

Press Release

14 June 2005

GDC agrees registration fees for 2006

The General Dental Council has agreed new registration fee levels for 2006. Subject to Privy Council approval, the fees will be:

Registration fees 2006			
	Dentists	Dental hygienists and dental therapists	Specialists (Oral Surgery & Orthodontics)
Retention	£409	£68	n/a
Temporary registration	£409	n/a	n/a
First registration	£34 per month or part thereof from the first month in which the entry is made until 31 December of that year	£10	£250
Restoration (other than after erasure at the direction of the Professional Conduct Committee)	£100	£10	n/a

The new levels will mean a registration and retention fee increase of £13 (3.2%) for dentists. The increase, which is in line with inflation, aims to help the Council deal with any unpredicted increases in demands and should avoid the need for sharper fee increases in the future.

As GDC President Hew Mathewson explains:

“The Council is taking a prudent approach and is recommending a fee increase pegged to inflation for the second year running. The £13 increase, although relatively modest, will enable us to build up our reserves and be better equipped for the future.”

Under current legislation, GDC fees for dental hygienists and dental therapists must be approved by both Houses of Parliament, whereas fees for dentists require Privy Council approval. Given that fee levels need to be set by the autumn and the difficulty of securing parliamentary time for this, the Council has decided to hold the current fees for dental hygienists and dental therapists for a second year. Had the Council had the power to, it would have increased the fees for these categories of registrant by the same percentage as the dentist fee – bringing it up to £72. In the future, subject to legislative changes now being considered by parliament, the GDC will be able to set the fees for all categories of registrant itself. The fact that dental hygienists’ and dental therapists’ fees have remained the same for the last two years will then be taken into account.

The Council has also reconfirmed its position that fee discounts should not be introduced for particular groups of registrants, for example on the grounds of age or employment status.