

National
Examining
Board for
Dental Nurses®

Qualifications Prospectus

Leading the way forward in Dental Nursing Education

Welcome

Thank you for considering the National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN) for your next step into further education. We offer the National Diploma in Dental Nursing for those who are wanting to begin their career as a trainee, and seven Post-Registration qualifications for dental nurses already registered with the General Dental Council (GDC).

We are an Awarding Organisation, a registered charity and a leading provider of qualifications. NEBDN has been examining and awarding qualifications for over 75 years, and ensures that students' knowledge, understanding and practical skills are assessed by highly experienced course providers.

NEBDN is the only Awarding Organisation to specialise in dental nursing qualifications, ensuring our qualifications are always up to date and provide the best possible preparation for your career as a dental nurse. Our qualifications are provided across the UK and Ireland via a network of 140+ accredited course provider sites. Many courses are offered in more ways than one, for example, face to face, online, or blended learning; we endeavour to offer the qualification in the method you need, to ensure the chosen pathway is right for you, as we understand that education is all about choice and flexibility.

Costs of courses vary between course providers, so please contact them directly to find out more about the options available on www.nebdn.org/course-providers

School leavers and higher education students are welcome. See where your future takes you with one of our qualifications!

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Where can my qualification take me?

National Diploma



The National Diploma in Dental Nursing is a General Dental Council (GDC) recognised dental nursing qualification, which covers all outcomes described within the GDC Preparing to Practice document. The purpose of this qualification is to prepare trainee dental nurses in the foundations of dental nursing, allowing for the demonstration of knowledge, skills and professional attributes.

National Diploma entry requirements – you must:

- Be enrolled with one of NEBDN's accredited course providers
- Undertake an English literacy assessment as part of the course provider recruitment process
- Be sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English to communicate effectively with patients, their relatives, the dental team, and other healthcare professionals in the UK. (GDC Standards for the Dental Team, 2.1.2)
- Be able to meet the work-based clinical requirements of the Record of Experience (RoE), by being employed as a trainee dental nurse.

Examination

- Part 1 – An online written exam combining 60 Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQs) and 40 Extended Matching Questions (EMQs)
- Part 2 – Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

Examinations are typically held twice a year; April and November for the written, and January and June for the OSCEs.

Reasons to choose NEBDN - Aims and benefits of our National Diploma qualification

Aims - NEBDN aims to provide you with:

- A standardised and quality assured learning experience with one of our accredited course providers
- An independent and objective online written assessment of knowledge and a practical assessment of skills – the only one provided by an awarding organisation in the UK
- An online portfolio of evidence and practical experience in the form of a detailed Record of Experience
- The opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification in this complex and evolving field of dentistry

What are the benefits?

- Our qualifications are nationally recognised by employers
- Our course providers are accredited against our standards, ensuring that you get a fully supported learning experience and the best preparation for practice
- Our formal and practical assessments and online Record of Experience are based on modern educational practice, giving you evidence of your fitness to practice and best start as a dental nurse.
- Practical skills are assessed on real life activities within the workplace using objective tools to ensure a standardised approach.
- Our National Diploma qualification supports personal development and enhance skills for career progression.
- A widely recognised NEBDN National Diploma pin badge for your uniform – a longstanding tradition.

Trainee salary

***£15,355**

Once qualified, it can vary between ***£18,800 - £24,157** dependant on employer, banding, location and experience. *Figures based on UK salaries and dependent upon employer terms and conditions.

Level

Equivalent to Level 3

What the course involves

The course comprises of a formative workplace assessment – the Record of Experience (RoE), which enables the workplace team to become an integral part of the training of the dental nurse. The syllabus for this qualification can be found on our website www.nebdn.org and may be delivered in a variety of ways e.g. classroom based, distance learning, or online; but this will depend on the course provider you have chosen.

At the end of the course, providing you have satisfactorily completed your RoE, you will be eligible for entry to the written examination.

The summative assessment comprises an online written exam and a practical component aimed at assessing knowledge and decision making, to demonstrate trainee dental nurses understanding and competence. The summative assessment also adheres to current educational best practice.

