

Careers using research skills,
part 4 – think tanks,
charities, NGOs, international
organisations, universities

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LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



Part 1 – overview:

Defining your ‘research skills’, advice for non-UK students on UK opportunities, advice on looking outside the UK, types of organisation utilising research skills, typical job titles and grades, how/where to find out more.

Part 2 – public sector jobs:

UK – PHE, NICE, Central Government, Local Government, NHS;
Non-UK.

Part 3 – private sector jobs:

Pharma, Medical Writing, Management Consultancies, Intellectual Property.

Part 4 – ‘third sector’ and universities:

Thinktanks, Charities and NGOs, International Organisations, Universities.

Defining your research skills

- Data collection (qualitative/quantitative/lab);
- Data analysis;
- Critically evaluating texts and extracting key information;
- Drawing conclusions;
- Connecting ideas/having new ideas;
- Coming up with proposals;
- Making recommendations;
- Writing up;
- Project management;
- Teamwork;
- Working independently;
- Communication skills;
- Building working relationships/alliances.

[The King's Fund](https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/about-us) (<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/about-us>)

“The King's Fund is an independent charitable organisation working to improve health and care in England”

Panellist at Global and Public Health Careers panel discussion 3 Mar 2020 from The King's Fund (recording on Moodle).

[The Health Foundation](https://www.health.org.uk/) (<https://www.health.org.uk/>)

“From giving grants to those working at the front line to carrying out research and policy analysis, we shine a light on how to make successful change happen.”

[The Nuffield Trust](https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/) (<https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/>)

“The Nuffield Trust is an independent health think tank. We aim to improve the quality of health care in the UK by providing evidence-based research and policy analysis and informing and generating debate”

[Research Fellow, The Health Foundation](#)

Our policy team is looking for a Research Fellow with experience in policy analysis and a curiosity about wider public policy.

[Link to job description](#)
(closing date 14 Mar 2021)

Person specification

	Criteria	Essential (E) / Desirable (D)
Behaviour	Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion - An understanding of, and commitment to, equal opportunities and diversity.	E
Behaviour	Working together - Experience of (externally or within a single organisation) working on projects in collaboration with a larger team, able to work independently, but also take direction from others.	E
Behaviour	Achieving impact - Evidence of being able to produce high quality written work, for a range of audiences.	E
Behaviour	Discovering and Learning – Good facilitation, networking and project management skills.	E
Education	A first degree in a subject relevant to health policy.	E
Education	A higher research degree (or similar) is highly desirable.	D
Experience / Skills and abilities	Excellent analytical skills and experience of analysing health policy and a good understanding of qualitative and quantitative research methods.	E

Charities/NGOs

Some health related examples (but there are many, many thousands):

Asthma UK, Cancer Research UK, Alzheimer's Research UK, Global Health Corps.

Useful link for US (and some International NGOs):
<https://www.fic.nih.gov/Global/Pages/NGOs.aspx>



**The Power
to Defeat
Dementia**



What do Think Tanks and Charities look for?

Evidence of varied skills and experience, for example:

- Generic skills such as teamwork, communication/ interpersonal skills;
- Cultural sensitivity;
- Flexibility/adaptability;
- Particular expertise/experience relating to their work;
- Evidence of commitment (eg voluntary experience);
- Also fund raising/donor relationship building (can translate 'client relationship building' from a more corporate sector).

Going from your home country to another country: Skills that are scarce in that country.

International organisations – UN



World Food Programme

wfp.org



United Nations Population Fund



World Health
Organization

- Apart from internships (mostly unpaid) not normally a next step unless you have considerable relevant experience;
- Separate workshops on Careers with UN organisations (recordings on Moodle);
- Alumni panel (Mar 2021, recording on Moodle);
- Languages are useful (and for INGOs).

International NGOs

Often more 'hands on' than UN Organisations, more flexible, more immediate impact. Some examples:

[Marie Stopes International;](#)



[Save the Children;](#)



[MSF;](#)



[Doctors of the World;](#)



[Emergency Nutrition Network;](#)



[GOAL.](#)



Donor organisations/NGOs

[Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation;](#)



BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*

[The Carter Center;](#)

[Wellcome;](#)



[Imperial Health Charity.](#)



Long term in academia? Doctoral degree needed at some point.

PhD but not necessarily long term in academia?

Shorter term:

- Research Assistant/Associate;
- Research Fellow;
- Project Manager/Officer;
- Technician.

What to prioritise in application – academics, research experience/expertise, but also interpersonal skills, ability to secure funding...

Example jobs in universities

[Research Associate University of Glasgow;](#)

Health Economics and Health Technology Assessment (HEHTA) Research Group.

Applicants will be qualified to PhD (SCQF level 12) or possess the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience, with experience of personal development in a similar or related role(s). Knowledge of advanced quantitative evidence synthesis methodologies, including individual participant data meta-analysis, network meta-analysis, and/or component network meta-analysis is essential.

[Research Assistant or Research Fellow in Health Economics, LSHTM;](#)

Evaluation of Social and Population Health Interventions (ESPHI) research group, part of the Department of Global Health and Development.

