

DENTAL NURSE APPRENTICESHIP STANDARD

Standard Code ST0113
Course Level 3
Day Release
Location: Lincoln
Funding Level £6000
Duration 27mths including EPA

Course Description

The Dental Nurse role complements the role of other dental professionals. One of the primary roles is to provide chair side support to dental professionals and deliver a high level of patient care.

Dental Nurses may work in a variety of clinical environments and the Apprenticeship reflects all aspects of clinical responsibilities and duties of a dental nurse's role and will provide the apprentice with the relevant qualification to apply to the General Dental Council (GDC) for professional registration as a dental nurse.

Off the Job Training

A key requirement of an Apprenticeship is Off-the-job training. This must make up an average of 6 hours per week of the apprentice's working hours, over the total duration of the apprentice's planned training period. Off-the-job training must be directly relevant to the apprenticeship standard and must take place within the apprentice's normal working hours. The new learning must be documented and reflected on through the Learner Journal on their e-portfolio.

Entry Requirements

The Apprentice will need to be in a relevant role and show a willingness to undertake the knowledge, skills and behaviours required. They will also need to have Level 2 Maths and English (GCSE at Grade 4/C or above or equivalent) or be prepared to attend a block study period for Maths and English if this is required.

Apprentices may be required to attend an interview and undertake relevant skills assessments.

Once they have been accepted on to the programme all apprentices will be required to attend a Lincoln College Induction. Apprentices will require access to a tablet/computer to access their e-portfolio.

Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours

KNOWLEDGE

The dental nurse will have knowledge of:

- Dental and regional anatomy.
- Respiratory and circulatory systems.
- Health promotion and disease prevention.
- Transmission of infectious diseases and their prevention.
- Materials, equipment and resources.
- Medical emergencies.
- Legislative compliance and regulatory requirements.
- The Dental team and GDC guidelines.
- Communication.
- Self-Management.

SKILLS

- Health Promotion.
- Clinical Skills.
- Patient Care.
- Patient Management.
- Professionalism.
- Management Skills.
- Communication Skills.

BEHAVIOURS

- Ethical.
- Professional.
- Commitment.
- Responsible.
- Reflection and Self Awareness.

Assessment

Assessment is done through a combination of practical tasks, written assignments, oral discussions and online tests throughout the programme.

- One to one support from a dedicated, professional assessor/instructor allocated to the learner for the duration of the programme.
- Work based assignments and projects to be completed in an e-portfolio.
- Case studies and in College course days as and when required for each learner.
- Job shadowing and mentoring, cross training in other departments.
- Independent learning and research as directed by the assessor, relevant to the area of study.
- Review of progress every 10-12 weeks with the Apprentice, Manager and Assessor, evaluating and contributing to what has been learnt and what the next steps to take are.

End Point Assessment

There will be an End Point Assessment (EPA) as the final stage of an Apprenticeship. The Apprentice must demonstrate their learning to an independent end point assessor and the overall grade available is distinction, pass or fail.

Assessment events are:

- Practical observation: 60min observation of the apprentice in the workplace.
- Professional discussion: 40min scenario based professional discussion.

Progression

This Apprenticeship provides an ideal grounding into the occupation and supports progression within the sector to Level 4 Dental Practice Manager.

Fees

As an Apprentice, you will pay no course fees. However, your employer may have to pay towards your training as well as providing you with a wage. All Apprentices are entitled to the national minimum apprentice wage within their first year of training from their employer, although they can, and often do, pay more. In the second and subsequent years of an Apprenticeship programme, if you are aged 19 or over, the national minimum wage for your age would apply [<https://www.gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates>]

If you are an employer and want to find out more information regarding employer contributions and any further costs related to the Apprenticeship programme, please contact our dedicated Apprenticeship team at employers@lincolncollege.ac.uk

Business Benefits

Employers have designed the Apprenticeship Standards to meet the needs of the sector and industry. Ensuring they include:

- Relevant Knowledge, skills and behaviours ensure that the Standard is relevant to the occupation.
- Widening participation Apprenticeship standards provide opportunities to employees that may not previously have been available.
- Development tools A cost effective way to train your employees to undertake specific roles in your business.
- Return on Investment On average, an apprentice who has completed their course will increase business productivity by £214 per week (CEBR, 2015).