

# Job of The Week

## Sonographer

### Key Skills

- concentration skills
- sensitivity and understanding
- the ability to work on your own
- the ability to work well with others
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- knowledge of medicine and healthcare
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

### Salary

£40,056 - £53,218

### Working hours

36 – 40 a week  
You could work  
evenings / weekends /  
bank holidays

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# Sonographer

## University

You will need a degree in a relevant subject like:

- radiography
- midwifery
- nursing
- science
- health science

You must also complete a postgraduate certificate or a postgraduate diploma in medical or clinical ultrasound

## Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

- 2 to 3 A Levels, or equivalent, for a degree
- a degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study

## Post 16

The following subjects would be a good idea to take at A Level

- Health and Social Care
- Psychology
- Sociology
- A Science subject

## Apprenticeship

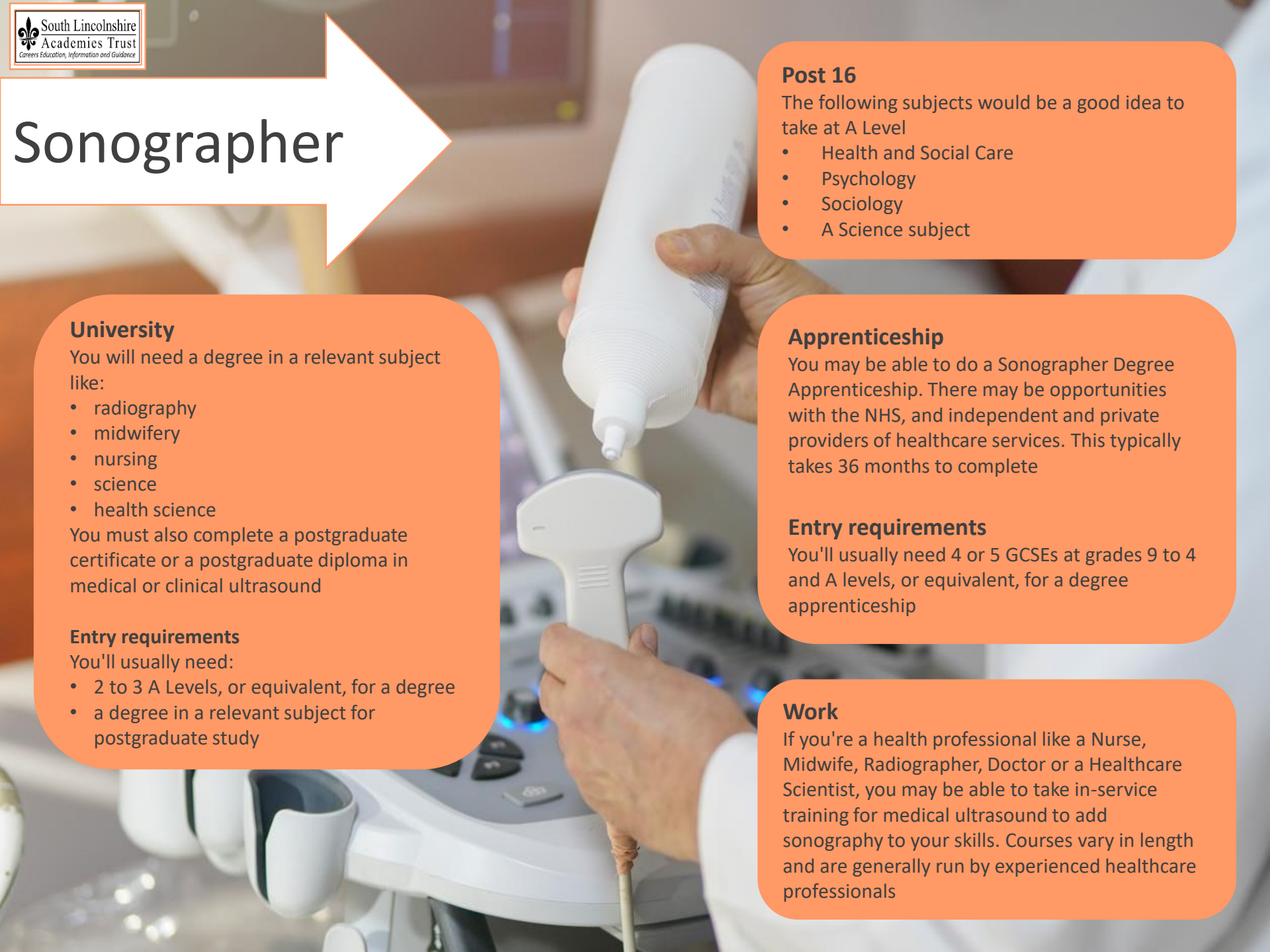
You may be able to do a Sonographer Degree Apprenticeship. There may be opportunities with the NHS, and independent and private providers of healthcare services. This typically takes 36 months to complete

## Entry requirements

You'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 and A levels, or equivalent, for a degree apprenticeship

## Work

If you're a health professional like a Nurse, Midwife, Radiographer, Doctor or a Healthcare Scientist, you may be able to take in-service training for medical ultrasound to add sonography to your skills. Courses vary in length and are generally run by experienced healthcare professionals





## Career path and progression

There are opportunities to move into specialist sonography areas like obstetrics and gynaecology, vascular or cancer services. You could work with specific patient groups such as children, young people or pregnant women.

