



University of Central Lancashire Orthodontic Therapy Training Programme

Frequently Asked Questions

2020/2021

When does the course start?

The course starts on the 22nd June 2020.

How do I know if I am eligible to apply?

To be eligible for the course applicants must meet the essential criteria as specified within the candidate specification document contained in the Application Pack. The UCLan selection process ensures that the minimum requirements as specified by the General Dental Council are met.

Please visit our website http://www.uclan.ac.uk/courses/orthodontic_therapy_programme.php under "Entry and Admissions" for entry requirements.

What if English isn't my first language?

If your first language is not English, you need to complete an English language test in advance. We require:

- IELTS score of at least 7 overall (with a minimum of 6.5 in the reading and writing components)
- TOEFL score of at least 600 (paper-based), 250 (computer based), or 92 (internet based)
- PTE (Pearson Test of English) score of 65

Do I have to be a registered dental nurse?

You must be currently employed as a dental nurse, dental hygienist, dental therapist or dental technician, and being on the statutory GDC register.

If I have recently received my GDC registration would I still be eligible to apply?

We ask that applicants must have at least one year full-time post-qualification experience or equivalent. Ideally this would be in clinical orthodontics. If you have recently received your GDC registration you may not have had enough experience. We appreciate however, that students come from a large variety of backgrounds, so please contact us if you wish to discuss this further.

If my supervising Clinical Mentor (Orthodontist) is not on the specialist register can I still complete the training?

No, unfortunately due to the GDC requirements we cannot accept any supervising Orthodontists who are not currently on the Specialist 'Orthodontist' register.

Do I need to have personal indemnity cover?

Yes, all applicants need to ensure that they have the appropriate professional indemnity insurance as a 'student orthodontic therapist'. This is usually free or at very low cost.

Do I need to have the National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN) Certificate in Orthodontic Dental Nursing?

This would undoubtedly be helpful, but it is not essential.

Course Structure & Attendance

What is the structure of the course?

The three modules on this programme will run concurrently and will be delivered over a period of 52 weeks. The course is equivalent to an overall credit rating of 120 credits and each credit represents 10 hours of learning, such that the overall course workload equates to 1200 hours, or about 24 hours per week.

A two week induction block is timetabled in June, in which students receive basic training and given advice on planning patient loads over the course. This week will finish with a meeting of all students, their mentors and the UCLan course team to ensure that all parties understand their requirements and obligations. Initial theoretical and practical laboratory-based work relating to the underpinning knowledge of the three modules will take place during the 2-week intensive learning block in June/July and 3 week block in timetabled in September. All competencies will be demonstrated and practiced in a laboratory scenario during this first 5 weeks to ensure that students are safe to practice in the clinical environment on patients.

Students will then return to their dental practice to work as a Student Orthodontic Therapist under supervision for the remainder of the year with monthly Study days on the Preston campus. This placement will ensure that the student has the opportunity to gain both practical skills training and also valuable transferable skills. Your workplace must be an approved orthodontic practice or hospital orthodontic department.

Throughout the time spent in practice in the capacity of Student Orthodontic Therapist, both students and mentors will be in regular contact with a Placement Facilitator will provide support student and map progress, by monitoring returned documentation to show clinical activity and levels of competency achieved. They will also ensure that teaching and learning strategies are being met.

Once the taught components and Clinical Placement element has been successfully completed, the student will sit the Royal College of Surgeons (Edinburgh) examination which will then grant them a Diploma in Orthodontic Therapy allowing them to practice as an Orthodontic Therapist.

Do I need to attend every session?

Yes. You are expected to attend all the taught sessions associated with this course. You are expected to make arrangements necessary to allow you to attend the course without interruption. Non-attendance can affect your progress with the course, progress of other participants and result in a student being unable to complete the course.

Can I complete the course as a part-time student and only attend some teaching sessions?

No. This is a full time course and you need to attend all taught sessions.

If I work part-time can I still apply for the course if I can attend all taught sessions?

Yes. We stipulate that all students should be working in practice for three and a half full clinical days (seven full clinical sessions) a week in order to cover the required amount of patients. In addition you will also need to ensure you are provided with suitable time to write up work etc. This usually means one day a week for personal study (which doesn't need to be in Practice), plus half a day a week with your Mentor to discuss cases in more depth, complete tutorials and practice vivas.

I would like to move to a new practice prior to the start of the course?

All applicants will need to be working within the orthodontic practice that they choose to train and with their supervising orthodontist at prior to the course start date. This is to ensure that both parties have a good working relationship and are familiar with the practice and the practice policies and procedures prior to the start of the course.

Do you accept placements?

Unfortunately, we don't currently offer any student placements. Each student will need to ensure that they have a practice with a suitable Specialist Orthodontic Mentor.

Application

How do I apply?

- Apply online following the link below:-
www.uclan.ac.uk/courses/orthodontic_therapy_programme.php
- Complete the online application.
- As part of this application you will need to upload the Clinical Mentor application form (contained in the Application pack) **completed by the Clinical Mentor who will be supporting you**

Please complete the online application including Clinical Mentor application form as soon as possible, **The closing date for applications is 1st May 2020.** However, we will accept applications after this date if any places are still available.

Can I send my completed application and trainer approval forms in by email?

Unfortunately, all applications must be sent completed online and sent in by the 1st May 2020. Please ensure your Clinical Mentor application form is submitted with it.

We will accept applications after this date if any places are still available.

What is the deadline date for the June 2020 Intake?

The deadline date is the 1st May 2020.

Please ensure that you take time to check and proof read your application form prior to submission. It may be worth you asking a colleague, friend or your supervising Orthodontist to proof read your information prior to submission. Any incomplete documentation received cannot be processed.

If I and a colleague are both applying; does our supervising Orthodontist need to fill out two forms?

Yes please. All on line applications and supporting forms must be completed separately for each applicant.

Finance & Funding

Is there funding for the course?

Unfortunately, there is no funding for this training. The fees are usually paid directly by the employer at the training practice or self-funded by the student. If self funding there is a direct debit option available (online). Please refer to the link below for further information regarding fees:-

www.uclan.ac.uk/study_here/fees_and_finance/index.php

Can I gain a student loan for this course?

The student loans company do not offer funding for this course. If you were interested in applying for a loan to fund the course; you would need to personally look into obtaining your own personal loan.

Am I entitled to student discounts and/ or benefits?

During your time as a student at UCLan, you will be provided with a University Student ID card. Some companies and establishments will accept this for student discounts they may offer. You will also be able to access the benefits of our Student Union like subsidised clubs and societies, social activities and days out. See <http://www.uclansu.co.uk/> for more details.

Do I have to pay for all of the course fees at once if self funding?

You can either choose to pay in full or alternatively you may choose to pay a deposit of £2,500 to secure your place and then the remaining balance in six payments. The team will provide you with further information once you have been successful after interview stage.

What does the course fee include?

The full course includes 43 days of training; Mentor and Practice visits by the Practice Facilitator and 1 year of tuition from our dedicated team.