Your College

The transition from university undergraduate to Royal College postgraduate marks a defining stage in your career as a dental professional.

The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow has a tailor-made introductory membership package to support your needs during the important foundation years between leaving university and completing the Membership of the Faculty of Dental Surgery (MFDS) examination.

Your Future

The first two years after graduating are known as the Foundation Training years. During this stage of your career you will begin to lay the foundations for your future professional endeavours. You will be faced with important decisions about your future: Do you want to work in primary care? Do you want to be an orthodontist? Would you like to specialise in paediatric dentistry or complete academic research?

Whatever you decide, the dental team at the Royal College is here to support you and guide you. We will do our best to ensure the professional aspects of your training and development are as straightforward as possible.

Your MFDS

MFDS is a mark of excellence that symbolises your dedication to the profession and to professional education. It will enhance your chances of employment and salary expectations. It will make you stand out.

As a dental graduate you will aspire towards successfully completing your MFDS examination, or an equivalent such as the MJDF (Membership of the Joint Dental Faculties). The examination is set at the level of a good general practitioner with broad based knowledge and is highly recommended for all dentists, whether working in primary care, or intending to specialise in a particular field.
Vocational Training (VT) aka Dental Foundation Year One (DF1)

All graduates must complete a compulsory one-year period of vocational training after completing the BDS. This is normally completed in primary care NHS general dental services. Once completed, you will be qualified to work in general practice or the salaried dental service.

A VT information pack is sent to all dental students in the December of their final year at University. More information is also available from NHS Careers.

Dental Foundation Year Two (DF2)

Most dentists will also choose to undertake a second year of foundation training and work towards completing the MFDS, or an equivalent, postgraduate examination. The MFDS benefits both hospital dentists wishing to work in a specialist area and primary care dentists wishing to improve their career prospects.

DF2 normally involves 6 months working in a hospital dental service and 6 months working in the community dental service, and provides the foundation for your chosen specialty. Information about the different specialties are available from the Committee of Postgraduate Deans and Directors (COPDEND).

Your MFDS

Many graduates choose to sit MFDS Part 1 examination at the end of Dental Foundation Year One and MFDS Part 2 examination at the end of Dental Foundation Year Two.

We offer dedicated revision courses prior to each examination to assist you in your preparation.
Plan your MFDS

### Year 1 (VT/DF1)

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<tr>
<th>Year 2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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### Year 2 (DF2)

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<th>Year 2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<td><strong>August</strong></td>
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### Revision Courses

Topics covered on the MFDS Revision Courses include:

- Dental Practice and Restorative Dentistry
- Medical and Surgical aspects of dental care
- Public Health
- History Taking
- Planning Treatment
- Dentist and the Law
- Communication Skills (Verbal and Non-verbal)
- Negotiating a Treatment Plan
- Medical History and Managing Emergencies
- Child Oral Health
- Oral Diseases
- Professional Skills and Responsibilities
- Special Tests
- Breaking Bad News/Handling Complaints
- Motivating Patients
- Confidentiality and Autonomy of the Patient
- Use of Language and Patient Understanding
- Medico-Legal Issues and Consent
- Dentist and the Law
- Communication Skills (Verbal and Non-verbal)
- Negotiating a Treatment Plan
- Medical History and Managing Emergencies
- Child Oral Health
- Oral Diseases
- Professional Skills and Responsibilities
- Special Tests
- Breaking Bad News/Handling Complaints
- Motivating Patients
- Confidentiality and Autonomy of the Patient
- Use of Language and Patient Understanding
- Medico-Legal Issues and Consent

### Examinations

**MFDS Part 1**

- Our MFDS Part 1 examination is held in a number of centres around the UK and internationally, including:
  - Belfast
  - Cardiff
  - Exeter
  - Glasgow
  - Newcastle
  - Sheffield
  - Chennai
  - Dharwad
  - Dubai
  - Muscat
  - Tripoli

**MFDS Part 2**

- The MFDS Part 2 examination is currently held in:
  - Glasgow
  - North West England (from 2013)

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The course and examination dates listed below are subject to confirmation and may change. Please check the website [http://rcp.sg/mfds](http://rcp.sg/mfds) for more information.
Build your support team

As a postgraduate dental trainee, you are eligible for introductory (postgraduate) membership at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Whether you plan to be a general dental practitioner or hospital specialist, joining the College at this early stage in your career can bring many rewards. It will bring you closer to others working in dentistry and provide a support network to guide you through your Foundation Years to full membership.

As well as supporting you as you work towards MFDS, our Dental Introductory (postgraduate) membership package offers you the opportunity to:

- broaden your knowledge and networks through discounted conferences, symposia and lectures
- access a huge range of library resources with your College Athens password and one-to-one library support
- develop your research and academic skills through our range of awards and scholarships
- benefit financially and socially through our lifestyle links, which include discounted hotel rates worldwide

Once you complete your MFDS and progress to full membership, further benefits will open up to you. These include:

- a free subscription to the journals Dental Update and Orthodontic Update
- free verification of qualifications for employers
- continuing professional development and discounted courses and symposia
- the ability to join committees, vote in College elections, and networking opportunities across the UK and internationally
Know the score

Once you leave university and start working you will be faced with a number of financial costs, such as GDC registration and indemnity insurance to practise, as well as course and examination fees.

