

# Dental Nurse v2.0

☆ Level 3    £ £8,000    🗓 18 months

## 1. What the role entails

A dental nurse will predominately work with a dentist, dental hygienist, dental therapist, clinical dental technician or orthodontic therapist within a surgery environment with patients attending throughout the day. In their daily work, dental nurses interact with patients of all ages, other members of the dental team, other health professionals and representatives of organisations providing support services to the setting. Depending on the setting, a dental nurse could also interact with schools, the prison service, community dental service, individuals in their own homes and those in care home settings.

Dental nurses are responsible for providing care for people of all ages, different backgrounds, cultures and beliefs within a variety of clinical environments. They must ensure that they only carry out a task, treatment or make decisions about a patient's care if they are appropriately trained, competent, indemnified and have the necessary skills. Dental nurses are registered professionals and work within the standards and scope of practice as defined by the General Dental Council (GDC) Scope of Practice document.

[Discover NCFE CACHE Level 3 Dental Nurse Qualification](#)



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## 2. On-programme

An apprentice will typically spend 18 months on-programme (this means in training before the gateway to completion) working towards occupational competence. They must spend a minimum of 8 months on-programme and complete the minimum off-the-job training, as stated in the apprenticeship funding rules.

The apprentice must receive training to develop the occupational standard's knowledge and skills (K&S) criteria and achieve English and maths in line with the DfE apprenticeship funding rules, if required.

While on-programme, apprentices must undertake a Level 3 qualification approved by the GDC.

## 3. Gateway to completion requirements

Gateway to completion should be used as the final opportunity to check an apprentice has met all the requirements for completion. An apprentice can only be put forward for gateway to completion when the apprentice and their employer, in consultation with the Independent Training Provider (ITP), are content they have attained the sufficient knowledge, skills and behaviours to successfully complete the apprenticeship and the apprentice has achieved their on-programme requirements.

For the Level 3 Dental Nurse, the requirements are:

- English and maths qualifications in line with the apprenticeship funding rules
- achievement of a Level 3 qualification approved by the GDC.

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## 4. Apprenticeship assessment

There are no apprenticeship assessments to undertake for this apprenticeship after the Level 3 qualification approved by the GDC has been achieved.

## 5. Grade aggregation information

Please see NCFE's [Level 3 Dental Nurse qualification specification](#) for grading details.

## 6. Completion and certification

Working with the apprenticeship certificate issuing authority, the ITP is responsible for apprenticeship certification.

## 7. What next?

On completion of this apprenticeship, typical job roles to progress into include, assistant practitioner, clinical dental technician, dental technician, oral health practitioner or orthodontic therapist.

There are also a range of complimentary healthcare apprenticeships that may provide suitable routes for further education and training at a higher level or in a more specialised capacity, including, Level 4 Oral Health Practitioner, Level 4 Orthodontic Therapist or Level 5 Dental Technician.

### Why NCFE?

We are an approved Assessment Organisation (AO) specialising in apprenticeship assessment across health, education, social care, business, active leisure and digital apprenticeship standards. NCFE offers flexible and reliable apprenticeship assessment solutions supported by sector expertise, guidance documents and proactive service and support.