

Dental Council's Fee and Levy Consultation

Proposal for:

- Annual practising certificate fees for oral health practitioners
- Disciplinary levies for oral health practitioners
- **Other fees** (registration, examination, competence, accreditation, and other miscellaneous fees)
- 2026/27 budget

Issued: Monday 17 November 2025

Submissions close: Friday 19 December 2025 at 5pm

Summary of proposals:

The Dental Council | Te Kaunihera Tiaki Niho (Council) is consulting on:

1. The proposed 2026/27:
 - a. annual practising certificate (APC) fees; and
 - b. disciplinary levies for oral health practitioners.

Summarised together as follows:

Profession	Proposed APC fee \$	Proposed disciplinary levy \$	TOTAL Proposed APC fee and disciplinary levy \$	TOTAL GST inclusive \$
Dentists and dental specialists	1,144.02	422.33	1,566.36	1,801.31
Oral health therapists	857.85	230.04	1,087.88	1,251.07
Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	758.46	370.11	1,128.57	1,297.85
Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians	983.88	165.31	1,149.20	1,321.57
Dental therapists	852.06	446.25	1,298.31	1,493.06

2. All other fees (registration, examination, competence, accreditation, and other miscellaneous fees) with a proposed cost and inflation adjustment of 2.5%.
3. The 2026/27 budget.

Figures in this proposal are exclusive of GST, unless otherwise stated.

The proposed dentists and dental specialist APC fee and disciplinary levy applies from 1 October 2026. All other fees and levies proposed apply from 1 April 2026.

The Council will give effect to the fees and levies by publishing in the New Zealand Gazette (www.gazette.govt.nz).

Feedback and submissions

Details of how to make submissions and provide feedback is on page 10 of this document. Submissions close on **Friday 19 December 2025 at 5pm**.

Please note that all submissions received, including the name of the submitter, will be published on our website and will remain publicly available. If you are a registered oral health practitioner, the published submission will include your name and your profession. All other personal details will be removed before publication.

Introduction

The Dental Council | Te Kaunihera Tiaki Niho (Council) prescribes annual practising certificate (APC), and other fees for oral health practitioners¹ under section 130 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act). The Council imposes disciplinary levies for oral health practitioners under s131 of the Act.

This consultation sets out the Council's:

- proposed APC fees for oral health therapists, dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, dental technicians and clinical dental technicians, and dental therapists for the practising year 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027;
- proposed disciplinary levies for oral health therapists, dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, dental technicians and clinical dental technicians, and dental therapists for the practising year 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027;
- proposed APC fee for dentists and dental specialists for the practising year 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027;
- proposed disciplinary levy for dentists and dental specialists for the practising year 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027;
- proposed registration, examination, competence, accreditation, and other miscellaneous fees effective from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027; and
- proposed 2026/27 budget underlying the above fees and levies.

Background

The current model of health practitioner regulation in New Zealand means that the cost of regulation falls on the profession itself. In principle this model represents the investment that oral health practitioners collectively make towards maintaining professional credibility and a high level of public trust. The Council are mindful of the impact of this cost on oral health practitioners in the context of affordability, financial pressures and other constraints.

The Council is responsible for protecting the health and safety of members of the public by ensuring that oral health practitioners are competent and fit to practise their professions.

¹ Dentists, dental specialists, oral health therapists, dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, dental therapists, dental technicians, and clinical dental technicians.

The Council follows the good practice guide published by the [Office of the Auditor General](#) and Government expectations for good regulatory practice guidelines as published on the [Ministry for Regulation](#) website. Wherever practicable the Council's budget, fees and levies are calculated on a cost recovery basis. The Council endeavours to cover all costs over a one-to-two-year period, whilst considering the impact on reserves over the same period.

A minimum level of reserves for each profession is maintained in accordance with the Council's [Level of Reserves Policy](#). As part of each annual budget process, the level of reserves held is reviewed for each profession. The commitment is to operate in a cost effective and fiscally responsible way for practitioners, while balancing obligations to protect the health and safety of the New Zealand public.

To maintain appropriate operational reserves and sustain financial viability, Council, wherever possible:

- budgets and forecasts prudently;
- rations and prioritises resources; and
- adjusts APC fees to meet operational activities and to provide reserves against an unknown number of competence cases, appeals or judicial reviews.

