

E: NHSdentistry@gov.scot

Francesca Osowska
Chief Executive
Scottish Funding Council
Apex 2
97 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HD

8 May 2025

Dear Ms Osowska,

DENTAL UNDERGRADUATE – RECOMMENDED INTAKE NUMBERS

I am writing to formally advise the Scottish Funding Council of Scottish Government's recommended undergraduate intake targets for the three Scottish dental schools.

While noting that the setting of intake targets is a matter for the Scottish Funding Council, as in previous years, I am providing you with notice of Scottish Ministers' recommended intake which takes account of the need to support overall workforce as well as the overall ambition of Scottish Government. The decision reached for AY 2025-26, as indicated in the Government's Operational Improvement Plan published on 31 March is an intake of 145 – covering those students who are eligible to pay 'home' fees, rest of UK students and students from the Republic of Ireland – with the increase on prior year directed towards Scots-domiciled students.

As in previous years, the Universities of Dundee and Glasgow will continue to be allowed to recruit international students into dentistry, and we also recommend that the University of Aberdeen also be allowed to take on an international student for AY 2025-26. The overall recommended intakes for each university are therefore set out below, and while these represent an increase, they should allow for student numbers already undertaking courses of study:

University	Scots/rUK intake	International intake	Total
University of Aberdeen	22	1	23
University of Dundee	51	11	62
University of Glasgow	72	15	87
Total	145	27	172

International students, including EU students without 'home fee' status from AY 2022-23, are expected to contribute towards ACT(D) via their student fees, as per previous agreements.

Please note that I have informally discussed these intakes with the universities and they have advised that the proposed increases can be accommodated while maintaining high quality courses for all students. I trust that the above is helpful to you for AY 2025-26 planning.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Ferris
Chief Dental Officer