

# DENTAL HYGIENIST



## WHAT THEY DO

Dental Hygienists make assessments, diagnose within scope of practice, develop appropriate treatment plans, and treat oral health conditions. They also detect oral pathology to bring to the attention of the dentist. They monitor and evaluate the need for oral health programs for individual clients and targeted populations. Dental hygienists are able to recommend the use and/or purchase of equipment, materials, and supplies.

## HOW THEY WORK

Dental hygienists work in a number of different facilities including hospitals and medical centers, as well as in private dental practices. Dental hygienists are also responsible for educating clients, caregivers, and the public about oral health.

## TRAINING

To become a Dental Hygienist, you must complete a Bachelor of Science degree specializing in dental hygiene. The University of Alberta has the only Alberta-based Dental Hygienist training program. Dental Hygienists are regulated by the College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Alberta.

Dental Hygienists in Alberta 2019 (CIHI 2019 data)	
<b>SUPPLY</b>	<b>3279</b>
<b>% CHANGE SINCE 2018</b>	<b>+0.9%</b>
<b>RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION</b>	<b>76.1</b>
<b>PROPORTION OF:</b>	
FEMALES	<b>95.9%</b>
MALES	<b>4.1%</b>

## RESOURCES

### REGULATORY BODY:

College of Registered Dental Hygienists of Alberta <https://www.crdha.ca/>

### ALBERTA ALIS PROFILE:

<https://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo/occupations-in-alberta/occupation-profiles/dental-hygienist/>

### AHS CAREER PROFILE:

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/careers/Page11740.aspx>