Fees and levies

APC fees (s130 of the Act)

Money received from APC fees can only be used in the operation of the profession for which the fee was invoiced for as we cannot cross subsidise between professions. APC fees are charged to practitioners annually as, with the exception of complaints, competence, and health matters, the Council can plan for a large proportion of these costs in advance, and more importantly can control the timing of such costs. Less controllable are costs associated with complaints, competence, and health matters. In the preparation of APC fees, Council continues to be mindful of operating as cost effectively as possible.

Whilst Council effectively operates a shared services model across our professions, it is for each profession to bear a fair and transparent portion of these overall costs.

Comparison of prior and current year APC fees

Profession	2025/26 APC fee \$	2026/27 APC fee (Proposed) \$	Movement \$	
Dentists and dental specialists	1,137.18	1,144.02	6.84	Increase
Oral health therapists	868.47	857.85	(10.62)	Decrease
Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	701.67	758.46	56.79	Increase
Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians	804.80	983.88	179.09	Increase
Dental therapists	933.78	852.06	(81.72)	Decrease

It is important to state that the dental technicians and clinical dental technicians have a large increase due to the need to top up the professions' minimum operational reserve. Combined with the historic return of capital reserves, increased profession specific costs have resulted in a low opening reserve balance on 1 April 2025, well below the minimum reserve. The proposed budgeted operational reserve for the profession is \$25,802.

Disciplinary levies (s131 of the Act)

Disciplinary levies cover costs for known and projected conduct cases that require investigation following notification to Council. When such a notification is received the Council has a responsibility to assess and manage the matter to ensure public safety and professional standards are met. Concerns about a practitioner's conduct or the safety of their practise can arise from various sources, such as the public, colleagues, employers, other health practitioners, the Health and Disability Commissioner (HDC), police, or from a court notification of a conviction.

Oral health practitioners are expected to respect patients rights and follow the ethical principles and professional standards described in the [Standards Framework](#). Failing to provide appropriate care or acting in a way that compromises professional integrity may lead to a disciplinary process. If the Council believes the information received raises questions about conduct or safety to practise, it may refer the matter to an independent Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) to investigate. Following investigation, the PCC may then choose to lay charges to the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal (HPDT) if they find a practitioner has breached the professional standards set by Council.

Costs of a PCC investigation and the HPDT hearing can only legally be covered by the disciplinary levy raised from each profession.

The 2026/27 proposed budget allows for the continued trend in the number, complexity, and cost of conduct cases at a similar rate to that experienced in 2025/26 taking into consideration the additional disciplinary levy imposed. Due to this trend Council has needed to increase the minimum disciplinary reserves held across all professions.

Comparison of prior and current year disciplinary levies

Profession	2025/26			2026/27 Disciplinary levy (proposed)	Movement	
	Disciplinary levy	Additional disciplinary levy	TOTAL Disciplinary levy			
	\$	\$		\$	\$	
Dentists and dental specialists	105.89	335.00	440.89	422.33	(18.55)	Decrease
Oral health therapists	(0.59)	150.00	149.41	230.04	80.63	Increase
Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	90.97	355.00	445.97	370.11	(75.86)	Decrease
Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians	(0.09)	-	(0.09)	165.31	165.40	Increase
Dental therapists	(50.82)	215.00	164.18	446.25	282.07	Increase

The costs associated with a conduct case vary significantly depending on the nature of each case. For example, the costs for an independent investigation by a PCC can range from \$20,000 up to \$50,000, with highly complex cases exceeding this upper amount.

Costs for a case that goes to an HPDT hearing can range anywhere from \$70,000 to \$350,000, with highly complex cases exceeding this upper amount, depending on the number of hearing days, legal complexity, and patients involved. The HPDT can award costs to the Council, however the average of costs historically awarded is around 33% of actual costs incurred. Where awarded, Council then has to be able to collect the costs from the practitioner, which are not always forthcoming. Following improvements made in process by both the Council and HPDT, a PCC investigation and HPDT hearing can potentially now be heard in the same financial year.

