

# Research? Is that for me.....

Opportunities to develop a research career are available for **any registered dental professional**, including those working in dental practice.

If you are looking at ways to enhance your career then becoming involved in research can lead to many opportunities. The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) offer funding to pay you at your normal rate to spend time completing academic qualifications (like a masters or PhD) and research projects. You also apply for money towards training courses and conference attendance.

There are 3 main different funding streams depending on your experience, you can apply at any stage or work up through them. There is also an additional support fund which can be used to help you develop applications.



## Stage One: Pre- doctoral award

Designed to advance your career to masters level  
Gives protected time to develop a PhD application  
12 month full time award (part time available)  
Up to 20% clinical time

For example:  
A dental therapist completing a research masters

Funding available for:  
Salary  
Conference fees  
Training  
Working with people and communities



## Stage Two: Doctoral Award

Opportunity to complete a PhD on a research topic of your choice  
3-year full time programme (part time available)  
Up to 20% clinical time

For example:  
A dental nurse completing a PhD researching into mental health support for DCPs

Funding available for:  
Salary  
Conference fees  
Training  
Working with people and communities  
Research costs



## Stage Three: Post- doctoral Award

Opportunity to complete further research on a topic of your choice to support your academic career development  
Between 2 to 5 year full time programme (part time available)  
Up to 40% clinical time

For example:  
A dental hygienist with a PhD leading research into periodontal treatment

Funding available for:  
Salary  
Conference fees  
Training  
Working with people and communities  
Research costs  
Research support

## Extra help: Pre-application support fund

If you aren't quite ready to submit an application to the other awards you can apply for up to 12 months flexible funding to give you time to improve your CV. Funding is available for salary support, training and development, conference attendance and mentoring.

For example:  
A dentist who wants to apply for a doctoral award who already has a masters but needs some additional research skills and wants to conduct a scoping review in their area of interest to determine the focus for their PhD

[For more information about building a research career visit the NIHR-Supported Incubator in Oral Health website](#)

or email: [oralhealthincubator@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:oralhealthincubator@sheffield.ac.uk)