SQA Dental Qualifications
Recognising that you care
SQA Dental Qualifications

As Scotland's national body for qualifications, SQA accredits, assesses and awards all stages of qualifications up to degree level, except those granted by professional bodies. It's a role that we've held for more than a century and which sees us report directly to the Scottish Government.

We have years of experience and success working with colleges, training providers, employers and schools throughout the UK and worldwide.

If you are a private company, public or third sector organisation, our qualifications can be delivered to your staff by SQA approved colleges or training providers, or by becoming an approved SQA centre in your own right.
All Level 7 and 8 awards contribute to achievement of the HNC/D

**PDA Dental Nursing**

The Professional Development Award (PDA) in Dental Nursing at SCQF level 7 will enable those working as dental nurses or trainee dental nurses, to develop the knowledge which underpins the SVQ 3 in Dental Nursing. Successful completion of this PDA in conjunction with the appropriate practice-based qualification (the SVQ 3 in Dental Nursing) meets the requirements for a Dental Care Professional (DCP) and will allow candidates to apply for registration with the General Dental Council.

**PDA in Dental Care Professionals: Dental Laboratory Skills**

The PDA in Dental Care Professionals: Dental Laboratory Skills at SCQF level 8 covers types and properties of dental materials, instruments and equipment used in the construction of dental appliances, the construction of study models to the prescription of a dentist, and the construction of mouth guards. It also includes bleaching trays and vacuum-formed retainers, repairing the acrylic component of removable appliances, the construction of occlusal registration rims and special trays, and self-evaluation and reflection for self-development.

**PDA Dental Nursing: Delivering Oral Health Interventions**

The Professional Development Award in Delivering Oral Health Interventions at SCQF level 8 aims to provide registered dental nurses with the depth and breadth of knowledge required to effectively deliver oral health interventions to a wide range of patients and professional groups.
PDA

PDA Dental Nursing: Supporting Special Care Provision
This SCQF level 8 qualification covers knowledge and skills required when dealing with patients with special needs and their carers, including the impact of disabilities to accessing and receiving dental care; patients’ rights when accessing dental care; barriers facing special care patients and overcoming them; additional skills and resources required; the support required in the provision of oral health care; providing oral health improvement advice; reflecting on own practice; and advanced professional attitudes and practice in relation to patient treatment and support.

PDA Dental and Medical Reception Skills
The PDA at SCQF level 6 covers skills in dental or medical reception and administrative procedures, including handling of patient records, appointment schedules, treatment plans, repeat prescription procedures and test results. It also covers health and safety issues within the work environment.

Candidates are encouraged to reflect on their own practice within a dental or medical environment and to develop professional attitudes and practices in relation to patient treatment and support.

PDA Dental Radiography (Operator) for Dental Care Professionals
The content of this PDA in Dental Radiography (Operator) for Dental Care Professionals at SCQF level 9 is aligned with the core curriculum of Dental Radiography as outlined in the British Society of Dental and Maxillofacial Radiology Core Curriculum in Dental Radiography for Dental Care Professionals.

PDA Intravenous Sedation for Dental Care Professionals
The PDA in Intravenous Sedation for Dental Care Professionals at SCQF level 8 is aimed at registered dental nurses and covers the depth and breadth of knowledge required to effectively work as a second appropriate person during the delivery of intravenous sedation.

PDA Oral Health Care: Dental Managers
The Professional Development Award (PDA) in Oral Health Care: Dental Managers SCQF level 8 has been designed to be immediately relevant for managers and employers in both general dental practice and community services. The programmes will engage an array of real life everyday practice responsibilities such as patient care, communications, and practice inspection and performance management. This is one of a suite of qualifications for the oral health care sector and provides an excellent CPD route for registered dental nurses.

PDA Orthodontic Dental Nursing
The PDA in Orthodontic Dental Nursing at SCQF level 8 is aimed at registered dental nurses and covers the depth and breadth of knowledge required to work effectively in a dental environment that delivers orthodontic treatment.

PDA in Recording Patient Assessment for Dental Care Professionals
The PDA in Recording Patient Assessment for Dental Care Professionals at SCQF level 8 covers measuring and recording plaque indices in relation to oral health assessment, oral health education, and producing a range of intra- and extra-oral clinical dental photographs to the required standard and to the prescription of a dentist.

It also includes the taking of alginate dental impressions for the purpose of working or study models, responding to emergency support procedures for common medical emergencies, and self-evaluation and reflection for self-development.
HN

HNC Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing
The HNC in Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing at SCQF level 7 will develop knowledge and skills in areas such as infection control, oral health assessment and basic life support. Learners can progress at a pace which suits their individual learning styles and circumstances. There is an external examination as part of the HNC. This contributes to the eligibility requirements for registration as a dental care professional with the General Dental Council (GDC).

HND Dental Nursing
The HND in Dental Nursing at SCQF level 8 builds on the knowledge and skills of the HNC and also covers specialist areas like practice inspection, dental impressions, and managing a dental environment. Candidates must be registered with the General Dental Council to complete the HND.

HNC/HND Dental Technology
The HNC in Dental Technology at SCQF level 7 is designed to give candidates a breadth of knowledge in all areas of dental technology and to enable them to demonstrate technical competence. The HND in Dental Technology at SCQF level 8 is designed to give candidates a breadth of knowledge in all areas and advanced knowledge in one specialism, combined with the transferable skills and knowledge relevant to their programme level, required by employers.

Find out more about SQA’s dental qualifications at www.sqa.org.uk
Partnership with SQA

SQA supplies products and services to all sectors of the UK, working closely with colleges, employers and training providers.

Every business or organisation that engages with SQA has a dedicated account manager and a main point of contact. We will work with you to identify and source suitable qualifications for your people to help them develop their skills and gain qualifications which meet your current and future needs.

Find out more about what we can do for you — our team is on hand to answer your queries and provide more in-depth advice.

Contact our Business Development team for more information about qualifications in this sector, and working with SQA.

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