Average teaching hours

144. (Not including time in practice or independent study)

Indemnity insurance

Trainee dental nurses or dental technicians don't need to have indemnity insurance as they are not yet registered with the GDC. However, the employer/supervising registrant must have indemnity as they are responsible for your work. Once you are qualified, you will need to pay for indemnity insurance unless your practice pays for it as part of your contract, or covered under your employers policy. Employers will be able to help you with this and further information is on page 10.

How long will it take?

Once you are on a course of training you can expect it to last between 12 and 24 months. As part of your training you will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence, the RoE, to show performance of a range of clinical tasks. You will need the support of your employer to be able to complete this effectively.

Further information

You will find information about our National Diploma qualification on our website, including the syllabus and contact details for all our accredited course providers.

www.nebdn.org/course-providers



Post-Registration

NEBDN offers seven Dental Nursing Post-Registration qualifications recognised by many employers. The purpose of these qualifications is to advance qualified dental nurses in their specialist education studies within dental nursing, allowing for the demonstration of knowledge, skills and professional attributes.

Post-Registration entry requirements – you must:

- Be registered with the General Dental Council (GDC) or the Irish Dental Council (IDC)
- Be enrolled with one of NEBDN's accredited course providers
- Be sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English to communicate effectively with patients, their relatives, the dental team, and other healthcare professionals in the UK. (GDC Standards for the Dental Team, 2.1.2)
- Be able to meet the work-based clinical requirements of the Record of Competence (RoC), by being employed as a dental nurse.

Examination

Our Post-Registration qualifications (excluding Fluoride Varnish Application), require an end of course examination which are held online. These exams are made up of Multiple-Choice Questions and Extended Matching Questions.

Examinations are typically held twice a year in March and September.

Reasons to choose NEBDN - Aims and benefits of our Post-Registration qualification

Aims - NEBDN aims to provide you with:

- A standardised and quality assured learning experience with one of our accredited course providers
- An independent and objective assessment of knowledge
- An online portfolio of evidence and practical experience in the form of a detailed Record of Competence
- The opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification in this complex and evolving field of dentistry

What are the benefits?

- All exams are online – no need to travel
- Our qualifications are nationally recognised by employers
- Our course providers are accredited against our standards, ensuring that you get a fully supported learning experience and the best preparation for practice
- Our formal assessment and online RoC are based on modern educational practice, giving you evidence of your fitness to practice
- Practical skills are assessed on real life activities within the workplace using objective tools to ensure a standardised approach
- Our Post-Registration qualifications support personal development and enhance skills for career progression
- Access to purchase a widely recognised NEBDN Post-Registration pin badge for your uniform – a longstanding tradition. (Only available with certain qualifications. You will see a badge symbol on the pages where one is available.)



Dental Nurse salary with additional qualifications

*£25,100 - £31,649 dependant on employer, banding, location and experience.

*Figures based on UK salaries and dependent upon employer terms and conditions.

Indemnity insurance

When you qualify as a dental nurse, you are responsible for ensuring that you have access to indemnity in your own right, or that appropriate arrangements are in place through your employer. As a dental nurse it is important that you have indemnity insurance in place to protect both yourself and your patients throughout your working career.

It is a requirement that you provide proof of indemnity insurance when applying for GDC registration. The GDC recognises the following:

- Dental defence organisation membership - your own, or indemnity provided through your employers membership
- Professional indemnity insurance held by you or your employer
- Indemnity provided by NHS bodies

(The cost of indemnity insurance varies; therefore, you must speak to your practice directly to discuss costings).

How long will it take?

Once you are on a course of training you can expect it to last between six and 12 months, dependant on the availability of your clinical cases. As part of your training you will be required to complete an online portfolio (RoC) providing evidence of performing clinical tasks relevant to your Post-Registration course. You will need the support of your employer/dental care professional who is appropriately trained in your Post-Registration qualification to be able to complete this effectively. Training from your course provider may be delivered in a variety of ways e.g. classroom based, distance/blended learning or online, but this

will depend on the course provider you have chosen.

At the end of the course, providing you have satisfactorily completed your RoC, you will be eligible for entry to the written multiple-choice examination.

Further information

You will find information about our Post-Registration qualifications on our website at www.nebdn.org, including the syllabus and contact details for all our accredited course providers.



Dental Implant Nursing



Implant Dentistry is a highly advanced, specialised dental skill which is now a widely available treatment across the UK and overseas. It combines surgical skills with restorative expertise to help rebuild the dentition. Some examples of the rebuilding of dentition could be due to trauma, caries or malignancy.

