

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

for appointment as
Graduate Dentist Intern (Fixed term)

CLINICAL SERVICES FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS DIVISIONAL STRUCTURE:

The University of Otago was established in 1869 and is New Zealand's oldest university. It has an international reputation for excellence in education and research. The University currently has over 20,000 students, spread over a wide range of disciplines.

Based in Dunedin, the University also has specialist campuses in Christchurch, Wellington and Invercargill, as well as a centre in Auckland. The University has four academic divisions – Humanities, Sciences, Health Sciences and Commerce (also known as the School of Business) and is one of New Zealand's most research-intensive universities. There are a variety of links with the city and its business community, and the relatively compact campus contributes to easy relationships between departments.

The Division of Health Sciences comprises the Faculty of Dentistry, the Otago Medical School (Dunedin School of Medicine, Otago School of Medical Sciences, University of Otago, Christchurch and University of Otago, Wellington), the School of Pharmacy, and the School of Physiotherapy. The University teaching year generally ranges from late January to the end of November. The teaching period is generally broken into two 13-week semesters. A Summer School is held for six weeks during January and February.

Further information about the University is available on the University of Otago website: www.otago.ac.nz including the University's mission statement and strategic direction.

THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY:

The Faculty of Dentistry was founded in 1907 and is the only national school for dentistry in New Zealand. The Faculty comprises the Sir John Walsh Research Institute and three departments (Oral Rehabilitation, Oral Sciences and Oral Diagnostic and Surgical Sciences).

The Faculty of Dentistry is ranked 41st best in the world according to the 2022 QS World University Subject Rankings and maintains a 5-Star rating, earned in 2016. The University of Otago website has a link dedicated to the Faculty of Dentistry: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/dentistry/> here, you can see the strategic direction of the Faculty, find information about undergraduate and postgraduate courses of study, and explore links to research being undertaken at the Faculty of Dentistry.

The University of Otago commissioned a new Clinical Services Building in 2019, a dental facility in Auckland in 2020, and the refurbishment of the Walsh building was completed in early 2021. This completed an extensive Dental School Redevelopment, that commenced in 2015, creating the most modern Dental School in the Southern Hemisphere.

The Dental School is situated close to the Dunedin School of Medicine, several departments of the Otago School of Medical Sciences, the Dunedin Public Hospital, the School of Pharmacy and the School of Physiotherapy. It is about five minutes' walk from the main University campus, so most departments within the University are readily accessible.

Excellent library facilities, computer training and support are available. In addition to teaching clinics, laboratories, lecture theatres and seminar rooms, there is provision for research in shared laboratories. The Faculty operates a fully registered diagnostic pathology laboratory, Oral Pathology Centre, which receives approximately 3000 specimens per year from the Dental School clinics, from dentists and dental specialists throughout New Zealand and from general pathologists.

FORTHCOMING VACANCIES:

The full-time vacancies offer a broad range of experience in all branches of general practice dentistry with mentoring from an experienced clinician.

The successful applicants will provide private dental care for patients in the Faculty of Dentistry.

Appointees will be expected to manage their patients independently but benefit from being part of an experienced team, with an emphasis on providing private general dental practice.

Appointees will have the opportunity to experience other disciplines of dentistry and make a contribution to routine Faculty interdisciplinary patient care.

DUTIES OF POSITION:

Graduate Dentists will primarily provide general dental practice for largely private patients in Dunedin Dental Hospital clinics.

Specific duties include providing on average 8-9 clinical sessions per week and 1-2 non-clinical sessions - primarily in general dentistry and urgent care.

Non-clinical sessions will be a structured combination of education, mentoring, auditing, presentation and clinical meetings. It is intended that the sessions provided will be customised to the interests of the Dental Graduates located in Dunedin and Auckland.

The focus of this role is to advance practice in areas of general dentistry.

Also see Appendix 1 below for Core Competencies

RELATIONSHIPS:

Directly responsible to: Head of Clinical Services, Faculty of Dentistry.

Functional relationships: Mentor from Senior Professional Practice Fellow, Clinical Director of Auckland Facility, Primary Care Unit, Dental House Surgeons, Academic and Professional staff, Director of Dental Hospital.

