The commitment is massive; however, it is hugely rewarding – you can instantly see the difference you make each day.

— Jordan Faithwaite, (ODP professional development practitioner)

**Entry requirements**

To train through a full-time university course or degree apprenticeship, you’ll usually need a minimum of five GCSEs at grades 9-4/A-C or equivalent plus A-levels or equivalent level 3 qualifications.

**Job vacancies**

There are 123 vacancies for operating department practitioners.

**ODPs are involved in all three phases of a patient’s operation – anaesthetic, surgery and recovery.**

There are 27 approved courses in operating department practice across the UK at DipHE and degree level.

A newly qualified ODP will start on a salary of £24,214 (Band 5 Agenda for Change).

13,913 ODPs were registered with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) in April 2019.

ODPs can further their careers through management, education and clinical research. Further training could lead to an ODP becoming a surgical care practitioner.

**STARTING SALARY**

£24,214

**What they say**

“...it is hugely rewarding – you can instantly see the difference you make each day.”

— Jordan Faithwaite, (ODP professional development practitioner)