Combined fees and levies

For each profession the proposed 2026/27 APC fee and disciplinary levy is calculated from the budget. A top up or refund to the required minimum reserve funds by profession is calculated, to provide a net proposed APC fee, and separate net disciplinary levy for the year (refer Appendix 1 Tables 4 – 8).

Proposed 2026/27 budget

Overall position

The proposed 2026/27 budget allows Council to meet its core regulatory functions as well as continue to deliver a reduced level of [strategic plan initiatives](#). To ensure costs for practitioners are kept as low as possible, and with the uncertainty about the amendments to the Act, the scope of these initiatives has been much reduced. Essentially, Council is slowing delivery and spreading costs over a longer time frame. This approach mirrors 2025/26 where the Council have taken a prudent approach to the delivery of strategic initiatives we had budgeted to undertake in the year. This slowing has resulted in forecasting to underspend on strategic projects in 2025/26. These unused funds are being returned as part of this proposed budget cycle.

This same prudent approach has been taken when reviewing the timings and deliverables of the strategic projects for the proposed 2026/27 budget. Council have decided to slow down our strategic programme which has reduced the strategic initiatives to be delivered in 2026/27 until more is known about the potential amendments to the Act, and what will be required to implement and operationalise any changes. As such, the strategic project budget for 2026/27 is \$225k. We provide an overview of these projects below.

The budget proposes a **deficit of \$360k** (Appendix 1 Table 1), the deficit being driven by a reduction in forecast operational reserves as, per Council's normal process, we return unused monies from prior years to practitioners.

The Council budget extends at least 18 months into the future and budgets closing reserves through to 31 March 2027. During times of uncertainty, such as with the current review of the Act, or where the volume and nature of notifications change unexpectedly - with associated costs, actual spend may be lower, or higher, than budget. Reserves then may move higher or lower than Council minimum levels. Within each annual budget cycle Council reviews the minimum reserve levels for each profession and reserve type, and either tops up or refunds unused monies as part of the APC fee and disciplinary levy calculations.

The review of the Act

In September 2025 the Government announced it would be introducing legislation to amend the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act). The amendments focus around timely, quality healthcare for all New Zealanders being dependant on the availability of a competent workforce. The changes aim to address the current inherent limitations on workforce challenges across the health system with the Minister's vision for New Zealand to be an attractive place for both the domestic and international health workforce, and for patients to have greater access when it comes to the health services they need. The proposed amendments require regulators to be more focused on:

- enabling access into the workforce through timely recognition of qualifications and registration of practitioners;
- broad scopes of practice that recognise the skills and capabilities of all types of practitioners, to encourage greater access of care for patients;
- working collaboratively on innovative solutions, such as digital health services, to deal with access challenges due to workforce shortages; and
- responding quickly to changes in patient needs and service models.

The proposed amendments aim to ensure regulation aligns with patient needs, health system policy and Government targets. This includes enabling the Minister to direct regulatory authorities to respond to health system needs and requiring the regulatory authorities to report publicly on their plans and performance. In addition, a new ministerial review committee will be established that can review decisions made by regulatory authorities to refuse registration or impose conditions.

Within this review the Minister has recognised that to date regulation under the current Act has contributed to high-quality and competent health practitioners in New Zealand. The amendments to the Act are not aimed at changing this and regulators will continue to focus on the core function of regulation albeit with an enhanced patient centric focus and stronger oversight. Any changes to the regulatory framework would need to be implemented and managed by the Council.

The full Cabinet policy paper can be found here: [Cabinet paper - Policy approval for amendments to the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.](#)

How Council budgets by profession

Net Council expenditure represents the Council's income less expenditure. As is the case with all Council budgets, net expenditure is proportionally allocated to each profession based on the number of practitioners who hold an APC in that profession.

Where income and expenditure can be accurately quantified and attributed to a specific profession, it is directly allocated to that profession.

Estimated APC holders by profession used for allocating net Council expenditure

Practitioners - APC holders	Actual 2023/24	Actual 2024/25	Forecast 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Dentists and dental specialists	2,705	2,735	2,780	2,805
Oral health therapists	913	895	991	1,073
Dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries	389	348	378	375
Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians	345	315	335	339
Dental therapists	283	249	250	240
Total Practitioners	4,635	4,542	4,734	4,832

Overview of proposed budget income and expenditure

The proposed total Council expenditure is \$7.82m, an increase of \$554k compared with the 2025/26 budgeted expenditure (Appendix 1 Table 2). The primary driver of this increase are our disciplinary costs which are budgeted at \$1.27m, being \$871k higher than the prior year.

