

DENTAL HYGIENIST

JOB CODE: 3607
DEPARTMENT: Tioga Co. Public Health Department
CLASSIFICATION: Competitive
SALARY: CSEA – Salary Grade IX
ADOPTED: 1995; Revised 7/00, 9/01, 12/19; 03/22 Tioga Co. Personnel & Civil Service

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves performing dental hygiene services for patients in the Public Health Dental Program and on a mobile dental van vehicle. In collaboration with a Dentist, an incumbent is responsible for rendering oral hygiene services and education. The classification assists in operative and surgical cases and other dental procedures, as well as assisting with the evaluation of patients' oral and general health. The incumbent will educate patients and participate in community outreach events to promote dental health. General supervision is received from the Director of Dental Health Services. May direct the work of Dental Assistants. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

- Examines patients teeth for evidence of dental disease and deviations from normal and recommends dental treatment, charts cavities and prepares records;
- Performs dental hygiene clinical services including dental radiographs, prophylaxis, fluoride treatments and sealant applications;
- Scales and polishes patients teeth, removes stains by applying rotating brush, administers sodium fluoride treatment;
- Advises patients on proper diet, care and proper brushing of teeth;
- Discusses child's oral hygiene with parent;
- Gives group lectures in dental hygiene, prepares lesson outlines and lectures for school children, parents and nurses using posters, slides, models or motion pictures;
- Conducts toothbrush classes to teach children the correct method of brushing teeth;
- Compiles and prepares follow-up records, defect notices, monthly reports for Public Health Department, and statistical data for State School Based Dental Health Clinic;
- May perform light cleaning tasks to help maintain cleanliness of dental van and ensure patient safety;
- May remove snow or debris from area surrounding dental van to ensure patient safety.

FULL PERFORMANCE, KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of principles, procedures and terminology of dental hygiene; knowledge of special problems of child and adult oral health; good knowledge of nutrition as related to oral hygiene; ability to maintain dental charts and records; ability to prepare detailed reports; ability to get along well with others; ability to read and interpret medical histories and dental charts; initiative and resourcefulness; dependable; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's degree or higher in Dental Hygiene and one (1) year of full-time work experience (or its part-time equivalent) as a Dental Hygienist.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A license to practice as a Dental Hygienist issued by the New York State Education Department at the time of application and possession of such license at the time of permanent appointment and for the duration of employment;
- Possession of a current CPR certification at the time of appointment and maintain for the duration of employment;
- Must possess a valid driver's license at the time of appointment and maintain such license for the duration of employment;
- Must be available in the event of a public health emergency.