



# Home Carer Role

**Home carers provide home care support for our service users. A typical day will see a home carer provide personal care, domestic assistance and companionship to a number of people.**

Visits vary from 15 minutes to 24 hours, depending on the service user's needs. Home carers are expected to travel around their designated area; therefore a full valid UK driving license and access to a car would be preferred.

As a home carer you will be expected to assist your service user with personal care, i.e getting out of bed, support with continence care, prompting medication, washing and dressing. As well as the personal aspects of the visits you may have to help around the house with general housework and preparation of meals.

Another important part of your role is to provide companionship for your service user. You will become someone that will encourage your service user to enter into conversation and listen to what they have to say. You must treat your service users with dignity, patience and compassion at all times.

## **Qualifications & training**

An SVQ 2 in Health and Social Care would be desirable – but not compulsory as training will be given.

You must be willing to work towards the relevant qualifications such as an HNC in Social Services or an SVQ in Social Services and Health Care at Level 6 to allow you to register with the SSSC within 6 months of your start date.

For more information on registration and qualifications please visit –

<http://www.sssc.uk.com/registration/do-i-need-to-register/it-s-time-to-register-care-at-home-and-housing-support-workers>

Blue Star St Andrews offers service users the highest standards of home care. In order to meet our service users' varied needs, we provide a wide range of training opportunities to our carers.

### **Core training**

All carers must complete the following core training modules:

- Full induction
- Basic care practices
- Moving and handling
- Food hygiene
- First aid
- Health and safety
- Medication.
- Shadowing

### **Additional training**

To meet the diverse requirements of our wide range of service users, we can also provide extra training courses such as:

- Parkinson's Awareness
- Understanding MS
- Dementia training
- Palliative Care

### **Skills and experience**

Previous care work experience is desirable. However, if you don't have care experience you will need to demonstrate some customer service skills as a basis to build on.

You will need excellent communication skills; both verbal and written. One of the most important aspects of the role is engaging with the service users; chatting, listening and maybe even helping them with their correspondence so your English language skills must be of an acceptable standard.

Domestic assistance is an integral part of the job so housekeeping and cooking skills are

necessary; having your own vehicle would be preferred as you will be travelling from service user to service user.

## **Character**

It takes a certain type of person to make a great Carer; above all you have to be compassionate, caring and patient. You need to have empathy, integrity and resilience. You will have to be diligent, adaptable and reliable with a positive outlook and proactive attitude. Being chatty helps and being a good listener is essential. If you can tick these boxes and are independent, fit and healthy, and keen to learn, then you may be an Blue Star St Andrews person.

## **Benefits**

As a small, privately-owned company, we can offer suitable individuals a range of benefits including:

- Our Home Carers are paid for a shift rather than contact time – this would either be an Early (7am until 2pm) or Late (4pm until 10pm).
- We have introduced an auto-enrolment pension scheme in accordance with recent Government legislation.
- We provide uniform, ID badges and all Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) free of charge.
- We provide flexible working whereby, with adequate notice, you can change your availability according to changes in your own circumstances.
- Training is a key part of what we provide – all home carers must complete our induction course and are then given annual refresher training where appropriate. In addition we will encourage all staff to train for a professionally recognised qualification (such as an SVQ Level 2 or 3 in Health and Social Care).
- We pay our staff during training (which many other companies do not do). Our managers will keep a close eye on you and give you plenty on-the-job training as required. Regular quality audits, quarterly supervisions and annual appraisals are all key ways in which we can ensure that your career is progressing in the right direction.
- Referral bonus – we offer £50 to any carer who introduces a new carer to the company plus another £50 if the new carer stays with us 6 months or more.
- We pay on a monthly basis with payments directly into your Bank account. Holiday pay is calculated according to your monthly earnings and is separately disclosed on your payslip so that you know exactly how much is owed to you from one month to the next.

**If you believe you have the skills and motivation to join our team you can email a copy of your CV and a covering letter to [bluestarhomehelp@outlook.com](mailto:bluestarhomehelp@outlook.com) (quoting the job reference) or if you would prefer to have an informal and confidential chat about the role advertised please do not hesitate to give us a call.**