Beginning of person specification

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

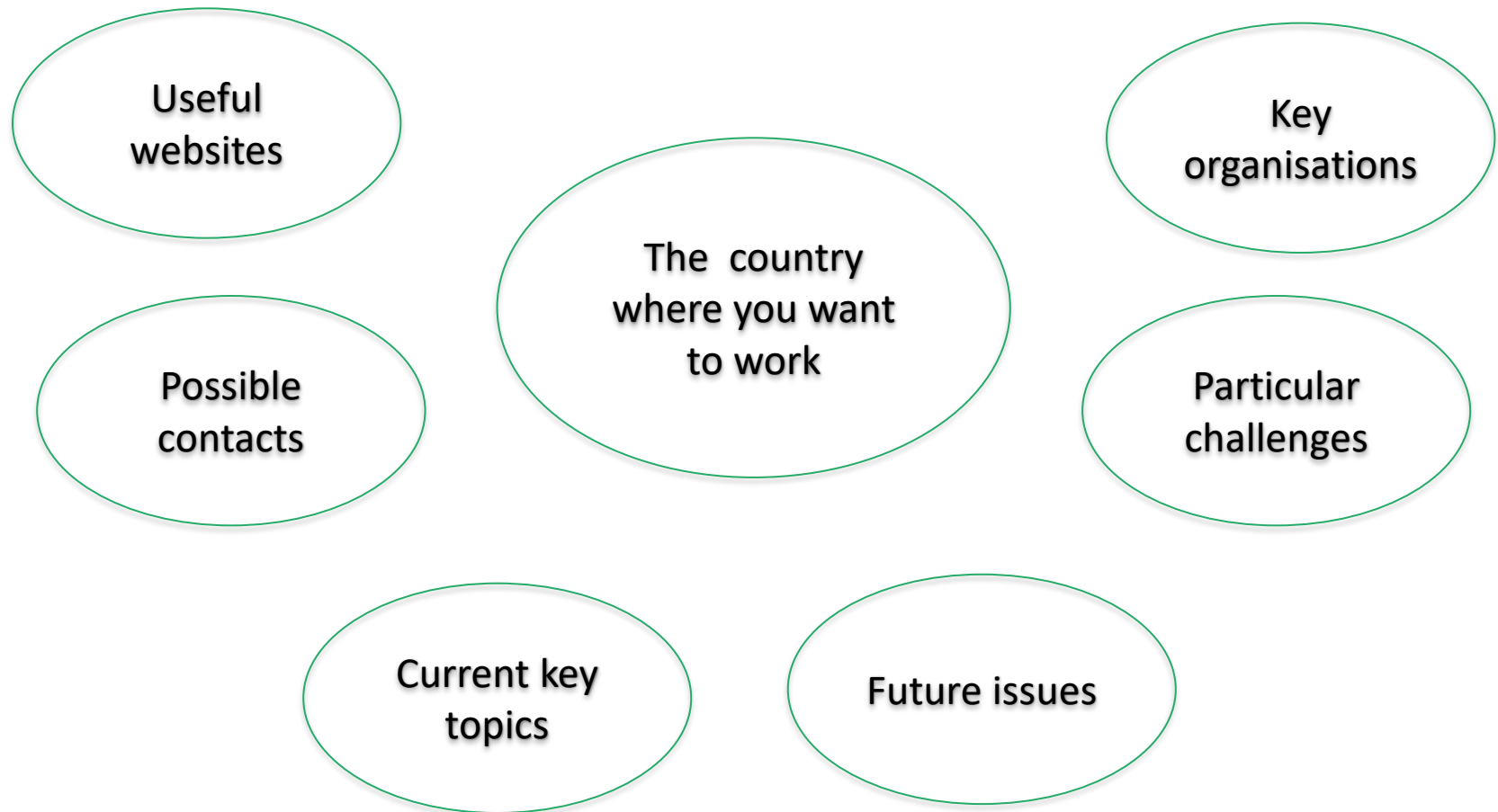
Research Assistant

1. MSc degree in health economics (or a Master's degree with a strong focus on health economics OR a first degree in economics with a Master's degree in public health/health sciences OR a Master's degree with a strong focus on health policy analysis/priority setting and qualitative research methods
2. Relevant experience in conducting systematic literature reviews, data collation and analysis of economic data
3. Evidence of good organisational skills, including effective time management.
4. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team.

Research Fellow

1. A postgraduate degree, ideally a doctoral degree in health economics (or a Master's degree with a strong focus on health economics OR a first degree in economics with a Master's degree in public health/health sciences OR a Master's degree with a strong focus on health policy analysis/priority setting and qualitative research methods
2. Relevant experience in conducting systematic literature reviews, data collation and analysis of economic data
3. Contributions to written output, preferably peer-reviewed, as expected by the subject area/discipline in terms of types and volume of outputs.
4. Proven ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively as part of a research team, and proven ability to meet research deadlines.

Planning a proactive approach



Finding further resources on Moodle

[Recordings of careers workshops and events;](#)

Most recent arranged by date (working backwards);

Previous in folders:

[Careers workshops Apr-August 2020;](#)

[Alumni and Employer talks Apr-Aug 2020;](#)

[Recordings and slides from careers workshops before April 2020;](#)

[Recordings and notes from alumni, employer and guest speaker talks and panel discussions before April 2020;](#)

[Recordings from the 2019-20 and 2020-21 student led seminar series.](#)

Reminder of the others in the series

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