Employment Opportunities

- Business owner/Employed in government institutions or private corporations
- Research
- Academe
- Pursue Dentistry
Dental Hygienist

A dental hygienist is one of the auxiliary personnel of the dental office who takes a thorough medical and dental history of the patient, renders oral examination, promotes prevention, oral hygiene education and motivates patients to maintain optimum oral health. They also clean the patients oral cavity, and take diagnostic aids including radiographs for the dentist.

Functions

- Makes dental and medical histories
- Clinically examines the teeth, gums and the oral cavity
- Performs scaling, root planning and polishing of the teeth
- Assists the dentist by taking diagnostic aids that will help the dentist in arriving at a diagnosis. This may include, taking of periapical and panoramic radiographs, making impressions, checking tooth vitality
- Assists dental specialists
- Promotes oral hygiene education and instruction to reinforce a behavioral modification in patients for self performance of oral hygiene measure

Skills and Competencies

- Good visual acuity
- Diagnostic ability and manual skills
- Ability in interpreting data gathered
- Excellent clinical judgement
- Good motivational skills

Basic Educational Requirement

To become a dental hygienist, a 2 year Diploma in Dental Hygiene from a government recognized school under a College of Dentistry is required. Passing the Dental Hygienists Licensure Examination given by the Professional Regulation Commission is necessary to make a dental hygienist eligible to practice his profession in the country under the supervision of a licensed dentist.

Cost of Education

Cost of education may range from P20,000 – P30,000 per semester in private schools and universities.