

Integral part of the dental team delivering treatment to Service personnel in the UK or overseas supporting our troops in operational theatres.

KEY POINTS

- Dental Nurses in the RAF are professionally qualified and registered with the General Dental Council (GDC)
- You can apply for this trade as a qualified or unqualified Dental Nurse.
- Fantastic opportunities for funded Continuous Professional Development.

TRADE OVERVIEW

As a Dental Nurse you have an essential role in our team providing key support to the dental practice in multiple areas; the selection, preparation and maintenance of instruments and equipment, selection and preparation of filling and impression materials, casting models on which dentures or appliances are constructed, preparing the surgery for the delivery of treatment, managing paper and computerised dental records, order and maintain stocks of materials. You will also be called upon to assist in a range of non clinical duties. Once experienced, our highly trained Dental Nurses often work unsupervised and often mentor their less experienced colleagues, passing on their skills and knowledge. Progression is to Practice or Regional Managers responsible for coordinating the team within a dental practice or a group of dental practices. There's a small number of opportunities to work on bases overseas or to go on operations or exercises to provide care and treatment for our troops in the field. This could mean working in tented accommodation for anything from a few days to a few months – but you will be provided with the facilities, equipment and training you need.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS:

The skills and qualifications you can gain are as valuable in the civilian world as they are in the RAF – which means that whenever you decide to leave the RAF, you will be well placed to find a job as a civilian Dental Nurse or Practice Manager.

RECRUIT TRAINING

Your career will start with a 10-week Basic Recruit Training Course at RAF Halton in Buckinghamshire. The course is designed to help you adjust to a military environment. As well as fitness and military training, you will also learn about the RAF lifestyle.

SPECIALIST TRAINING

If you are joining without a dental nurse qualification you will study for the National Diploma in Dental Nursing awarded by the National Exam Board for Dental Nurses. Within the RAF, this consists of a residential element at Defence Medical Services (DMS) Whittington and a placement in a RAF unit. During this time you will remain under training and on a pathway leading to qualification and registration with the GDC. Qualified and registered dental nurses joining will attend a 5-day familiarisation at a suitable unit prior to their first assignment.

REWARDS FROM RAF LIFE

- Competitive pay and pension
- Training and lifelong learning
- Six weeks paid leave and public holidays
- Free medical and dental care
- Subsidised food and accommodation
- Free gym and sports facilities
- Adventurous training opportunities

REGULAR ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Dental Nurse

Age: 17–47*

*Must attest before 48th birthday.

Qualifications:

GCSE at Grade C (Grade 4 to 5 with effect from Aug 17) in English language or SCE Standard Grades at Grade 2/Scottish National 5 (Grade A – C) in English.

Qualified Dental Nurses need to have current General Dental Council (GDC) registration. You will also need to have Enhanced DBS clearance.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Some Dental Nurses support specialist clinicians with an opportunity to gather additional clinical skills and qualifications which are all transferable once you return to civilian life.

ONGOING TRAINING/DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As a registered Dental Nurse, you will need to maintain your registration with the GDC by carrying out mandated CPD. The RAF is therefore keen to support your attendance at training days and conferences.

YOUR FIRST TOUR

For your first tour, you will be posted to work within an experienced dental team. You'll have a lot of contact with patients and develop a close working relationship with the other dental nurses, dentists and hygienists.

YOUR FUTURE CAREER PROSPECTS AND PROGRESSION:

You'll initially join the RAF for a period of 12 years. After a year, you'll be eligible for promotion to Senior Aircraftman/woman. On completion of specialist training and following registration with the GDC you will be awarded the Technical discriminator badge and advanced in pay accordingly. Promotion to Corporal and beyond is by competitive selection. When you reach the rank of corporal you could work either in a dental practice as the practice supervisor or as a Regional Dental Headquarters or as a dental nurse instructor.

Pay: Visit

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/medical-and-medical-support/dental-nurse>

Selection: You will be assessed on physical fitness and medical eligibility. Additionally, you will also be required to complete the Airmen's Selection Test at your local AFCO to a standard appropriate to your choice of trade. You will also be required to attend a specialist interview with the dental Trade Specialist Officer.

Candidates must fully research the training pathway leading to the NEBDN Diploma in dental nursing, the General Dental Council (GDC) Standards and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) before attending the specialist interview National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN) National Diploma, GDC and CPD before attending specialist interview.

Residency: Whether or not you were born in the United Kingdom, you should have resided there for the 5 years immediately preceding your application but candidates with a minimum of 3 years will be considered.

Nationality: You must be a citizen of the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland, holder of dual UK/other nationality or have been a Commonwealth citizen since birth.

A Modern Force: The RAF recognises the value of a person's ability no matter their ethnicity, social background, religion or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status/civil partnership.



National Examining Board
for Dental Nurses

<http://nebdn.org>

Register your interest in this role:

Online:

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment/roles/roles-finder/medical-and-medical-support/dental-nurse>

or

Telephone: 0345 605 5555

To access the Trade Ambassador Network (TAN) Scheme and connect with a specialist in your area, please contact:

Air-Health SO2 Med Pers

This information was last updated in 03 Aug 21, but may have changed since. If you have any queries, please check with RAF Staff at any Armed Forces Careers Office.

Search online for other trades both Regular and Reserve

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/recruitment>



**NO
ORDINARY
JOB**