

**From:** Ellen Simpson  
**Sent:** Friday, 6 September 2024 12:09 pm  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Re: Consultation on proposed 2025/26 budget and fees

Dear DCNZ,

I would like to raise awareness that in the APC fee structure there is no allowance for postgraduate students. I graduated in 2019 and am now studying a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery to pursue a career in Oral and Maxillofacial surgery (OMS). OMS is of high importance for dentists as it is an area of specialist referral as well as taking care of patients if they end up in the tertiary health care system from dental related infections/trauma. Going back to study for 3 years is a huge financial opportunity cost as we are paying nearly \$18,000 a year in course related fees and cost of living these days on very minimal income makes it all the more challenging!

I am only doing a few hours a week (at most) of dentistry as this is all the time I have to be able to do this. The income I generate from these few hours is hardly enough to pay the bills. I was wondering if there's any way DCNZ could have a look into potentially giving the postgraduate students an allowance for each year of study to keep up their APC?

Warm regards,  
Ellen Simpson