Scottish Dental Postgraduate Training Fellowship

This NHS Education for Scotland initiative supports the training of dentists and DCPs to the M.Sc. in Clinical Dentistry. The Fellowship enables them to provide intermediate/higher care levels in the General and Public Dental Services in Scotland. The initiative is a joint venture between NES Scotland and the Scottish Executive; it enables dental surgeons and DCPs working in the primary care dental services in Scotland to access postgraduate training at the Scottish University Dental Schools.

This scheme also assists the Scottish Health Boards in attracting dental surgeons and DCPs to work in primary care, and in providing a level of specialist dental care which is accessible to patients in the local clinics.

The Fellowship will lead to an M.Sc in Clinical Dentistry, in the various disciplines identified by each University. Funding has been established for three postgraduate places per year, and the M.Sc courses are arranged over three years.

Entrance to the Fellowship is available to dental graduates who have completed Vocational Training or General Professional Training and have experience in clinical practice, and to DCPs who have further training. Full registration with the General Dental Council is required.

Acceptance into the programme is by fulfillment of the qualification criteria and by interview. The University training programmes commences in each academic year, and the Fellowship recruitment programme is linked to the training dates offered by each.

Successful candidates should be within or have been offered a position as a salaried practitioner in the Public Dental Service with one of the Scottish Health Boards, or as an associate in a GDS NHS practice, or as a DCP in the PDS or GDS. For practitioners working within the Public Dental Service, the employing Health Board pays the practitioner’s salary, however the salary is subsidized by NES to the extent of 25% of the total. There is an attractive package of financial support in travel and subsistence funding for successful candidates, and university fees are also paid by NES.

Fellows are expected to attend one of the Scottish Dental Schools on a part-time basis (by arrangement with the academic supervisor) to complete a clinical research project and formal teaching programme. Distance learning is also available, and Fellows are encouraged to attend CPD courses in their local area. Local mentoring is arranged with senior clinicians and the Training Adviser is available to support and guide the Fellow throughout the training period.

Further details and application forms are available from

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