The budgeted expenditure allows for inflationary cost adjustments and the ongoing uplift in notifications, offset by the significant reduction of \$720k in budgeted strategic project expenditure as deliverables are put on hold pending the outcome of the Act review.

Discipline costs

Our discipline costs have risen significantly, due to:

- the unprecedented number of conduct cases the Council are currently managing;
- the complexity of conduct cases being managed;
- a general increase in external legal costs; and
- improved timeframes that will see HPDT proceedings scheduled in the same year the PCC was ordered.

The proposed budget for disciplinary costs is \$1.27m. This caters for current cases costs expected to be incurred in 2026/27, and projected new cases based on current volumes.

As previously noted, as part of the 2026/27 budget process, the minimum level of reserves has been reviewed, resulting in an increase in the required minimum disciplinary reserves across all professions. These reserves provide a buffer for unexpected costs over and above the disciplinary and conduct case costs of \$1.27m that are in the budget.

The dental profession disciplinary reserve will increase from \$740k to \$900k, an uplift that is in line with the complexity and volatility seen in dental profession conduct cases.

Oral health therapists, dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries, and dental therapists will increase to a minimum disciplinary reserve of \$100k, up from \$27k. Holding these reserves allows for a single, low complexity conduct case requiring a PCC and the commencement of an HPDT proceeding within the same financial year. The Council note that the reserves are conservative given the current high level of activity across the professions.

Dental technicians and clinical dental technicians minimum disciplinary reserve will increase to \$50k from \$27k. This smaller increase reflects that there is no disciplinary activity in this profession. The reserve allows for a single, low complexity conduct case requiring a PCC. The increase simply reflects that whilst the average cost of a PCC at the time the 2024/25 budget was set had historically been around \$27k, the cost of a PCC has risen and reserves need to be adjusted to reflect this increased cost.

As is the case for each profession, should conduct matters and associated costs be incurred in a year that significantly deplete reserves held, an additional disciplinary levy may again be raised for that specific profession.

The proposed increase in disciplinary costs and the increase in minimum disciplinary reserves means a significantly higher disciplinary levy will be charged to all professions in this budget. In previous years where no budgeted disciplinary activity was seen in some professions a reserve refund was given to practitioners. These refunds, applied against each annual levy, meant that monies were returned to the practitioners they were imposed on. The current increase in disciplinary costs, combined with the minimum reserve increases, make up the total disciplinary levy to be raised (refer to Appendix 1 Tables 4 – 8).

Council strategic initiatives

As mentioned above, Council have paused most of the work on strategic initiatives. Moving initiatives into future financial years alleviates some of the current cost burden on practitioners, a prudent approach given the substantial increase in disciplinary levies.

Pending the outcome of the Act review, we are slowing down the Data Strategy initiative. The proposed budget includes \$75k to allow for core registration process enhancements, to meet regulatory reporting requirements in our integrated registry and finance IT system, as well as some website enhancements.

The Compliance Framework initiative carries a budget of \$50k to allow for the development of a clinical risk model that creates a framework, capturing information to track and predict trends and which can then be used to assign risk indicators against notifications.

Lastly, the budget allows \$100k for the Act review. With the uncertainty from the Government Policy Statement on Health 2024-27, it is difficult to quantify what work will be required to comply with the amendments to the Act. However, it is likely that the final outcome will require implementation of new processes and IT system development. Council envisage that its resources will need to be diverted to this implementation, taking away any capacity to deliver the full range of strategic initiatives in 2026/27.

Project and profession expenses (including increased disciplinary costs)

The total budget for project and profession expenses of \$4.31m covers the costs of Councils key functions, including disciplinary activity and support for those functions.

Ongoing activity in competence assessments is budgeted to be similar to 2025/26 with a budget of \$739k.

