HSST aims to:

- ensure the future workforce supply of highly qualified consultant clinical scientists (CCSs) in a range of specialisms
- support career development for individuals
- develop clinical expertise and leadership
- enhance opportunities for scientific and innovative research to improve patient outcomes

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www.hee.nhs.uk          www.heacademy.ac.uk
HSST is:-

• a five-year workplace based programme underpinned by a doctoral level academic programme

• to train clinical scientists to take on the role of consultant clinical scientists

• anticipated that it will result in registration on an accredited voluntary Higher Specialist Scientist Register (HSSR) to be held by the Academy for Healthcare Science (AHCS).
HSST scope:-

• HSST will be introduced initially in 19 healthcare science specialisms

• draft curricula on the NHS Networks website- www.networks.nhs.uk
  /msc-framework-curricula/hsst-higher-specialist-scientist-training

• employers, workforce planners, LETBs have worked together to identify workforce requirements for the first cohort of HSST training posts in 2014/15
Recruitment:-

- national HSST recruitment process led by the National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS)
- adverts for HSST training posts were published in May 2014
- interviews scheduled for July 2014
- anticipated that trainees will start their training late 2014/early 2015
- five year training allowance allocated to accredited trusts for each individual appointed through the national appointment process, which will include academic fees for the doctoral programme
Two routes of entry:-

- direct entry, where eligible CSs will be competitively appointed into an HSST post (competitive appointment)

- in-service, where eligible CSs may enter into HSS training within their current post, with the support of their employer (meet benchmarking standards)

- in both cases, HSST applicants must be successful in national appointment and benchmarking process
Professional doctorate:-

- supports and underpins the workplace learning programme for HSST

- Health Education West Midlands will commission arrangements for the delivery of a doctoral level programme through a competitive tendering process

- throughout HSST, CSs will work and train within training providers that have been accredited by the NSCHS
On-going work includes:-

- developing the specification and taking forward the tending process for the doctoral award

- accreditation of suitable work place training providers and development of guidance on the appointment process for CCSs

- agreeing HSST equivalence process with the AHCS

- further HSST curriculum development in other healthcare science specialist areas