**British Cardiovascular Society Emerging Leaders Programme**

Applications now open for the 2025/26 cohort

**INTRODUCTION AND APPLICATION FORM**

The British Cardiovascular Society (BCS) Leadership Academy was established in 2019 to develop leadership skills for healthcare professionals through expert Faculty. As part of the Academy, the BCS Emerging Leaders Programme aims to equip delegates with leadership and management skills they will use for the rest of their lives in the NHS and beyond in driving improvements in services for patients. The Programme incorporates sessions with key NHS and professional leaders whom delegates would rarely get the chance to meet in person otherwise. This greatly enriches the course content as they share the secrets of their success and encourage the next generation of leaders.

The Programme is open to **senior cardiology trainees, recently appointed consultants, senior nurses, physiologists**, and **radiographers working in cardiology multi-disciplinary teams.** The Programme is underwritten by BCS, with delegates asked to contribute **£750** towards the cost. In addition to the sessions held in London, the Programme includes two days in Cambridge with an overnight stay and a session in Manchester with an overnight stay ahead of the BCS conference. The course fee includes dinner and accommodation costs in Cambridge and accommodation costs in Manchester. Delegates will receive free registration to the BCS Annual Conference in June 2025 and will be responsible for their transport costs for all programme days in London, Cambridge and Manchester.

**Applications are now open** for the 2025/26 cohort of the Programme. There are **18 delegate places available** on a competitive basis.

Prospective applicants must be BCS members and meet one of the following criteria:

* Cardiology trainees within one year of CCT (by June 2025);
* Consultant cardiologists within five years of their first appointment (by June 2025);
* Physiologists on the HSST or RCP programme on the path to becoming consultant clinical scientists;
* Senior nurses or radiographers at Band 8A or above.

**BCS LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

The programme represents a significant investment in developing future leadership skills. Therefore, ELP members are expected to use the skills they have developed in the Emerging Leaders Programme to stand for BCS Committee roles or BCS-related activities when opportunities arise. Standing for positions within BCS Committees also provides ELP participants and alumni with the practical opportunity to develop further the skills they built during the programme and engage these skills in achieving change and development for the cardiology workforce.

**2025/26 COHORT DETAILS**

The 2025/26 BCS Emerging Leaders Programme cohort will commence in the autumn. The closing date for applications is **midnight** on **31 July 2025**. The programme comprises **8 days**, 5 of which will be delivered face-to-face at the BCS offices, 2 will be held consecutively with an overnight stay in Cambridge, and a final session in Manchester the Sunday before the BCS Annual Conference, which will take place from 1-3 June 2026 in Manchester. The first session will take place **23rd September 2025**.

**COMMITMENT**

**Applicants *must* be current Ordinary Members, Associate Members or Affiliate Members of BCS.**

Successful applicants **must commit to attending all course days and must have the support of their Trust management to do so.** This is vitally important as the cohort is intentionally limited in numbers to facilitate small-group work and make this programme as educational as possible. If you are successful and there is an issue attending one of the days, the course facilitator must be informed as early as possible. Failure to attend without prior written agreement for extenuating circumstances may result in removal from the programme.

One of the main objectives during the year is for each delegate to complete a **service improvement project** at their Trust, which is a mandatory programme component and will require a dedicated time commitment. These projects are competitive and the top three will be presented at the BCS Annual Conference 2026, where attendance is expected.

Only those who have satisfactory attendance and complete all programme elements will receive a certificate of successful programme completion.

A draft schedule for the BCS Emerging Leaders Programme is available [here](https://britishcardiovascularsociety.org.uk/emerging-leaders-programme/). Please note this is an outline only and is subject to further review and potential modification.

**EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**

The BCS is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment for its staff, membership and all who engage with the Society, its activities, educational opportunities and courses.

We want our Society and its educational offerings to reflect and support the diverse nature of the profession and its broader membership. We believe that diversity benefits and contributes to the development of cardiology and the wider NHS workforce.

We welcome applications from all backgrounds, cultures, and identities and from all regions of the UK.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Entry to the cohort is highly competitive, and delegates will be selected by a panel based on a **two-page CV** and **a 500-word statement**, which should include the following:

* What experience do you already have in the leadership of service change and quality improvement?
* What particular skills or experience can you bring to the programme?
* How you will benefit from the programme.
* What your future career aspirations are; and
* An outline proposal for your service improvement project.

Applications must be accompanied by a statement from your TPD, clinical director, or line manager supporting your participation in the programme and full attendance at all cohort meetings. Please ensure this is completed in the supporting statement form below.

Please save your completed application as a **PDF document with your CV attached** to [academy@bcs.com](academy%40bcs.com)

by midnight **31 July 2025**. Please mark the email subject as ‘**BCS Emerging Leaders Programme 2025/26**’.

**Application Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Name** |  |
| Current post & hospital |  |
| Year of training |  |
| E-mail address (for course communications and networking) |  |
| Mobile number |  |
| BCS membership number |  |
| **Please note: applicants must be a current Ordinary Member, Associate Member or Affiliate Member of BCS.** |

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| **Please insert your 500 word statement below.** |
| **My experience of the leadership of service change and quality improvement****Skills or experience I can bring to the programme****How I will benefit from the programme****My future career aspirations are****Outline proposal for my service improvement project** |

🞏 *I confirm that all of the details above are correct and that I have organisational approval for funding and study leave for the Emerging Leaders Programme course dates.*

🞏 *I agree that BCS may process my data to evaluate my application and consent to publish my name as a participant in the Emerging Leaders Programme, either electronically or in print format.*

*In processing this Application, BCS shall observe and comply with all applicable current and future data privacy and security laws, including, without limitation, the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”). BCS further represents and warrants that: (i) any personal data processed will only be processed for the review of this Application; (ii) BCS will maintain effective information security measures to protect personal data from unauthorised disclosure or use; (iii) BCS will delete or return all personal data at the applicant’s request and upon termination of the Agreement; and (iv) if the consultants, employees or agents of BCS have access to the personal data under the terms of this Application, BCS will ensure such persons with access to the personal data will keep it confidential.*

APPLICANT NAME:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

**Supporting Statement Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| Relationship to applicant (Clinical Director / TPD / Line Manager) |  |
| Current post & hospital |  |
| E-mail address |  |
| Signature |  |
| Date |  |

Please ensure your supporting statement confirms your support for the applicant’s participation in the programme and total attendance at all cohort meetings.

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| **Please insert your supporting statement below.** |
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