



## Your Diploma What Next: *Dental Nursing*

### What can I do with my diploma?

As a graduate of Dental Nursing, you will be able to find work in a variety of working environments, including dental hospitals and Health Service Executive dental clinics, as well as in general and specialist dental practices.

Some graduates of your course have decided to progress to senior dental nurse, clinic nurse manager or practice manager, and some have pursued the non-clinical environment and are working as marketing representatives for relevant companies. Other options are working in an education setting as a dental nurse tutor, course co-ordinator or lecturer in dental nursing. Furthermore the area of health promotion is often popular and policy development of health promotion initiatives can be a progressive environment.

Further courses of study are available to dental nurses, including the Diploma in Orthodontic Therapy and some graduates choose to go into the area of dental research. Graduates have also chosen to cross over into the path of dental technology, dental science and dental hygiene and also into the area of general nursing and applied health professions such as Speech and Language therapists, Occupational therapists etc.

#### Roles

Dental Nurse  
Clinical Nurse Manager  
Research Assistant  
Dental Nurse Tutor

#### Employers

HSE  
Private Practices  
Irish Dental Association  
Council for European Dentists

### Useful Resources

The organisations and professional bodies listed below are useful resources for career / sector specific information:

#### Professional Bodies and Useful Sites

[Irish Dental Nurses Association](#)  
[Council for European Dentists](#)  
[Association for Dental Education in Europe](#)  
[Canadian Dental Association](#)  
[Irish Dentistry](#)

#### Resources

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[Www.prospects.ac.uk](http://Www.prospects.ac.uk)  
[Www.cpl.ie](http://Www.cpl.ie)  
[www.goabroad.com](http://www.goabroad.com)  
[www.volunteer.ie](http://www.volunteer.ie)

## Graduate attributes and transferrable skills you can develop at Trinity

Alongside the obvious clinical skills you have developed, you gain a wide range of other skills and attributes while at College, through academic study, clubs and societies, voluntary work, student politics, work and other commitments. These are important to recognize as they inform your career decisions and are a critical ingredient in your applications for post-graduate study and jobs. Here are some skills you can gain :

**1. Critical Thinking** - Learning to work on your own and to make independent judgments. You have to discover the information that you need to analyse complex questions and develop your ideas about them and to present your arguments clearly and persuasively.

**2. Teamwork** - Learning to work as part of a team is an important skill; sharing the workload, agreeing roles and working as a team to develop ideas and present a coherent group argument.

**3. Independent Research** - You will have learnt how to use the library and other complex information resources and coordinate information from a wide variety of sources.

**4. Logical argumentation** - You will know how to bring together facts and arguments in order to answer a specific question or analyse a problem.

**5. Time and project management** - By working on assignments and studying for exams you will have developed the ability to revise and consolidate your work and know how to extract the essential points from a mass of information. You will also have learned how to manage your own time and to work under pressure of deadlines.

**6. Verbal communication** - You will know how to present your ideas orally and to contribute constructively to discussions.

**7. Written communication** - You will have had the opportunity to present your ideas in writing accurately and concisely, using convincing arguments which are based on solid evidence; responding flexibly to different types of questions and expressing your thoughts concisely; carrying out in-depth research on a specialised topic and develop the sustained writing skills needed.

**8. Digital Skills** - You will have the opportunity of developing your computer skills both from typing up your own essays and papers and from undertaking searches on the web & using databases.

**9. Personal Development** – You are managing the learning required for a degree and recognising the gaps in your understanding and ensuring that these are addressed in ways that best suit your learning style.

### How can the Careers Service help me?

The Careers Service supports students in exploring their career options and connects students with employers. You can book an appointment with your careers consultant to help you deciding your next step in your career.

Login to MyCareer at [www.tcd.ie/careers](http://www.tcd.ie/careers) and book your appointment today.

### Contact Us

Careers Service  
2nd Floor, 7-9 South Leinster Street,  
Trinity College, Dublin 2, D02 K104

Email: [careers@tcd.ie](mailto:careers@tcd.ie)  
Website: [www.tcd.ie/careers](http://www.tcd.ie/careers)



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