

Level 3 apprenticeship framework – dental nursing

This framework sets out the standards and criteria you must meet to complete the apprenticeship programme and receive your apprenticeship certificate for level three dental nursing. This is the only level 3 training in this skill acceptable for apprenticeshipsni funding.

About the framework

This framework specifies the standards and the criteria for the delivery of level 3 apprenticeship training to achieve qualified status within the health sector. Successful completion of the apprenticeship will lead to the award of a level 3 qualification and recognition as a qualified dental nurse within the sector.

Mandatory outcomes

Achievement of a level 3 apprenticeship in dental nursing will be assessed by verification through the appropriate awarding body.

You must complete the combined competence and knowledge-based qualification, along with the mandatory essential skills qualifications.

Mandatory essential skills

To successfully complete the apprenticeship, you must achieve the following essential skills qualifications as part of the apprenticeship, or already hold a recognised equivalent:

- application of number – level 2
- communication – level 2
- information and communication technology – level 2

However, any qualifications you already have are assessed against the framework requirements and may result in an exemption from the above.

Competence and knowledge qualifications

You need to complete the combined competence and knowledge-based qualification shown below.

- [City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Dental Nursing 603/7221/7](#)

Eligibility and entry to the programme

You must be a new employee, or an existing employee taking on a new role to take part in the programme.

There are no formal entry requirements for learners undertaking this apprenticeship, however entry to the level 3 apprenticeship requires the ability to undertake and achieve level 3 vocational qualifications. You can demonstrate this ability via successful completion of a relevant level 2 apprenticeship, or a relevant level 2 or equivalent vocational qualification.

Alternatively your training contractor and employer may carry out an assessment of your abilities prior to enrolment. Employers may also apply their own criteria at the recruitment stage.

Employers and training contractors must ensure that learners have the potential and opportunity to gain the apprenticeship successfully.

See also the [DfE operational requirements](#) for programme eligibility.

Duration

Apprenticeship duration can vary and will be agreed between the apprentice, training contractor and employer.

Related knowledge

Apprentices must achieve the employee rights and responsibilities qualifications listed below:

- [City & Guilds Level 2 Award in Employment Responsibilities and Rights in Health, Social Care and Young People's Settings 501/1723/3](#)

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the training contractor/college to ensure that all components of this framework are delivered in accordance with apprenticeship operational requirements.

The apprentice must be employed from day one.

Further information

The content of this framework (Framework No 421 Issue 4: 08/21) has been agreed by the Department for the Economy. For further information, contact:

- [Department for the Economy - Apprenticeships Delivery and Performance Branch](#)