

**DENTAL HYGIENIST**

**Nature of Work:** Under general supervision, performs work at the full-performance level by promoting and providing dental hygiene and prophylaxis in a state health facility, rehabilitation facility, or public health clinic. Has some latitude to vary methods and procedures used to promote and educate the public about oral hygiene. Performs administrative duties related to educational programs. Performs related work as required.

**Examples of Work**

- Develops and presents dental health education materials to school children and clients.
- Performs subgingival and supragingival scaling.
- Removes soft and hard deposits on teeth and polishes coronal surfaces.
- Demonstrates proper brushing techniques.
- Exposes dental X-rays; develops and mounts X-rays.
- Makes topical application of medication to exposed surfaces of teeth.
- Assists teachers and school officials in planning school dental health programs.
- Conducts meetings and demonstrates examinations for teachers, school officials, parents, students and other groups to stimulate interest in dental health programs.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Knowledge of dental theory as it relates to dental development, hygiene, and prevention of oral diseases.
- Knowledge of basic principles involved in the planning, organization, and administration of public health programs.
- Knowledge of the function community agencies.
- Ability to determine the dental health problems of an area and to suggest programs to meet the needs of the area.
- Ability to organize and conduct meetings of teachers, parents, and health committees on the subject of dental health.
- Ability to demonstrate the techniques of dental inspection, cleaning and repair.
- Ability to write and edit material for publication.
- Ability to speak effectively on dental health programs and to adopt lecture material for presentation to various types of audiences.
- Ability to maintain favorable public relations.

**Minimum Qualifications**

**Training:** Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a baccalaureate degree in Dental Hygiene.

**Substitution:** Experience as a dental hygienist may substitute for the required training on a year-for-year basis up to a maximum of two years.

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DENTAL HYGIENIST (CONT'D)

**Minimum Qualifications (cont'd)**

**Special Requirement:** Licensed to practice dental hygiene from the West Virginia Board of Dental Examiners.

**NOTE:** Professional class for salary purposes.

Established: 7/16/92

Effective: 8/16/92