

Clinical Dental Technicians Cohort Four 2017- 2018

Frequently Asked Questions

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Diploma Clinical Dental Technology

1. Course details

Q: What is the classification of this course?

A: This is a Full-time Professional Diploma in Clinical Dental Technology. As a Professional Diploma Qualification, it is at an educational level of NVQ4 / Foundation Degree Level. Attendance at all study blocks is mandatory

Q. Which Educational body awards my Diploma?

A. The course has been developed by HEKSS (formally KSS Deanery), in conjunction with the FGDP (UK). Successful completion of the course will lead to the award of the “Diploma in Clinical Dental Technology of the Royal College of Surgeons of England”.

Q. What are the dates of the study blocks?

A. There will be practice visits and a revision weekend each year plus:

Dates for Cohort 4 are below:

Year One:

Weekend 0 – January 2017 (4 days)
Proposed: Thursday 12 th January – Sunday 15 th January 2017 (Holiday Inn)
Weekend 1 – March 2017 (3 days)
Proposed: Friday 10 th March – Sunday 12 th March 2017 (Northwick Park)
Weekend 2 – May 2017 (3 days)
Proposed: Thursday 18 th May – Saturday 21 th May 2017 (Bristol)
Weekend 3 – July 2017 (3 days)
Proposed: Friday 14 th July – Sunday 16 th July 2017 (Bristol)
Weekend 4 – September 2017 (3 days)
Proposed: Friday 8 th – Sunday 10 th September 2017
Weekend 5 – October 2017 (3 days)
Proposed: Thursday 12 th October – Saturday 14 th October 2017
Weekend 6 – END OF YEAR ONE November 2017 (4 days)
Proposed: Thursday 23 rd November - Sunday 26 th November 2017

Year Two:

Weekend 7 – January 2018 (3 days)
Proposed: Thursday 18 th January – Saturday 20 th January 2018
Weekend 8 - March 2018 (4 days)
Proposed: Thursday 08 th March – Sunday 11 th March 2018
Weekend 9 – May 2018 (3 days)
Proposed: Thursday 17 th May – Saturday 19 th May 2018
Weekend 10 – July 2018 (4 days)
Proposed: Thursday 12 th July – Sunday 15 th July 2018

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Weekend 11 – September 2018 (3 days)
Proposed: Friday 7 th September – Sunday 9 th September 2018
Weekend 12 – October 2018 (3 days)
Proposed: Thursday 11 th October – Saturday 13 th October 2018
Weekend 13 - END OF YEAR TWO
Proposed: <i>To be advised.</i>

Q. Where will the study blocks be held?

A. The geography of students has been identified as evenly spread across the country; it is not therefore, possible to run the workshops in more than one location. The course will therefore run majority of the study blocks with the Heathrow area (*close to the airport*). In addition, some study blocks will be held at Northwick Park and Bristol Dental School.

Holiday Inn, Heathrow – M4 Junction 4

Holiday Inn London Heathrow
M4 Junction 4
Sipson Road
West Drayton
Middlesex
UB7 0HP

Northwick Park Dental Education Centre

Level 3U, Northwick Park Hospital
Watford Road
Harrow
HA1 3UJ

Bristol Dental School

Lower Maudlin Street
Bristol
BS1 2LY

Q. How much does the course cost?

A. Cohort 4 will be costed at £15k paid in instalments across the two years (*less £500 credit for Additional Scope of Practice Courses already attended*).

Students will also have to pay a one-off examination fee to the FGDP (UK) which is currently around £600* (*FGDP will confirm the cost nearer to examination date*).

Instalment breakdown:

Application fee:

£100 non-refundable administration fee with application form (£500) credit applied from modules undertaken – with application form
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Year One:

Payment 1 – 12th January 2017 - £1000 - ESP
Payment 2 – 09th March 2017 - £1400
Payment 3 – 18th May 2017 - £1000
Payment 4 – 14th July 2017 - £1000
Payment 5 – 08th September 2017 - £1000
Payment 6 – 12th October 2017 - £1500

Year Two:

Payment 7 – 18th January 2018- £1500
Payment 8 – 08th March 2018 - £1500
Payment 9 – 17th May 2018 - £1500
Payment 10 – 12th July 2018 - £1500
Payment 11 – 17th September - £1500

Q. If I complete the introductory modules - can these be counted towards going onto the diploma if I defer for a year?

A. You could defer but not for a year, as the course runs for 2 years, one after the other i.e. 2-year cycle.

Q. Will any of my prior learning (for instance my degree covered dental materials) count towards the CDT diploma?

A. No, but would be of great help in passing assessments, much learning is done through the e-learning route

Q. Can you clarify the pathway from the induction modules to completion of the full diploma, and/or provide a copy of the full CDT diploma syllabus, if this explains how this works.