Level

Equivalent to Level 4

What the course involves

This course involves practical and theoretical elements, from the reasons why to how an implant is placed. You will assist in several implant case studies to allow for the completion of your qualification.

You are required to complete a work-based Record of Competence (RoC) and an online written examination. These logs of experience will help you to capture vital information about the clinical dental implant cases you are involved in. Your workplace 'Witness' will grade your general performance against a number of competencies, and you will reflect on your own performance and skills. (A Witness is a GDC registrant who observes your work).

What will this course allow me to do?

This course will allow you to be a vital part of the Clinical Implant team supporting the dentist, whilst contributing to the meticulous planning and exacting standards to ensure an optimum result for each

patient. You will gain an in-depth knowledge of pre and post-operative instructions, allowing you to give these confidently to the patient and their chaperone. Clinically you will be responsible for high standard cross-infection control whilst assisting with the Implant procedure and placement.

Examination

This is a 90-minute online written examination composed of two sections:

- Part A – 45 multiple-choice questions (MCQ)
- Part B – 30 extended matching questions (EMQ)



Dental Radiography



A qualified dental nurse who is awarded the NEBDN certificate in Dental Radiography, will be able to act under prescription as an IR(ME)R operator, in order to safely take intra-oral and extra-oral radiographs of patients. The additional skills acquired, together with the knowledge gained, will enhance your CV and bring benefits to your employer and to patients.

Level

Equivalent to Level 4

What the course involves

This course involves the practical and theoretical aspects of radiography within dentistry. You will gain knowledge of the importance of safe radiation along with the various types of radiographic images required within dentistry and the purposes of these.

You are required to complete a work-based Record of Competence (RoC) and an online written examination. These logs of experience will enable you to capture vital information about the Dental Radiography cases you are involved in upon prescription from your Clinical Referrer. Your workplace 'Witness' will grade your general performance against a number of competencies, and you will reflect on your own performance and skills. (A Witness is a GDC registrant who observes your work).

What will this course allow me to do?

This course allows a dental nurse to work alone whilst still under the direction of the clinician and working within current UK legislation regarding ionising radiation. This will help you to interact with patients very differently to conventional chairside assisting. It can also inspire a sense of responsibility, job satisfaction and a greater depth and insight into patient safety and welfare.

Examination

This is a 90-minute online written examination composed of two sections:

- Part A – 45 multiple-choice questions (MCQ)
- Part B – 30 extended matching questions (EMQ)



Dental Sedation Nursing



Conscious Sedation is a vital part of modern dentistry enabling a huge number of patients with anxieties, phobias and other contributing medical factors, to access care they otherwise could not tolerate. In the UK this involves the administration of sedative drugs which patients may take orally, inhale, or have injected. As well as removing anxiety these drugs can have many significant side effects which the dental team must be able to recognise and manage in a calm and effective way.

Level

Equivalent to Level 4

What the course involves

All our dental sedation courses will require you to achieve a balanced mixture of knowledge and practical skills, as well as demonstrating an appropriate professional attitude. To ensure our dental sedation qualifications reflect the areas of practice the dental nurse works in, we offer the following three options:

- Certificate in Dental Sedation Nursing - for nurses who are able to demonstrate significant experience in all types of dental sedation. (Pin badge available).
- Award in Inhalation Sedation Dental Nursing - appropriate to nurses working within a practice offering inhalation sedation.

- Award in Intravenous Sedation Dental Nursing - appropriate to nurses working within a practice offering intravenous sedation.

What will this course allow me to do?

This course will allow you to assist in dental sedation treatment. You will be clinically involved in the preparation of the environment, monitoring the patient throughout and trained to assist with complication or emergencies should they arise. Your new skills and knowledge will enable you to prepare a safe and calm environment for your patients, offering clinical support throughout their procedure and delivering pre and post operative instructions to the patient and their chaperone.

Examination

This is a 90-minute online written examination composed of two sections:

- Part A – 45 multiple-choice questions (MCQ)
- Part B – 30 extended matching questions (EMQ)



Oral Health Education



NEBDN's Certificate in Oral Health Education is specifically designed to equip a dental nurse wishing to develop professionally to become an Oral Health Educator, with the knowledge and skills required to be able to effectively deliver oral health care messages, educate various patient groups and have the ability to adapt information and communication to the specific needs of the patient.