The proposed registration budget is \$552k, which includes reallocation of end-to-end process costs ensuring this process works on a cost recovery basis and registered practitioners are not cross subsidising registration applicants. Included in this budget is an allowance to operationalise our

expanded proposed recognition of prescribed qualifications across the three new pathways, if progressed following consultation.

The proposed budget for complaints has increased from \$187k to \$315k. This increase reflects the noticeable and ongoing rise in notifications received by the Council, a shift in the travel cost assumptions to better align with the actual current cost of travel, and an uplift for current rates of inflation. In addition, the current process allows the practitioner to have a support person present during practice visits. This process is now being amended by Council, so that, going forward, Council will also have two representatives attend practice visits.

Last year the Council had no budgeted accreditation activities with third party education providers. This year's proposed education and accreditation budget allows for the planned review of two postgraduate programmes. These accreditation reviews are a cost recovery activity with income offsetting expense.

Capital expenditure

Minimal capital expenditure has been proposed in the budget. The only capital costs Council anticipates are the replacement of end-of-life equipment, including laptops and additional office furniture.

As noted historically we have held a capital asset reserve (CAR) to allow for the prefunding of large capital expenditure. Last year's budget saw the return of the remainder of this reserve to practitioners. The winding down of this reserve resulted in a \$62.97 reduction in APC fees for every practitioner in 2025/26, a refund that is not available this year.

Adjustments to other fees

For the 2026/27 budget Council has applied an inflation uplift of 2.5% (rounded to the nearest dollar) to other fees.

Feedback and submissions

The Council invites all practitioners and other individuals or organisations with an interest in this proposal to comment. We welcome and value all submissions, but please note, multiple, identical submissions do not carry any more weight than a single submission.

The consultation document will also be available on our website for feedback from any interested member or sector of the public.

The Council will consider all submissions and feedback received prior to making a final decision on the draft 2026/27 budget and proposed fees and levies outlined in this document.

The Council will give effect to any change in APC fees and disciplinary levies by placing a notice in the New Zealand Gazette (www.gazette.govt.nz).

All submissions received and the name of the submitter will be published on our website and will remain publicly available. Published submissions from individuals will include your name and your profession if you are a registered oral health practitioner. All other personal and contact details will be removed.

The Council reserves the right to not publish any submissions considered derogatory or inflammatory.

As this is a public consultation, "in confidence" information will only be accepted under special circumstances. Please contact the Council before submitting material in confidence.

Your submissions must reach us by **5pm on Friday 19 December 2025**.

Please send your submissions to:

Email: consultations@dcnz.org.nz

Dental Council
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Ngā mihi



Marie MacKay
Chief Executive

Appendix 1: 2026/27 proposed budget

Table 1: Consolidated Dental Council deficit

Financial performance - 1 April to 31 March	2026/27	2025/26	2024/25
Summary	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual
	\$	\$	\$
Total Council operating income	5,747,008	5,682,773	5,805,088
Total Council disciplinary income	1,708,723	323,086	388,991
Total Council income	7,455,732	6,005,859	6,194,079
Total Council operating expenditure	(6,548,875)	(6,818,624)	(6,534,008)
Total Council disciplinary expenditure	(1,267,221)	(443,102)	(443,102)
Total Council expenditure	(7,816,097)	(7,261,726)	(6,977,110)
Total Council deficit	(360,365)	(1,255,867)	(783,031)