A. The, induction modules began in April 2014 and all modules must be attended and passed in order to apply for the Diploma. The induction modules were run again; starting in January 2015 and completed in December 2015 and a final set of modules will be run from June 2016/ August 2016 and completed in September 2016. The full CDT course will plan to start in January 2017 with the induction (*subject to GDC approval*). The Dip CDT programme is a 2yr “block release” blended learning course following a very detailed curriculum including all the elements which are laid out in the GDC's 'required' learning outcomes for CDTs. During the course aspects of Oral Pathology are explored in very great detail, the health of patients being at the heart of this course, especially bearing in mind the GDCs overarching responsibilities for patient safety.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I transfer the accredited modules between your course, and other CDT diploma courses (ie. UCLAN) if needed?

A. No, the format of the two courses is different and the organisers of that course would need to be consulted.

Q. Who is the course delivered by?

A. HEEKSS (specialist teaching team recruited for the task made up of Consultants in Restorative Dentistry, Maxillo Facial Consultants, Oral Pathology Consultants, GDP prosthetics dentist, DCPs with relevant skills and clinical teaching skills)). All of the teaching faculty have been involved in the delivery of the programme since its inception in 2009.

Q. Do you hold payment until a place is confirmed, and, if the course is full do you return payment immediately?

A. We would not cash a cheque for the full course, if a place was not available.

2. Qualifications / Previous experience

Q. I am a registered Dental Technician, but I did not receive a qualification

A. You would have registered with the GDC before 30 July 2008 (based on experience or membership of the voluntary register). This is still recognised for this course, as it has resulted in registration with the GDC as a Dental Technician.

Q. I have many years' experience overseas, and have only been working in the UK as a registered DT for one year – is this previous experience recognised for this course?

A. Yes, but you will need to confirm what your overseas experience consisted of.

Q. I would like to know if all applicants MUST be registered with the GDC?

Yes, it is a course requirement that CDT students are Dental Technicians and registered with the GDC

3. Workplace environment

Q. I work in a small lab, and am not sure it meets H&S requirements. How long do I have to get it up to standard? What assistance will I receive in doing so?

A. We are expecting you to meet certain criteria. These match those expected of any healthcare establishment that **treats patients in a clinical environment**. Every workplace environment receives a pre-course visit just for this purpose. You will receive a practice audit/checklist which we will use to assess your workplace. We can only decide what is required from the questionnaire and when we visit the workplace environment. I regret we can offer no assistance for this apart from advice. During the visit any queries or omissions can be addressed on site. You will be expected to bring your workplace up to the required minimum standards by the commencement of the course. Initially you **MUST** work in a dentist or CDT practice

Q. Can I apply if I work in Domiciliary?

A. No. Whilst the course will teach the necessary academic background to domiciliary care, students will not be able to treat patients outside of a dental practice.

Q. My laboratory is set up only for clinical work, and not fitted out for medical emergencies, as I do not treat patients here. Do I still need to meet these standards?

A. Yes. There must be a 'surgery' base you can use, even if it is not your own, which complies with CQC and Health & Safety Standards.

Q. What if the practice is in Scotland?

A. We have worked closely with NHS Education Scotland in the past. Practice Visits and assessment will be working to the specific standards required in Scotland.

4. Clinical Mentor Supervisor (CMS)

Further information for Mentors

Training Day

The two-day training programme for the role of CMS is mandatory and designed to build on and enhance the skills and aptitudes that the successful applicants already possess. The selection process will have highlighted specific competencies and practical clinical skills that will support and nurture students, and these will be reviewed and critiqued during the training. In addition, the breadth of experiences of the cohort of CMSs will be highlighted and shared, as a form of interactive peer review during the two days.

The format for the training days is currently being finalised, however, the following topics will form the core of the training:

- Overview and timeline of the course
- The student as a learner
- The role of the CMS
- Assessment workshop
- CMS support during the course
- Electronic Support Platform (ESP)
- Prosthetic treatment of the dentate and edentulous patient
- Examination protocols and clinical governance of the patient
- Records Keeping workshop
- Consent, professionalism and ethics
- Communication skills
- Mentoring as a tool for successful learning
- Mini and major case workshop

Benefits

Mentors will receive a *£500 payment (*This will be facilitated within two instalments of £250.00 (March 2017 and January 2018).* HEE(KSS) are committed to pay for the *travel expenses only (this does not include accommodation or subsistence)* for the CMS to attend this training course, under HEKSS payment terms:

33 pence per mile by car

Second class rail fare – receipts required

Tourist class flights (Where other options are not available) – receipts required

INSTAL

It is at the discretion of the CMS to travel 1st class; however, HEE(KSS) **will only** pay the proportion of this according to the terms attached.

The CMS will gain 14 hours CPD to attend the Mentor training course.

** There has been a variance to this following Cohort 3 – this is following the change in requirements for the Cohort 4 mentors.*

Requirements

We will send out a letter with further instructions regarding the requirements; however, the role of the CMS is to provide advice when required, and also to verify that it is the student who has completed any designated pieces of work. The role of a mentor is not to tell a student how to do something, but rather to give advice that leads the student to decide what they should do, for themselves.