In order to make life a little bit easier for you, we have designed a unique MFDS trainee package that enables you to spread the cost of the revision courses and examinations over your two-year foundation period. This also allows you to pencil in the dates early so that you can plan ahead. There are no surprises or hidden agendas. The MFDS trainee package is simply a means to make life easier for you with upfront information and knowing what to expect. If you prefer to pay as you go (PAYG), that is also fine. The choice is yours.

Typical fees to expect as you work towards MFDS*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Non-member PAYG</th>
<th>Member PAYG</th>
<th>MFDS Package</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal College postgraduate membership fee (£25 p.a.)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>£50</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFDS Part 1 revision course</td>
<td>£450</td>
<td>£400</td>
<td>£400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFDS Part 1 examination</td>
<td>£555</td>
<td>£555</td>
<td>£555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFDS Part 2 revision course</td>
<td>£475</td>
<td>£425</td>
<td>£425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MFDS Part 2 examination</td>
<td>£685</td>
<td>£685</td>
<td>£685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal College membership admission fee (on completion of MFDS)</td>
<td>£150</td>
<td>£150</td>
<td><strong>£75</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>£2315</td>
<td>£2265</td>
<td>£2140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spread over 24 monthly instalments of £89.17

*Course and examination fees are subject to change. The fees listed above are correct at the time of publication.
**A 50% discount on membership admission fee is available to the first 30 people who sign up for the MFDS trainee package.

Don’t forget to claim your study leave

Study leave budgets are available to many postgraduate dental trainees. If you qualify, you may be able to claim back the cost of the revision courses. Speak to your supervisor to find out more.
MFDS: At a glance

What is MFDS?
MFDS is the acronym for Member of the Faculty of Dental Surgery. Passing the MFDS examination entitles you to become a member of a UK Royal College.

What does it involve?
It is a two part examination: Part 1 is a written exam; Part 2 is an OSCE exam (i.e. an ‘objective structured clinical examination’ with simulated real-life patient scenarios)

Who is it for?
Every dentist in whatever setting will benefit professionally from studying for this clinically orientated exam set at the level of a good general practitioner with broad based knowledge. Patients are keen to have the reassurance that your postgraduate learning is focussed and externally validated to Diploma level. In particular those aiming to develop further in any particular field of dentistry, in particular specialisation, will benefit from having a proven track record of postgraduate experience as symbolised by MFDS.

Where is it recognised?
MFDS is an internationally recognised qualification. It is also recognised by all of the UK Royal Colleges. MFDS is equivalent to the MJDF examination, which is offered by the Faculty of General Practice (UK) and the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Will I get letters after my name?
Yes. Once you have passed the exam and are admitted as a member of a Royal College you will be entitled to use the letters MFDS RCPS(Glasg) after your name (or the equivalent for other UK Royal Colleges).

When can I sit it?
Part 1 MFDS exam can be taken at any time after graduating with a BDS. Part 2 MFDS exam can be taken after passing Part 1 MFDS and having completed 12 months’ postgraduate experience in clinical dentistry.

Where can I sit it?
The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow has examination centres all over the UK and internationally.
Useful acronyms

Do you know your DCPs from your VDPs?!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BDA</td>
<td>British Dental Association</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bda.org">www.bda.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BDS</td>
<td>Bachelor of Dental Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>COPDEND</td>
<td>UK Committee of Postgraduate Dental Deans and Directors</td>
<td><a href="http://www.copdend.org">www.copdend.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CPD</td>
<td>Continuing Professional Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCP</td>
<td>Dental Care Professional</td>
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<tr>
<td>DFT</td>
<td>Dental Foundation Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>FGDP(UK)</td>
<td>Faculty of General Dental Practice (UK)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDC</td>
<td>General Dental Council</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gdc-uk.org">www.gdc-uk.org</a></td>
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<td>GDP</td>
<td>General Dental Practitioner</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDS</td>
<td>General Dental Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>MFDS</td>
<td>Membership of the Faculty of Dental Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>MJDF</td>
<td>Membership of the Joint Dental Faculties (RCS Eng equivalent to MFDS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHS</td>
<td>National Health Service</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk">www.nhscareers.nhs.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>RCPSG</td>
<td>Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rcpsg.ac.uk">www.rcpsg.ac.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SDS</td>
<td>Salaried Dental Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>VDP</td>
<td>Vocational Dental Practitioner (a dentist completing the VT phase of training)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VT</td>
<td>Vocational Training</td>
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The Fine Print

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow MFDS Trainee Package

Terms and conditions

1. All applicants will be assessed for eligibility. The eligibility criteria can be found on the College website www.rcpsg.ac.uk/dentistry
2. Places are allocated on a first come basis.
3. No money will be collected until the application has been accepted.
4. Fees to be paid via Direct Debit only.
5. The package is only open to those with a UK bank account.
6. Term of package is 24 months.
7. Once entered into, the only change to the cost of the package will be for increases in examination fees.
8. Examination results for individual examinations will only be issued if the fees for that examination are fully paid.
9. If a candidate does not pass MFDS Part 1 at the first attempt, the candidate should inform College immediately. College will suspend the Direct Debit collection, after ensuring that the fees for the Part 1 examination and course are fully paid. On passing the resit, the candidate must inform the College and the Direct Debit collection will resume.
10. Candidates wishing to take a career break should contact the College and arrangements will be made to suspend the Direct Debit collection.
11. Candidates on maternity leave should contact the College and arrangements will be made to suspend the Direct Debit collection.
Your College ● Your Future ● Your MFDS

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