PERSON SPECIFICATION:

- Be registered as a dentist in New Zealand in the general dental practice scope of practice with a current Annual Practicing Certificate and Professional Indemnity for Dentists. New graduands or recent graduands are welcome to apply.
- Highly organised, efficient with good communication and teamwork skills.
- Able to provide high quality general dental care to all age groups of patients.
- Knowledge, or the ability to acquire knowledge, of procedures, policies, regulations and standards of practice.
- Manaakitaka - Valuing equity apply Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles in all aspects of patient care by fostering a partnership with Māori patients, whānau, and communities to ensure their voices are heard and respected in decision-making regarding their dental health.

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION:

Applicants must be registered as a dentist with the Dental Council and hold a current annual practicing certificate (or have the ability to have their qualifications registered and obtain an Annual Practicing Certificate).

Further information about registration may be obtained from:

Dental Council (New Zealand)

PO Box 10-448, Wellington 6140

New Zealand

Tel: 64 4 499 4820 email: inquiries@dcnz.org.nz

DATE OF APPOINTMENT:

The successful applicants will be expected to commence duties on 18 January 2027, or earlier by mutual agreement.

MĀORI STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

Act in a manner consistent with the principles and implications, as well as the University's commitment to the Treaty as articulated in the Māori Strategic Framework.

PACIFIC STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

Act in a manner consistent with the strategies and goals contained in the University's Pacific Strategic Framework, role-modelling and promoting Pacific values, equity and diversity principles and cultural safety practices.

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY:

Act in a manner consistent with the University's commitment to anti-racism and the co-creation of accessible, safe, respectful, and welcoming environments where all students and staff are supported to achieve their full potential.

HEALTH & SAFETY:

Act and work in a manner compliant with current health and safety at work legislation and University procedures, frameworks and guidelines. Role model safe behaviour and practices, share the responsibility to prevent harm and contribute to a safe campus and work environment, including raising workplace health and safety concerns for self, students, visitors and other staff.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Act in a manner consistent with the University's sustainability commitments; role-modelling sustainable practices, with a particular emphasis on minimising the environmental impact of day-to-day activities.

APPENDIX 1: CORE COMPETENCIES FOR DENTISTS

GENERAL

- Function as a patient's primary and comprehensive oral health care provider.
- Treat patients efficiently in a dental practice setting.
- Use selected business systems in dental practice including marketing, scheduling, patient flow, record keeping, financial services, and recall systems.
- Work with patients in a manner that is professional, builds rapport and confidence, respects patient's rights and dignity, puts patients interests first, and maximises patient satisfaction with dental care.
- Use and implement accepted sterilisation, disinfection, universal precautions and occupational hazard prevention procedures in dental practice.
- Provide patient care by working effectively with auxiliary dental personnel.
- Provide dental care as a part of a multidisciplinary health care team.
- Participate in community programs to improve access to oral health care and to prevent and reduce the incidence of oral disease.
- Make referrals to, and obtain consultations from, professional colleagues for the treatment of dental, medical, psychological, and social problems presented by patients.
- Apply principles of professional ethics and jurisprudence in the practice of dentistry.
- Read and evaluate scientific literature and use information in making professional decisions.
- Use information technology in dental practice.
- Maintain patient records in a manner which facilitates the retrieval and analysis of the process and outcomes of treatment.
- Analyse the outcomes of patient treatment to improve that treatment.

DIAGNOSIS, COMMUNICATION & TREATMENT PLANNING

- Select and use assessment techniques to arrive at a differential, provisional, and definitive diagnosis for patients with simple and complex needs.
- Obtain and interpret the patient's chief complaint, medical, dental, and social history, and review of systems.
- Assess patient's background and expectations for dental care and perform patient care consistent with that expectation.
- Conduct a comprehensive clinical examination.
- Understand when and how to obtain and interpret intraoral radiographs, OPG and CBCT.
- Obtain and interpret clinical and other diagnostic data from dental and other health care professionals.
- Use the services of clinical, medical, and pathology laboratories and make referrals to health professionals for the utilisation of these services.
- Perform a history and physical evaluation and collect data to establish a risk assessment for use in the development of a dental treatment plan.
- Use accepted prevention strategies to help patients maintain and improve their oral health.
- Obtain consent for dental treatment by discussing with patients, parents, and guardians, the following: diagnoses, risks, benefits, and process of various treatment options; patient responsibilities during and after treatment; and estimated fees and payment responsibilities.
- Integrate multiple disciplines into individualised, comprehensive, sequenced treatment plans for patients with uncomplicated and complex needs.