The CMS will be asked to assess the student, and will be expected to comment, from a workplace point of view, on the professionalism and team-working skills of the student. They will also be asked to inform the course director through administration if they consider that the student is dealing with any patient in a way that may potentially be unsafe, so that the matter can be investigated by the training team as patient safety must come first. **Full details of the requirements for a CMS can be found in the appropriate handbook which will be provided at the training sessions.**

5. Legal Implications of being associated with the course

Once a student CDT has commenced their training; they will be working legally as a clinician and any help and assistance from you will be legal, also. A letter to that effect will be sent to each CMS.

Q. I am having trouble sourcing a suitable CMS Do you have dentists attached to the HEE(KSS) that might be able to act as Mentor?

A. Although students may have access to a CMS, there may be CMS's available to those students who are experiencing difficulty in finding a suitable CMS. Please raise this with CDT administration at the application stage.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. I currently have a mentor however I plan to move in the near future. Should I keep the same Mentor/ CWS or find one in, or nearer to, my new practice?

A. It will depend on the geographical location of the mentor's practice and your ability to offer treatment to patients in that location.

Q. What happens if my Mentor is no longer able to commit to the Course? (i.e.: currently under investigation / other factors?)

A. You will need to discuss this with us at the time this comes to light. You must have a Mentor who is a registered CDT or Dentist.

Q. The Mentor I have approached is a FDP. Is this acceptable?

A. No.

Q. How do I communicate with my Mentor? Do we need to meet in person or can we communicate via phone and email? Does my mentor need to view my work?

A. The role of the mentor will be to supervise all treatments that you carry out with patients and so you will have regular face to face contact. In addition, you may choose to be in communication between treatment sessions by means that you both agree on.

Q. If the Mentor is not on-site to view my work, how can they comment from a workplace point of view on the safety of my patients and my professionalism & team-working abilities?

A. All treatment, especially in the first year of the course, will be supervised by the clinical mentor supervisor. It is therefore important that you are able to see patients within their practice.

Q. I work in practice but sometimes visit other surgeries, does my indemnity cover that?

A. Yes. However, it will be necessary for the mentor to be approved on the scheme.

Q: Should I have a single indemnifier rather than using one as well as an insurance group?

A. Student CDT's can have two roles. These are a student on the CDT Diploma but also working independently as a dental technician within their extended scope of practice, e.g. taking impressions. This could potentially cause a conflict of interest between your DT indemnity provider and the Dental Protection indemnity arranged through the CDT course. Students should be aware of this potential situation; it is quite possible that there would be a legal argument between the indemnity providers on who would be liable for cover. There is also the fact that many 'insurance based' products indemnify you against civil action but might not cover a GDC hearing.

One way to avoid any conflict would be to use the DPL for both roles (SCDT and DT). If you decide on this action it is the student's responsibility to contact DPL to arrange this additional cover.

6. Recognition of Course

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can you please tell me if this course is recognised in any other country apart from the UK, for example Australia?

A. It will lead to a registerable qualification in the UK and as with all registerable qualifications would need the regulatory body in the other country (eg: (Australian Dental Council www.dentalcouncil.net.au) to liaise with GDC.

7. Financial Support

Q. Does this course attract student financial support / sort of grant and/or loan?

A. See the Government website: www.direct.gov.uk for your eligibility regarding career development loans, student loans, RUS development loans. HEKSS are not able to provide a Bursary for this course. There is no harm in trying to access local funding opportunities that you may become aware of

You could also contact the Learning Skills Council to find out about any Enhancement Funding in your local area www.lsc.gov.uk . For information on this scheme in the Yorkshire and Humber region please see <http://enhancementfund.co.uk/>

Q. HMRC tell me that this course would not qualify for tax relief although I've yet to have this confirmed by my local tax office. Do you have any information on this subject?

A. As a full-time course, it would be tax deductible against a business but not against personal tax.

Q. Can I make the payment by credit or debit card?

A. Not at this time, the department will keep you informed if there are any changes in the future.

8. Once on the course / Indemnity

Q. Once someone starts the course, are they able to do home visits? And if so, will they need to take a dentist with them?

A. No. The course is intended to be practice based and so domiciliary visits will not be a part of the course.

9. Failing assessment

Q. If this is a one-off course, what support will I receive if I miss a Workshop or fail a component of the course?

A. It is mandatory to attend all the Study blocks, but we do understand that occasionally attendance will simply not be possible (death in family/ impending birth/ illness etc.). Workshops are only run once so if you unavoidably miss a workshop then you will need to rely on your learning set group to support you to catch up and you will also need to read the literature and hand-outs from the workshop.

We have a Student in Difficulty Policy for students that are struggling or have failed any components of the course. All assessments have a resit process.