Table 2: Council expenditure prior to allocation to the professions

Expenditure - 1 April to 31 March	2026/27	2025/26	2024/25
	Proposed budget	Budget	Actual
	\$	\$	\$
Administration expenses			
Personnel costs	2,181,357	2,045,227	1,760,004
Staff welfare, training, ACC levies and recruitment	201,679	192,162	290,154
Office expenses	74,460	75,828	98,924
Publications and media monitoring	26,010	63,750	48,891
Audit fees	23,916	29,566	21,610
Rent and building outgoings	226,173	210,108	193,078
Insurance	107,169	111,380	93,041
Bank charges	65,280	51,000	59,212
Legal and professional fees	150,000	118,000	249,880
Amortisation and depreciation	222,294	214,564	214,167
Total administration expenses	3,278,336	3,111,585	3,028,961
Project and profession expenses			
Dental Council and Committee - fees and expenses	466,996	522,100	392,085
Information technology	375,440	446,613	418,103
New Zealand and international liaison	118,478	152,130	80,331
Strategic and organisational planning	-	-	1,091,416
Standards framework	177,935	171,000	51,957
Other expenses	10,000	-	9,500
Education and accreditation	182,249	91,734	299,784
Examinations	30,712	24,712	40,390
Registration	551,965	438,225	265,958
Recertification	55,800	26,000	60,700
Complaints	314,970	187,296	122,154
Fitness to practise	22,000	10,000	9,644
Competence assessments and reviews	738,994	738,903	339,077
Discipline - professional conduct committees	612,221	221,427	214,767
Discipline - Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal	655,000	175,000	228,334
Discipline - disciplinary case appeals	-	-	-
Total project and profession expenses	4,312,760	3,205,140	3,624,200
Strategic projects			
Cultural Safety	-	165,000	-
Data Strategy	75,000	490,000	-
Compliance Framework	50,000	190,000	-
HPCA Act Review	100,000	100,000	-
Total strategic projects	225,000	945,000	-
Total expenditure	7,816,097	7,261,726	6,653,161

Table 3: Budgeted operating surplus/(deficit) by profession

Budgeted (deficit)/surplus by profession	Dentists	Oral health therapists	Hygienists	Technicians	Therapists	TOTAL
For the year to 31 March 2027	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Income						
APC fees	3,208,986	863,279	274,815	321,730	199,382	4,868,192
Disciplinary levy	1,184,646	231,495	134,103	54,057	104,424	1,708,723
Other income	650,668	112,033	56,306	34,821	24,988	878,816
Total income	5,044,300	1,206,806	465,224	410,608	328,793	7,455,732
Expenditure						
General administration	1,942,214	696,797	250,884	226,418	162,024	3,278,336
Profession operational expenditure	2,412,519	305,861	125,180	102,610	99,369	3,045,539
Profession discipline expenditure	982,806	166,914	58,494	25,862	33,147	1,267,221
Project expenditure	133,299	47,823	17,219	15,540	11,120	225,000
Total expenditure	5,470,838	1,217,394	451,776	370,430	305,660	7,816,097
Net (deficit)/surplus	(426,538)	(10,587)	13,448	40,178	23,134	(360,365)

Table 4: Proposed 2026/27 APC fee and disciplinary levy for dentists and dental specialists

APC fee and disciplinary levy	2023/24 Actual \$	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Actual \$	2026/27 Proposed \$
APC Fee	1,112.95	1,394.14	1,417.69	1,368.04
Capital replacement reserve (refund)	-	(74.26)	(62.97)	-
Minimum reserve (refund)	(40.76)	(244.06)	(217.54)	(224.02)
Total APC fee	1,072.19	1,075.82	1,137.18	1,144.02
Disciplinary levy	113.37	119.56	126.06	350.38
Minimum reserve (refund)/top-up	(175.20)	7.90	(20.17)	71.96
Total disciplinary levy	(61.83)	127.46	105.89	422.33
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (excl GST)	1,010.36	1,203.28	1,243.07	1,566.36
GST	151.55	180.49	186.46	234.95
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (incl GST)	1,161.91	1,383.77	1,429.53	1,801.31

Table 5: Proposed 2026/27 APC fee and disciplinary levy for oral health therapists

APC fee and disciplinary levy	2023/24 Actual \$	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Actual \$	2026/27 Proposed \$
APC Fee	717.39	898.25	1,009.46	932.54
Capital replacement reserve (refund)	-	(74.26)	(62.97)	-
Minimum reserve top-up/(refund)	49.64	64.57	(78.03)	(74.70)
Total APC fee	767.03	888.56	868.47	857.85
Disciplinary levy	-	-	-	165.86
Minimum reserve (refund)/top-up	(5.34)	(6.82)	(0.59)	64.17
Total disciplinary levy	(5.34)	(6.82)	(0.59)	230.04
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (excl GST)	761.70	881.74	867.88	1,087.88
GST	114.25	132.26	130.18	163.18
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (incl GST)	875.95	1,014.00	998.06	1,251.07

