

# Healthcare Science Career of the Week



## Operating Department Practitioner

Pay Scale: Band 4 to 7: £21,000-£80,000

**AMAZING FACT** | You get to work with a surgery team and go into surgery. Yes, you read that right, YOU GET TO GO INTO SURGERY!!!

An ODP is part of the operating team and work in surgical theatres. They work with patients in the anaesthetic phase, surgical phase and recovery phase. There are load of different jobs they can do from infection control to passing the surgical instruments to the surgeon. This means you have to count the instruments out and then count them back in – don't leave them in the patient!

After surgery an ODP can be involved in wound care, making sure the patient is recovering well and there is no risk of infection. This is such an important role and they have to work as part of a wide clinical team.



## AMAZING FACT 2

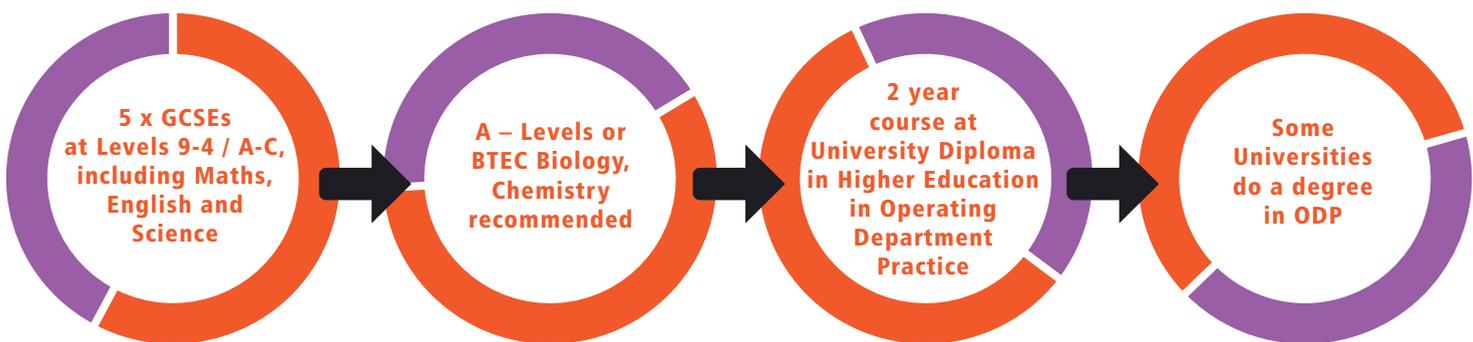
At the time of writing you could study for 2 years and qualify with a Diploma in Higher Education or study for 3 years for a Bachelor of Science Degree.



### HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

An ODP is heavily involved with patient care throughout surgery, so if working with patients is something you are really interested in, you should check out all of the Physiology careers as well.

### What to do to get into this career...



### Top Tip

Check out the range of courses at University that would be relevant for this career and then check what the entry requirements are for each of them for a more accurate picture.

Some students can get their tuition fees paid for, get a £1,000 grant and apply for a £4,395 means-tested bursary if they are eligible. To find out more go to [www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/students](http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/students)

To find out where to study you can also check out this great course finder on the NHS Careers website [www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/courses/](http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/courses/)



### SEARCH

Check out [www.copd.org.uk](http://www.copd.org.uk) to find ODP courses and more in depth info on this career.



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