

## DENTAL HYGIENIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves application of technical knowledge in the field of dentistry. An incumbent may assist in the planning and performs activities necessary to the conduct of a preventive and treatment program. The work is carried out under general supervision. Supervision of the work of others is not normally a responsibility of this class. A Dental Hygienist does related work as required.

### TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Provides dental prophylaxis and other hygiene measures, including instruction in home care of the mouth;
- Applies medicaments, such as fluorides to aid in arresting dental decay;
- Performs oral examination, evaluates oral conditions, and refers patients for corrective dental care;
- Counsels patients regarding necessity of regular preventive care and sources of care within the community;
- Advises of the importance of diet and nutrition to good dental health;
- May specialize in providing clinical services and health education in programs designed to improve and maintain oral health of children;
- May lecture community organizations and other interested groups on oral hygiene using motion pictures, charts, and other visual aids to augment service of dentist;
- Maintains records and makes reports used in evaluation of the work;
- Charts conditions of decay and disease for diagnosis and treatment by a dentist.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Working knowledge of the principles and practices of dental hygiene; working knowledge of the basic principles, practices, and techniques of dental health education; skill in communicating the principles of effective dental care to others; ability to prepare effective dental health education materials; good hand and eye coordination; good judgement; initiative; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a license to practice dental hygiene issued by the New York State Department of Education.

## CATTARAUGUS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Adopted: 5/8/84

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