘what’s out there?’, culminating in a protocol for a systematic review.
- Module 5: Researching Education – a range of research frameworks and methods are examined to allow the development of practical skills in the design and conduct of educational research.
- Module 6: Project in Education – research-based module where students conduct their own small-scale inquiry into education.

MEd – Year 3:
The PGDip can be extended to a MEd qualification by completing a 15,000-word dissertation based on the student’s own research.
- Module 7: Dissertation – Dissertation in education carried out over the academic year based on empirical research focusing on a relevant topic in professional education.

Careers
Students are usually already employed in the NHS or other Health organisations such as universities and the military. The PGCert is HEA accredited, so on successful completion of the course, students are able to apply for professional recognition as Fellows of the Higher Education Academy. Currently the HEA are charging for this widely recognised teaching qualification: see www.heacademy.ac.uk/professional-recognition Also note that the HEA is under review so this may change. The Diploma and Masters are research-based so suitable for those who would like to develop an academic component to their work.

Entry requirements
You need a first degree or equivalent professional qualification and proficient English. One satisfactory academic reference is required for all applicants except Education Fellows applying for PGCert who do not need to provide a reference.

LEARN MORE
Email: e4hp@contacts.bham.ac.uk
www.birmingham.ac.uk/education-health-professionals

How to apply
Applications can be made at www.birmingham.ac.uk/education-health-professionals