With experience, there are opportunities to go into teaching sonography or to do clinical research.

## Day to Day tasks:

- write reports
- produce images and interpret observations
- make referrals to other healthcare professionals
- set up and regularly check ultrasound equipment
- keep accurate and up-to-date patient care records
- train healthcare staff to use specialist equipment
- use ultrasound equipment to carry out examinations
- deal sensitively with patients, before, during and after their scan

## Working conditions

You could work in an NHS or private hospital or in a therapy clinic. Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding

You may need to wear a uniform



# Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.  
Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Midwives	
Weekly Pay <b>£770</b>	Annual Pay <b>£40,040</b>
Hours/Week <b>35h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£22</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>6.9%</b>	Replacement <b>52.8%</b>
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 6.9% over the period to 2027, creating 4,000 jobs. In the same period, 52.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 30,200 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in Health Public admin. &amp; defence</p>	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

Medical radiographers	
Weekly Pay <b>£850</b>	Annual Pay <b>£44,200</b>
Hours/Week <b>37h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£23</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>6.9%</b>	Replacement <b>52.8%</b>
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 6.9% over the period to 2027, creating 2,200 jobs. In the same period, 52.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 16,700 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in Health Public admin. &amp; defence Residential care</p>	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

Nurses	
Weekly Pay <b>£780</b>	Annual Pay <b>£40,560</b>
Hours/Week <b>36h</b>	Hourly Pay <b>£22</b>
<b>Workforce Change</b> (projected)	
Growth <b>6.9%</b>	Replacement <b>52.8%</b>
<p>The workforce is projected to grow by 6.9% over the period to 2027, creating 53,400 jobs. In the same period, 52.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 407,500 job openings.</p>	
<p>You might find this job in Health Residential care Social work Public admin. &amp; defence Education</p>	
<a href="#">More info</a>	<a href="#">Clear card</a>

# Labour Market Information

## Midwives

Midwives deliver, or assist in the delivery of babies, provide antenatal and postnatal care and advise parents on baby care. They work with other healthcare professionals, and advise on and teach midwifery practice.

Common tasks in this job:

- monitors condition and progress of patient and baby throughout pregnancy;
- delivers babies in normal births and assists doctors with difficult deliveries;
- monitors recovery of mother in postnatal period and supervises the nursing of premature and other babies requiring special attention;
- advises on baby care, exercise, diet and family planning issues;

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## Medical radiographers

Medical (diagnostic) radiographers operate x-ray machines, ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging and other imaging devices for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes, assist in the diagnosis of injuries and diseases and are involved in intervention procedures such as the removal of kidney stones. They operate under the supervision of senior staff. Therapeutic radiographers specialise in the planning and administration of radiotherapy treatment for patients with cancer.

Common tasks in this job:

- uses a range of imaging devices for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes;
- assesses patients and interprets clinical requirements to determine appropriate radiographic treatments;
- verifies identity of patient and ensures that necessary preparations have been made for the examination/treatment;
- decides length and intensity of exposure or strength of dosage of isotope;

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## Nurses

Nurses provide general and/or specialised nursing care for the sick, injured and others in need of such care, assist medical doctors with their tasks and work with other healthcare professionals and within teams of healthcare workers. They advise on and teach nursing practice.

Common tasks in this job:

- assists medical doctors and works with other healthcare professionals to deal with emergencies and pre-planned treatment of patients;
- manages own case load;
- monitors patient's progress, administers drugs and medicines, applies surgical dressings and gives other forms of treatment;
- participates in the preparation for physical and psychological treatment of mentally ill patients;

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# Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

## Useful Websites

[How to become a Sonographer | BMUS](#)

[Sonography | Health Education England \(hee.nhs.uk\)](#)

[CASE Course Directory \(case-uk.org\)](#)

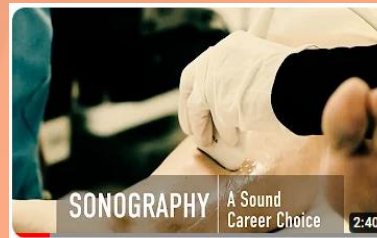
[The Register of Clinical Technologists – Register of Clinical Technologists \(therct.org.uk\)](#)

[RDMS Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer | ARDMS](#)

[Sonographers, sonography and the regulation of the medical ultrasound workforce | NHS Employers](#)

## Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

### Sonography



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4K6tf27z6wU>

### A day in the life of a Sonographer



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k23LBEzB\\_t0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k23LBEzB_t0)

### Real talk Sonographer



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=glY35LGWLZY>

### Diagnostics Sonography



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wjWZEMEmTA&t=9s>

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