Table 6: Proposed 2026/27 APC fee and disciplinary levy for dental hygienists and orthodontic auxiliaries

APC fee and disciplinary levy	2023/24 Actual \$	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Actual \$	2026/27 Proposed \$
APC Fee	767.77	946.91	997.39	930.02
Capital replacement reserve (refund)	-	(74.26)	(62.97)	-
Minimum reserve top-up/(refund)	26.11	(91.17)	(232.75)	(171.56)
Total APC fee	793.88	781.49	701.67	758.46
Disciplinary levy	-	54.74	59.64	161.44
Minimum reserve (refund)/top-up	(4.93)	(3.61)	31.33	208.67
Total disciplinary levy	(4.93)	51.14	90.97	370.11
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (excl GST)	788.95	832.62	792.64	1,128.57
GST	118.34	124.89	118.90	169.29
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (incl GST)	907.29	957.52	911.53	1,297.85

Table 7: Proposed 2026/27 APC fee and disciplinary levy for dental technicians and clinical dental technicians

APC fee and disciplinary levy	2023/24 Actual \$	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Actual \$	2026/27 Proposed \$
APC Fee	789.32	920.76	1,018.47	947.24
Capital replacement reserve (refund)	-	(74.26)	(62.97)	-
Minimum reserve (refund)/top-up	(24.33)	(28.60)	(150.70)	36.65
Total APC fee	764.99	817.90	804.80	983.88
Disciplinary levy	-	-	-	79.09
Minimum reserve (refund)/top-up	(22.81)	(1.27)	(0.09)	86.22
Total disciplinary levy	(22.81)	(1.27)	(0.09)	165.31
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (excl GST)	742.18	816.63	804.71	1,149.20
GST	111.33	122.49	120.71	172.38
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (incl GST)	853.51	939.13	925.41	1,321.57

Table 8: Proposed 2026/27 APC fee and disciplinary levy for dental therapists

APC fee and disciplinary levy	2023/24 Actual \$	2024/25 Actual \$	2025/26 Actual \$	2026/27 Proposed \$
APC Fee	898.23	1,097.88	1,190.47	1,057.80
Capital replacement reserve (refund)	-	(74.26)	(62.97)	-
Minimum reserve top-up/(refund)	164.93	(175.90)	(193.72)	(205.74)
Total APC fee	1,063.17	847.72	933.78	852.06
Disciplinary levy	-	95.79	50.81	141.65
Minimum reserve (refund)/top-up	(84.85)	2.70	(101.63)	304.60
Total disciplinary levy	(84.85)	98.49	(50.82)	446.25
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (excl GST)	978.32	946.20	882.96	1,298.31
GST	146.75	141.93	132.44	194.75
Total APC fee and disciplinary levy (incl GST)	1,125.07	1,088.13	1,015.41	1,493.06

Appendix 2: Other 2026/27 proposed fees (excluding GST)

