

Qualification factsheet

Qualification overview

Qualification title	NCFE CACHE Level 3 Diploma in the Principles and Practice of Dental Nursing (Integrated Apprenticeship)		
Qualification number (QN)	610/1340/7		
Total qualification time (TQT):	599	Guided learning hours (GLH)	371
Entry requirements:	<p>Entry is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners should be aged 16 or above to undertake this qualification.</p> <p>As this qualification is for apprenticeship learners on the English apprenticeship only, the learner should also live in England or conduct the majority of their work in England.</p> <p>There are additional requirements for this qualification at approval stage and for external quality assurance visits. Established centres may wish to use their own pre-existing templates. Our approval process can take as little as 2 working days. Please see the following documents for more information on our website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • qualification approval and EQA reviews • appendices, policies and statements 		

About this qualification

This qualification is approved by the General Dental Council (GDC) and is designed for those who are working as an apprentice dental nurse and who wish to complete an apprenticeship, register with the GDC and qualify as a dental nurse.

It is a mandatory element within the Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Standard for England, and the end-point assessment is fully integrated into this qualification.

This qualification covers all of the GDC learning outcomes, making it entirely fit for purpose for those wishing to qualify as a dental nurse.

This qualification comes with a comprehensive set of sample assessment tasks and associated marking guidance covering 100% of the knowledge outcomes within the qualification. These are provided free of charge to registered centres.

Qualification structure

Our unique and simple integrated structure means that learners are fully prepared for their end-point assessment when they reach gateway, having achieved all qualification content and met all GDC outcomes.

Learners must achieve and pass the 17 mandatory internal units. These units are internally assessed through a portfolio of evidence and are ungraded. On achievement of these units, learners will have reached 'gateway' and may begin their end-point assessment. The final 3 EPA units make up the end-point assessment. Each unit will consist of a single, discrete assessment. The qualification will only be awarded after the EPA units have been passed.

The qualification is achieved/not yet achieved.

Mandatory units

Y/618/4908 Contribute to health and safety in the dental environment
D/618/4909 Work within regulatory requirements in relation to the role of a Dental Nurse
R/618/4910 Reflect on and develop own practice as a Dental Nurse
Y/618/4911 Prepare and maintain environments, instruments and equipment for clinical dental procedures
D/618/4912 Promote oral health for individuals
H/618/4913 Provide support during the assessment of individuals' oral health
K/618/4914 Contribute to the production of dental images
M/618/4915 Provide support during the prevention and control of periodontal disease, caries and the restoration of cavities
T/618/4916 Provide support during the provision of fixed and removable prosthesis
A/618/4917 Provide support during non-surgical endodontic treatment
F/618/4918 Provide support during the extraction of teeth and minor oral surgery procedures
J/618/4919 Principles of infection control in the dental environment
A/618/4920 Dental anatomy and assessment of oral health
F618/4921 Principles and techniques of dental radiography
J/618/4922 Principles of managing oral disease and dental procedures
L/618/4923 Understand ethics and professionalism in dental nursing
R/618/4924 First aid essentials

EPA units

Y/618/4925 Knowledge test
D/618/4926 Observation of practice
H/618/4927 Interview

Assessment

The first 17 units are internally assessed through a portfolio of evidence. Optional sample assessment tasks and comprehensive marking guidance are provided to registered centres free of charge.

EPA units 1 to 3 (a knowledge test, an interview and a professional discussion) must be completed last and make up the end-point assessment of the apprenticeship standard. They are therefore externally assessed by NCFE EPA. Please see ncfe.org.uk/apprenticeships/end-point-assessment/ for more information.

Why choose NCFE EPA?

We are an approved end-point assessment organisation (EPAO) specialising in EPA delivery across health, education and care, and business apprenticeship standards. NCFE EPA offers flexible and reliable EPA solutions supported by sector expertise, guidance documents, and proactive service and support. Please see ncfe.org.uk/apprenticeships/end-point-assessment/ for more information.

Placement requirements

Learners will need to be working with a full-time employment contract in place and enrolled on the Level 3 Dental Nurse Apprenticeship to be able to show competence in both knowledge and skills and complete this qualification.

Apprentices must be in the workplace for a minimum of 30 hours per week

Progression opportunities

Learners may progress into employment as a dental nurse or to other career pathways including:

- orthodontic therapy
- dental practice management
- oral health practitioner
- dental technician
- dental hygienist
- dental therapist



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