- Develop, explain and carry out dental treatment plans for patients, including patients with special needs, in a manner which considers and integrates the patient's medical, psychological, and social needs.
- Modify the treatment plan, as indicated, based upon therapeutic outcomes, unexpected circumstances, or the patient's individual needs.

EMERGENCY CARE

- Treat patients with intraoral dental emergencies and infections.
- Provide initial treatment and then manage patients with extra-oral and complex orofacial emergencies and infections.
- Anticipate, prevent, diagnose, and provide initial treatment and follow-up management for medical emergencies which may occur during dental treatment.

RESTORATIVE

- Restore single teeth with a wide range of materials and methods.
- Treat patients with missing teeth requiring removable restorations.
- Treat patients with missing teeth requiring uncomplicated and complex fixed restorations.
- Restore endodontically treated teeth.
- Diagnose and manage a patient's occlusion.
- Use digital technology to obtain information and provide restorative solutions with and without the laboratory.
- Communicate case design with laboratory personnel and evaluate the resultant prostheses.

ENDODONTICS

- Diagnose and treat pain of pulpal origin.
- Perform uncomplicated non-surgical anterior endodontic therapy.
- Perform uncomplicated non-surgical posterior endodontic therapy.
- Diagnose and manage uncomplicated endodontic complications.
- Recognise, diagnose, and manage complex occlusal abnormalities.
- Treat minor occlusal abnormalities using space maintenance and other orthodontic appliances.

AESTHETICS

- Understand patients' aesthetic concerns and expectations.
- Diagnose aesthetic problems and communicate solutions.
- Provide aesthetic treatment for single teeth.
- Manage and provide aesthetic treatment for multiple teeth and entire mouths.

PAEDIATRIC

- Treat uncomplicated diseases and abnormalities of the paediatric patient.
- Manage complicated diseases and abnormalities of the paediatric patient.
- Perform paediatric pulpal therapy.
- Restore a functional primary dentition.
- Perform uncomplicated surgical procedures on paediatric patients.
- Use pharmacological and non-pharmacological behaviour management skills with a paediatric patient.

IMPLANTS

- Treat patients with missing teeth using dental implant restorations.
- Manage the surgical component of implant systems.
- Manage implant complications.

PAIN

- Assess and manage facial pain.
- Diagnose and non-surgically treat uncomplicated TM disorders.

SURGICAL

- Perform surgical and non-surgical extraction of teeth.
- Treat patients with complications related to intraoral surgical procedures.
- Diagnose and manage oral manifestations of systemic disease.
- Diagnose and manage common oral pathological abnormalities.
- Manage the removal of impacted teeth.
- Perform initial evaluation, treatment, and management of facial trauma.
- Treat intraoral hard and soft tissue lesions of traumatic origin.
- Manage intraoral soft tissue lesions on non-traumatic origin.

PERIODONTOLOGY

- Diagnose and treat early and moderate periodontal disease using non-surgical and surgical procedures.
- Manage advanced periodontal disease.
- Evaluate the results of periodontal treatment and participate in a periodontal maintenance program.

PHARMACOLOGY

- Understand how patient's medications might affect dental treatment.
- Use pharmacological agents in the treatment of dental patients.
- Provide control of pain and anxiety in the conscious patient through the use of psychological interventions, behaviour management techniques, local anaesthesia, and oral and nitrous oxide conscious sedation techniques.
- Prevent, recognise, and manage complications related to the use and interactions of drugs, local anaesthesia, and conscious sedation.

APPENDIX 2: SCHEDULE A - TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR DENTAL OR EARLY CAREER DENTISTS INCLUDED IN PROFESSIONAL DENTISTS WORKING IN THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

Schedule A:

Dental Graduate/Early Career

Duties of position

- Graduate Dentist Interns/Early Career Dentists will primarily provide dental clinical services at either Auckland or Dunedin clinics.
- Specific duties include providing on average 8-9 clinical sessions per week and 1-2 non-clinical sessions – primarily in general dentistry and urgent care.
- Non-clinical sessions will be a structured combination of education / mentoring / auditing / presentation and clinical meetings.
- The focus of this role is to advance practice in areas of general dentistry.