Fee	Current fee \$	Proposed fee \$
Registration and retention fees		
Application to transfer from non-practising to practising status where applicant is subject to recency of practice policy	374.00	383.00
Application for registration (New Zealand and Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition applicants)	623.00	639.00
Application for registration for overseas applicant with prescribed qualifications and experience	1,558.00	1,597.00
Application for registration for applicant with non-prescribed qualifications and experience to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act (dentists, hygienists, therapists, clinical dental technicians, dental technicians, orthodontic auxiliaries, oral health therapists)	7,331.00	7,514.00
Application for registration for applicant with non-prescribed specialist qualifications and experience to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act (dental specialists)	8,599.00	8,814.00
Resubmission of application for assessment of non-prescribed qualifications and experience to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act	3,661.00	3,753.00
Withdrawal of registration for applicant with non-prescribed qualifications and experience to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act (dentists, hygienists, therapists, clinical dental technicians, dental technicians, orthodontic auxiliaries, oral health therapists) when application has been submitted for a period longer than 90 days	1,466.00	1,503.00
Withdrawal of registration for applicant with non-prescribed specialist qualifications and experience to be registered under section 15(2) of the Act (dental specialists) when application has been submitted for a period longer than 90 days	1,720.00	1,763.00
Application for removal of an exclusion(s) on the scope of practice after completion of a Dental Council approved course/accredited programme	343.00	352.00
Application for removal of an exclusion(s) on the scope of practice after completion of a course not approved by the Dental Council	623.00	639.00
Application for registration with a prescribed qualification in an additional scope of practice	343.00	352.00
Application for registration with a non-prescribed qualification in an additional scope of practice	964.00	988.00
Application for variation on the scope of practice	343.00	352.00
Application to undertake supervised activities for orthodontic auxiliaries while undertaking an approved training course	125.00	128.00
Retention on the Register	206.00	211.00
Application for restoration to the Register	623.00	639.00
Examination fees		
New Zealand Dental Hygiene Registration Examination (NZDHREX) – written examination	6,304.00	6,462.00
New Zealand Dental Hygiene Registration Examination (NZDHREX) – clinical examination	8,195.00	8,400.00
New Zealand Dental Therapy Registration Examination (NZDTREX) – written examination	6,304.00	6,462.00
New Zealand Dental Therapy Registration Examination (NZDTREX) – clinical examination	8,195.00	8,400.00
New Zealand Oral Health Therapy Registration Examination (NZOHTREX) – written examination	6,304.00	6,462.00
New Zealand Oral Health Therapy Registration Examination (NZOHTREX) – clinical examination	8,195.00	8,400.00
New Zealand Dental Technology Registration Examination (NZDTechREX) – combined examination (written and technical)	8,195.00	8,400.00
New Zealand Dental Specialist Registration Examination	24,464.00	25,076.00

Fee	Notes	Current fee \$	Proposed fee \$
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Programme fees

Supervision (12 month programme)	1,2,3	Cost recovery	
Oversight (12 month programme)	1,2,3	5,208.00	5,338.00
Competence/recertification programme	1,2,3	Cost recovery	
Distance learning – per module		4,034.00	4,135.00
Clinical training – per practice area of training		6,904.00	7,077.00

Health programme fees

Drug and alcohol screening programme – set up and administration	1,2,3	Cost recovery	
Set up and administration first 12 months		1,141.00	1,170.00
Administration each 12 months thereafter		570.00	584.00
Third party testing – administration fee per test		164.00	168.00

Notes:

1. Fee will be adjusted for any specific requirements of the individual programme and third-party costings at the time the programme is established.
2. The practitioner will be charged direct professional fees and travel and accommodation expenses for supervisors, those providing oversight, tutors, course administrators etc. These expenses will be charged on an actual and reasonable basis in accordance with the Dental Council's fees and payments and expenditure decisions and probity policies. Course materials, venue costs and administration expenses such as printing, and postage will also be charged based on actual costs.
3. The practitioner will be charged for secretariat administrative overheads at the applicable hourly rate.

Education Provider Fees

Accreditation of Programmes		Cost recovery	
All direct costs for site evaluation together with Council administration expenses will be charged to the Educational Institution under review. All costs will be due regardless of the outcome of the review.			
Accreditation Monitoring of Programmes		Cost recovery	
All direct costs for site evaluation together with Council administration expenses will be charged to the Educational Institution for the monitoring of conditions placed on programmes. The invoice will be generated at the end of the monitoring period, but at least annually if monitoring spans multiple financial years.			
Application for "removal of exclusion" course approval by providers who do provide training as part of a primary Dental Council accredited qualification	4	2,371.00	2,430.00
Application for "removal of exclusion" course approval by providers who do not provide training as part of a primary Dental Council accredited qualification	4	5,138.00	5,266.00
Application for approval of courses to equip registered oral health practitioners for registration in an additional scope of practice, for course providers who do provide training as part of a primary Dental Council accredited qualification	4	4,610.00	4,725.00
Application for approval of courses to equip registered oral health practitioners for registration in an additional scope of practice, for course providers who do not provide training as part of a primary Dental Council accredited qualification	4	8,073.00	8,275.00

Notes:

4. Not applicable for accreditation of adult restorative programmes.

Other fees

Administration fee	95.00	97.00
Application for additional registration advice	623.00	639.00
Secretariat administrative overhead fee - per hour	95.00	97.00
Certificate of good standing	125.00	128.00
Replacement registration or other certificate	125.00	128.00
Electronic copy of Register	273.00	280.00