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Entry requirements, skills and interests (reconstructive science)

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Entry requirements

There is currently one entry point into reconstructive sciences:

• as a qualified and experienced dental technologist or dental technician [1] who holds current registration with the General Dental Council [2], in order to apply for a place on the graduate entry NHS Scientist Training Programme (STP) [3].

It will be advantageous to have gained some experience of working in a relevant environment before applying for a place on a course or job vacancy. You should always check with the course provider or employer to see what sort of experience is preferred or required.

Find out more about the training you'll receive and registration for a career in reconstructive sciences [4].

Skills, qualities and interests needed

To work in reconstructive sciences you'll need:

- a mature, calm, confident but sympathetic approach to achieve the best outcome for each patient as some may be very anxious about the procedures and will need reassurance from you
- to be confident with technology, systems and processes
- an interest in science and technology, a good academic background and an ability to update and test your knowledge against experience
- meticulous attention to detail to produce highly accurate work even when under pressure

- good interpersonal skills as you may have direct contact with patients and must respect their privacy, be sympathetic and have a friendly and professional attitude towards them
- to be able to work as part of a team.

If you work in a role with responsibility for resources (such as staff, budgets or equipment) you'll need excellent leadership skills and be able to use your initiative within the remit of your job role.

If you're applying for a healthcare science role or training position either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services you'll be asked to show how you think the NHS values apply in your everyday work.

The NHS values form a key part of the NHS Constitution [5].

Find out more about the NHS Constitution [6].

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Links

- [1] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/dental-techniciandental-technologist
- [2] http://www.gdc-uk.org/ [3] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/i-am/considering-or-university/not-studying-health-related-degree/nhs-scientist-training-programme [4]

https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/physical-sciences-and-biomechanical-engineering/reconstructive-science/training [5]

https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/glossary#NHS Constitution

[6] https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/about/working-health/nhs-constitution