

CLASS TITLE: PRINCIPAL DENTAL HYGIENIST

Class Code: 02787400
Pay Grade: 21A
EO: E

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To perform responsible clinical dental services at a state institution by assisting the professional staff in the administration of oral health care by providing prophylaxes, scaling and fluoride application services; to assist a superior in the design, development and implementation of dental health education programs designed for institutionalized patients and the personnel caring for them; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the general supervision of a superior who reviews the work for results obtained and for conformity with established dental standards, techniques and procedures.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: As required, supervises and reviews the work of a subordinate staff assigned to the dental hygiene program.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To perform responsible clinical dental services at a state institution by assisting the professional staff in the administration of oral health care by providing prophylaxes, scaling and fluoride application services.

To assist a dentist during the examination and treatment of institutionalized patients.

To chart cavities and record irritations and infections.

To maintain records and dental charts of examinations, conditions found, treatments and appointments and prepare all required reports.

To attend dental meetings and/or conferences for the improvement of oral hygiene techniques and treatment.

To assist a superior in the design, development and implementation of dental health education programs designed for institutionalized patients and the personnel caring for them.

Through conferences, talks, distribution of educational materials, etc., to promote the need for routine systematic dental care, techniques of personal dental hygiene and the effects of nutrition on dental decay.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of oral hygiene and dental examination; a thorough knowledge of and skill in the use of the dental instruments used in performing oral prophylaxes, scaling and the application of fluoride solutions to teeth; a thorough knowledge of clinical procedures and regulations governing oral health care of patients in a state institution; the ability to assist in the planning and execution of dental health education programs involving preventive dentistry; the ability to prepare and present educational information either orally or in writing; the ability to work with physically, mentally or emotionally disturbed patients; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from a senior high school and a recognized school for dental hygiene.

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: employment as a dental hygienist either in a public or private agency with at least one year in the oral health care of moderately to profoundly retarded children and adults preferably in an institution setting.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Licensure as a dental hygienist by the Rhode Island Department of Health and must maintain such licensure as a condition of employment

Class Revised: December 22, 1985

Editorial Review: 3/15/03