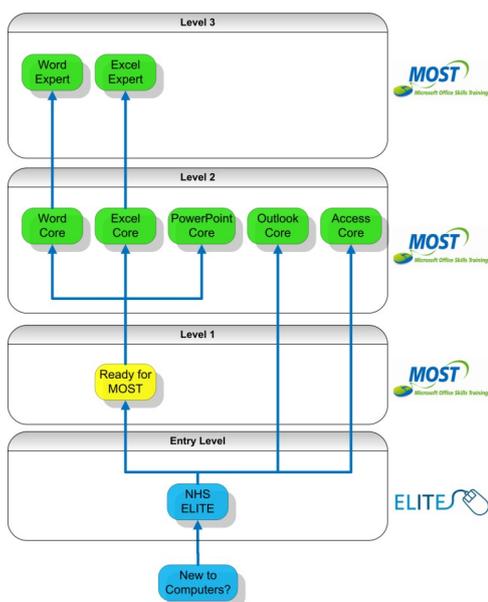


IT Skills Development E-bulletin

IT Skills Pathway launched

The Department of Health Informatics Directorate (DHID) has announced the launch of its new IT skills pathway.



Designed to assist NHS IT training centres, the pathway contains a list of generic IT competencies alongside a catalogue of the DHID products that can deliver those competencies.

The pathway provides an “at a glance” route for NHS staff to see which skills they need at each level. Each skill area is then broken down into individual competencies. A full document that lists all of the competencies for every skill area is also available for download.

“The IT skills pathway demonstrates that there is now one consistent, demonstrable and transferable

standard for generic IT skills across the NHS,” said Claire Adams, head of relationship and service management from DHID.

Claire continues: “We recognise that not everyone uses the free products provided by the Department of Health, so by providing a full list of generic competencies, NHS organisations can try to match their local offerings to the pathway.”

To find out more about the IT Skills Pathway, go to: www.cfh.nhs.uk/systemsandservices/icd/itskills.

Ready for MOST e-learning on IT Skills tracking system

New materials are being developed that will provide e-learning content for the Ready for Microsoft Office Skills Training (MOST) syllabus via the IT Skills tracking system.

Ready for MOST is a set of learning materials that has been specifically designed to bridge the knowledge gap that exists between the NHS ELITE and the full NHS MOST training programmes. Both deliver learning for Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, and are part of the NHS IT skills pathway.

The new e-learning materials are being developed by the Morecambe Bay Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust who also design and host the NHS ELITE learning and tracking system. The NHS EITS design group are testing the materials by checking for accuracy and content suitability. For more information about the testing please see the article on page two.

Vicki Wilson, IT skills training co-ordinator from the Department of Health Informatics Directorate (DHID) said: “These new materials are being designed as result of feedback received from NHS organisations. They will have the same look and feel as the NHS ELITE learning and by hosting them on the same IT Skills tracking system - learners have a natural next step in terms of improving their IT skills without having to switch to a different learning platform.”

The materials will be released to the tracking system as they are developed on a module by module basis; dates are yet to be confirmed, but it is anticipated that most materials will be available by March 2012.

For more information about the Ready for MOST e-learning materials please email us: it.skills@nhs.net

New contact details for IT skills training

We have changed our email address from Essential.itskills@nhs.net to it.skills@nhs.net. The new address should be used for all queries relating to:

- NHS ELITE,
- Ready for MOST,
- NHS MOST,
- Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA),
- NHS Microsoft IT Academy.

So email this (it.skills@nhs.net) if you want a response!

NHS MOST:

No. of exams completed in October	410
No. of exams completed since 1st July 2011	2009

Top MOST centres:

- 1 United Lincolnshire Hospitals
- 2 NHS North of Tyne
- 3 Derbyshire HIS
- 4 Manchester PCT
- 5 North Lancashire Primary Care Trust
- 6 Cheshire ICT Service
- 7 Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust
- 8 NHS South of Tyne & Wear
- 9 East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust
- 10 South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust

MOST contract extended to June 2013

The Department of Health Informatics Directorate (DHID) has signed a contract to extend the provision of its successful NHS Microsoft Office Skills Training (MOST) programme.

The programme, delivered in conjunction with Prodigy Learning, has now been agreed for a further two years, meaning it will remain in place, providing free IT skills training for the NHS until at least 30 June 2013.

Commenting on the contract extension, David Levison, senior project manager for the NHS MOST programme said: "I'm sure that NHS training centres will view this as great news, and I want to thank all of the centres who have worked so hard to make MOST a success over the past year. This extension also provides certainty into the future for centres that are still in the process of setting up. We trust that this news helps cement the programme within organisations who can now continue to reap the benefits that free training brings."

There are now almost 200 NHS training centres engaged with the NHS MOST programme across



England. A recent survey of over 2,000 learners revealed that 99% would recommend the programme to their colleagues, and that 90% have increased their work productivity as a result of getting involved.

If you wish to know more about NHS MOST or are interested in becoming an NHS MOST centre, please visit: www.nhsmost.co.uk or

NHS ELITE:

No. of learners in October	628
No. of learners accessing since 1st July 2011	2661

Top ELITE centres:

- 1 Norfolk Community Health & Care NHS Trust
- 2 Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- 3 Croydon Health Services NHS Trust
- 4 The Health Informatics Service
- 5 NHS Grampian
- 6 Collaborative ITC Services
- 7 NHS Wiltshire
- 8 North Middlesex Hospital
- 9 Cheshire ICT Service
- 10 North Staffordshire IT

Your help needed to test new elearning

We are nearing completion of the Ready for MOST (RFM) elearning which is detailed in the article on page one and will be accessed through the IT Skills Tracking System. Before we can make the materials available to the NHS we need to ensure they are accurate which is where you come in!

In addition to our Design Group we would like our training centres to be involved in the testing, partly because the RFM modules are quite large and the Design Group is relatively small but also to ensure that the materials are thoroughly tested.

The testing schedule is still being agreed but Ready for MOST covers Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint in 2007 and 2010. If you are interested in helping us to provide you with the best quality materials then please get in touch by emailing us at it.skills@nhs.net

Case studies

Would you be willing to share your experiences and successes of the IT Skills Pathway with the rest of the NHS?

We are producing case studies about the pathway (and the elements within it), this could be from an individual learner who has benefited, or from your centre perspective. Perhaps you've overcome difficulties in getting the pathway used in your trust, for example in overcoming the ever present issue of getting protected learning hours?

If you have anything you would like to share contact us: it.skills@nhs.net

Contact us:

Email: it.skills@nhs.net

Web: www.cfh.nhs.uk/systemsandservices/icd/itskills