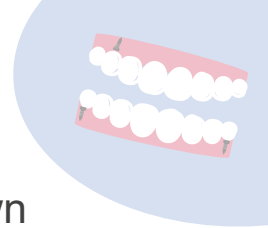


# Careers in dental technology



Dental technicians or technologists as they are also known work in dental laboratories and create hand crafted and constructed dental appliances such as crowns which are unique to individual patients mouth and teeth.

## What do dental technicians do?

Technicians work on the instruction of the dentist and often using moulds and scans of the teeth taken by the dentist to create the required appliances. These appliances cover:

- dentures
- orthodontic appliances
- crowns
- bridges
- specialist surgical appliances
- implants
- prosthesis for patients having facial reconstruction following head and neck cancer.

## Where do dental technicians work?

- in the NHS in specialist teaching or district hospitals
- within the commercial sector either in private dental laboratories or on a self-employed basis
- in education teaching the next generation of technicians in university.

## What skills do I need to be a good dental technician?

- you will need to be coordinated, have good manual dexterity and practical skills in order to produce accurate work
- be creative with an interest in design and production
- have a strong attention to detail
- the able to take instructions and interpret information and technical data
- able to concentrate for long periods of time
- good IT skills
- able to work alone and as part of a team.

## How do I become a dental technician?

To become a registered dental technician with the general dental council (GDC) there is the opportunity to undertake the BSc (Hons) in dental technology which is a three year degree course offered in Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Alternatively if you are working within a dental laboratory, there may be the option to do a part-time degree course or diploma to become a qualified dental technician.

**Want to find out more?**

**Careersville:** <https://careersville.heiw.wales>

**NHS Wales Careers:** [www.nhswalescareers.com](http://www.nhswalescareers.com)