

# Klamath Health Partnership

## Job Description and Responsibilities



### Position: Dental Hygienist

**Salary Range:** \$  
**Status:** Non-Exempt  
**Reports to:** Dental Director  
**Location:** Klamath Open Door

Dental Hygienists are important members of the dental health care team who work with dentists in the delivery of dental care to patients. Hygienists use their knowledge and clinical skills to provide dental hygiene care for patients. They use their interpersonal skills to motivate and instruct patients on methods to prevent oral disease and to maintain oral health. The Dental Hygienist is responsible for the detection and treatment of periodontal diseases and periodic hygiene maintenance. The Dental Hygienist uses x-rays, mirrors, explorers and other diagnostic procedures to perform these functions.

#### Key Responsibilities

Participates in patient education of oral hygiene instruction and other dental related areas. Performs charting on patient by presenting problem, medical and dental history, and perio and tooth charting. Reviews social and health history of patient during each visit. Reinforces treatment plan for patient. Attends office training and meetings along with continuing education classes as needed. Cleans hygiene room, sterilizes instruments and prepares hygiene room for patients. Exposes, processes and evaluates developed radiographs. Takes and records blood pressure, temperature, color, respiration and pulse of patient. Experienced Dental Hygienists are also allowed to place and restore fillings with the discretion of the Dental Director. Performs the following procedures:

Prophylaxis	Scaling	Root planing
Closed gingival curettage	Inspect oral cavity	Apply topical anticariogenic agents
Applies temporary soft relines to full dentures.	Administers nitrous oxide under indirect supervision of dentist with Class 1 Nitrous Permit.	Fabricates bleaching trays/ Mouth guard/night guard
Bleaching kits	Patient education	Recare Appointments
Radiographs	Sealants	Fluoride applications
Polish teeth & restorations	Administers local anesthesia.	

Performs other duties as assigned.

#### Desired Skills:

- Dental Radiology and CPR/First Aid certification.
- Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions and procedure manuals.
- Possess the tact necessary to deal effectively with patients, dentists and employees.
- Possess knowledge of modern office equipment, systems and procedures.
- Bi-lingual: Spanish-speaking preferred

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### **Minimum Qualifications**

1. Graduate of an accredited dental hygiene program
2. Licensed to practice in the State of Oregon
3. CPR/First Aid certification

### **Accommodations:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to walk, talk, bend, lift, carry, write, and hear. The employee frequently is required to stand, walk, sit and use hands to finger, handle or feel. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, depth perception and ability to adjust focus.