Level

Equivalent to Level 4

What the course involves

Undertaking this qualification will help to develop your communication skills, which is essential for delivering oral health education and being an effective educator. You will gain in-depth knowledge of the importance of oral health, along with methods and approaches you can take to communicate this to patients.

You are required to complete a work-based Record of Competence (RoC) and an online written examination. These logs of experience will help you to capture vital information about the oral health education you are involved in upon prescription from your Clinical Referrer. Your workplace 'Witness' will grade your general performance against a number of competencies, and you will reflect on your own performance and skills. (A Witness is a GDC registrant who observes your work).

What will this course allow me to do?

Offering this qualification provides an opportunity for dental nurses to support patients with their oral health. Some patients who have had a number of restorations may feel they want support, some may require it due to medical reasons and some orthodontic cases may require the support of an Oral Health Educator. As an Oral Health Educator, with the Oral Health Education qualification, you will be able to offer advice and deliver oral health messages in practice, community or hospital environments.

Examination

This is a 90-minute online written examination composed of two sections:

- Part A – 45 multiple-choice questions (MCQ)
- Part B – 30 extended matching questions (EMQ)



Orthodontic Dental Nursing



NEBDN's Certificate in Orthodontic Dental Nursing is one of our Post-Registration qualifications aimed at registered dental nurses in specialist practice, where skills and knowledge above general dental nursing training would be advantageous in the workplace.

Level

Equivalent to Level 5

What the course involves

The theoretical learning covers the biological background to orthodontics and encompasses the various appliances used today and how to maintain them. This course also emphasises the medico-legal aspects of treatment and the importance of good communication between a patient and the dental team.

You are required to complete an online work-based Record of Competence (RoC) and an online written examination. These logs of experience will help you to capture vital information about the theoretical and practical elements of Orthodontic treatment. You will demonstrate a vital role in the orthodontic treatment by preparing instruments and equipment required to support your Orthodontic Clinician, whilst supporting the patient with pre and post care of the appliances. Your workplace 'Witness' will grade your general

performance against a number of competencies, and you will reflect on your own performance and skills. (A Witness is a GDC registrant who observes your work).

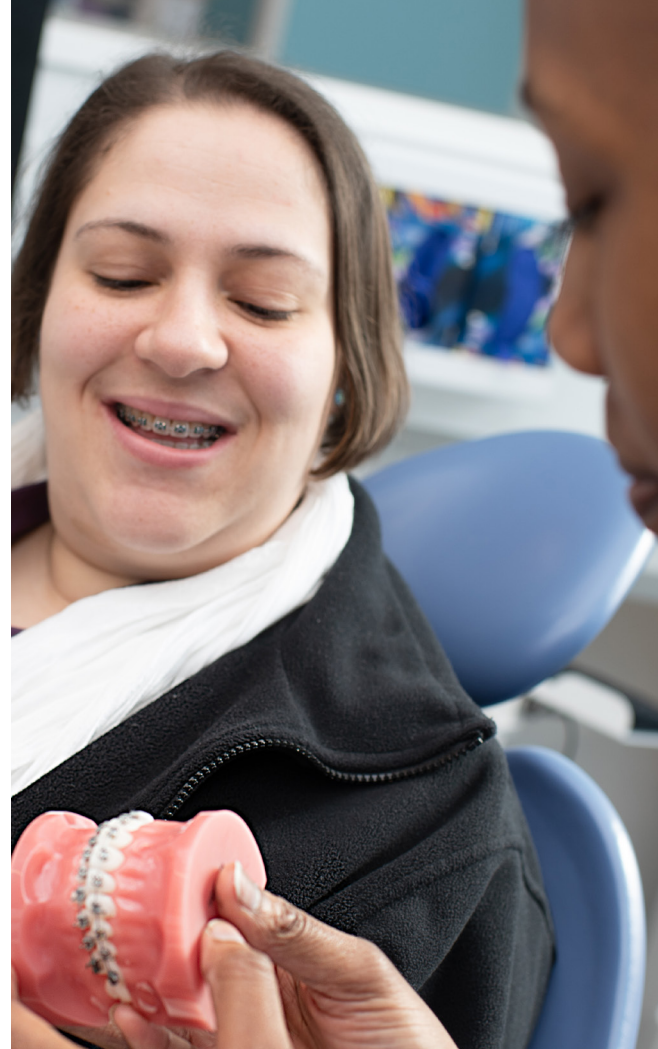
What will this course allow me to do?

