Dental Hygienist

If you are looking for a job where you help people feel better about their teeth you may want to think about becoming a dental hygienist. In this occupation, one will serve all demographics of the population, from preschoolers to the elderly. In addition to preventive care appointments and scheduled procedures, you would be asked to assist in emergency calls. Dental hygienist will work late evenings and occasionally on the weekends. This career requires a calm, reassuring and friendly personality.

Job Qualifications

This job requires an Associate Degree in Dental Hygiene (some companies will require a Bachelor's degree). You will have to have a current, valid state license. Many companies will desire an employee who has excellent verbal communication skills. This career requires constant client interaction with varying situations. Companies also want to see that you have experience working with children. The dentist office can be a scary place for children, employers want employees who can put children and their parents as ease. Since this is a medical position, you must have a basic understand and knowledge of HIPAA privacy rules.

Job Duties

As a dental hygienist you is responsible for collecting medical and dental histories from patients. You chart dental conditions based on dentist's observations and evaluations. During the work day you will create molds of patients' teeth in preparation for dentures, bridges, and other prostheses. After each appointment you will sterilize dental instruments and tools. Throughout appointments you will instruct patients of all ages on proper dental hygiene and care. Along with taking X-rays of patients' teeth and develop them for dentist use.

Job Salary

The average dental hygienist salary in Florida is $32.40 per hour as of October 2, 2020. Salary can vary based on the company of employment.

Questions:

1. What occupation is this article about?
2. What level of education is required?
3. What are three job qualifications needed?
4. What is a helpful skills to have in this occupation?
5. Where can you find a job in this occupation?
6. What is the salary for this occupation?