This course will allow you to assist through the many stages of orthodontic care for your patients, whilst being competent in the knowledge of all orthodontic equipment. You will have an understanding of pre treatment planning allowing you to play an active and confident role in supporting the patient throughout their orthodontic journey, along with competently applying your knowledge of orthodontic appliances, classifications and orthodontics anatomical structure.

Examination

This is a 90-minute online written examination composed of two sections:

- Part A – 45 multiple-choice questions (MCQ)
- Part B – 30 extended matching questions (EMQ)



Special Care Dental Nursing



NEBDN's Certificate in Special Care Dental Nursing is a qualification suitable for dental nurses who assist in the care of people whose health and social needs may require special oral health provision.

Level

Equivalent to Level 5

What the course involves

Special Care Dentistry is about providing and enabling the delivery of oral care for people with additional needs. The syllabus is structured to ensure that you receive a broad range of knowledge and understanding relevant to Special Care Dentistry. This includes social and ethical issues, together with a working knowledge of the relevant current legislation and guidance.

You are required to complete an online work-based Record of Competence (RoC) and an online written examination. These logs of experience will help you to capture vital information demonstrating knowledge of providing and enabling the delivery of oral care to those with additional needs, demonstrating the theoretical and practical elements of Special Care Dental Nursing. Your workplace 'Witness' will grade your general performance against a number of competencies, and you will reflect on

your own performance and skills. (A Witness is a GDC registrant who observes your work).

What will this course allow me to do?

This course will allow you to gain the knowledge and experience to work in a specifically dedicated and empathetic team. You will gain understanding of specific patient factors, recognising the care that a patient's individual situation requires and the approaches you are able to take to ensure they receive a high standard of treatment.

Examination

This is a 90-minute online written examination composed of two sections:

- Part A – 45 multiple-choice questions (MCQ)
- Part B – 30 extended matching questions (EMQ)



Fluoride Varnish Application

Previously launched in November 2020, Fluoride Varnish Application is the latest NEBDN Post-Registration qualification. This qualification provides dental nurses with an educational experience in knowledge, critical understanding, intellectual skills, practical skills and personal attitude.

Level

Equivalent to Level 4

What the course involves

This course is split in to two elements which work in conjunction with each other. The theoretical element of the course looks at a variety of subjects including patient management, community-based fluoride application programmes and more generic subject such as legal and ethical issues and oral hard and soft tissue conditions. The RoC concentrates on the practical element with regards to the placement of fluoride varnish being applied to the teeth across a range of patients. The associated Supplementary Outcomes allows the individual student to further research and develop their knowledge with regards to fluoride application, its history and roles within society.

You are required to complete an online work-based Record of Competence (RoC) as part of your learning.

These logs of experience will help you to capture vital information about the theoretical and practical elements of Fluoride Varnish Application, demonstrating your knowledge of the importance of application, after care advice and patient treatment, which can be used alongside Oral Health Education. Your workplace 'Witness' will grade your general performance against a number of competencies, and you will reflect on your own performance and skills. (A Witness is a GDC registrant who observes your work).

What will this course allow me to do?

This course will allow you to provide effective fluoride varnish application within a community-based programme and/or on prescription from a dentist, or as part of a structured dental health programme.

Examination

This qualification does not require a formal examination and is assessed entirely through your RoC.



Where can my qualification take me?

National Diploma Dental Nurse Journey

- Record of Experience (RoE)
- Written exam
- Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

Post-Registration Dental Nurse Journey

- Record of Competence (RoC)
- Written exam (Excluding Fluoride Varnish Application)





Dental
Therapist

Fluoride
Varnish
Applicator

Oral Health
Co-ordinator

Domiciliary
Special Care
Dental Nurse

Dental
Hygienist

Senior
Special
Care Nurse

Sedation
Treatment
Co-ordinator

Senior
Orthodontic
Nurse

Course
Provider

Dental
technician

IR(Me)R
Officer

Sedation
Specialist

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