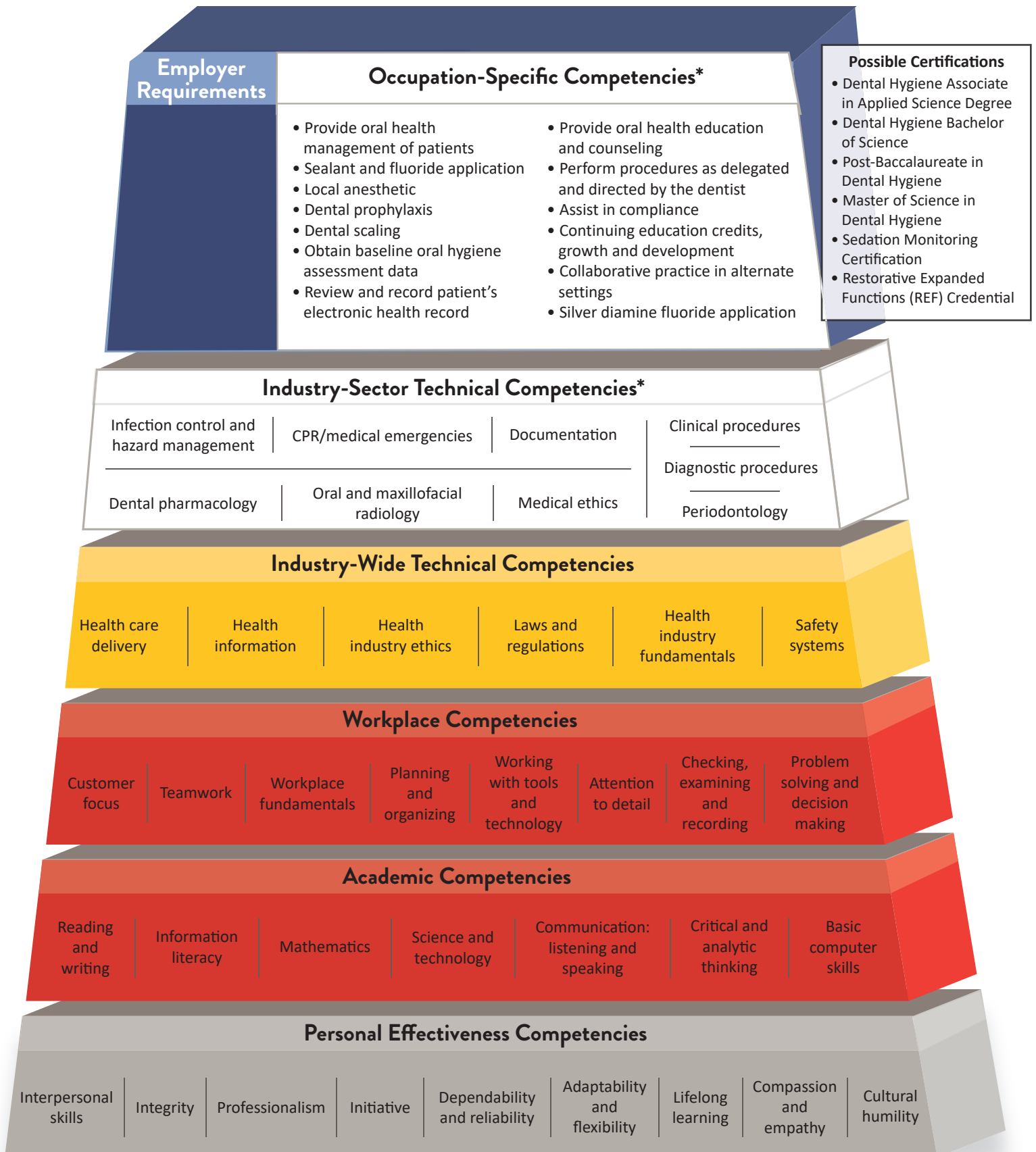


Minnesota Dual-Training Pipeline Competency Model for Health Care Services Occupation: Dental Hygienist



Based on: Health: Allied Health Competency Model Employment and Training Administration, United States Department of Labor, December 2011.

* Pipeline recommends the Industry-Sector Technical Competencies as formal training opportunities (provided through related instruction) and the Occupation-Specific Competencies as on-the-job training opportunities.



Competency Model for Health Care Services

Dental Hygienist – a licensed health care professional who works with the dentist, providing preventive, educational, and therapeutic services for the control of oral diseases and the promotion of both oral and overall health.

Industry-Sector Technical Competencies

- Infection control and hazard management – understand and practice infection control to ensure a sanitary dental environment for clients.
- Dental pharmacology – how drugs and medications used in dental treatment affects patients.
- Medical ethics – understand principles of medical ethics and how they apply in professional standards.
- Clinical procedures – core procedures in dentistry, how to accomplish and the rationale behind them.
- Documentation – written compilation of diagnosis and treatments that transpired during visit.
- Diagnostic procedures – evidence-based critical analysis and interpretation of assessments in order to provide the basis for the dental hygiene care plan.
- Oral and maxillofacial radiology – general principles of radiology, radiation protection, regulations and recent concepts of imaging.
- Periodontology – periodontal diseases, assessment and treatment options.
- CPR/Medical Emergencies – training including cardiopulmonary resuscitation on adults, children and infants and medical emergency management.

Occupation-Specific Competencies

- Provide oral health management of patients – provide services including dental prophylaxis, scaling, sealant application, fluoride application, periodontal screening and administering local anesthetic consistent with accepted professional standards.
- Sealant and fluoride application – to prevent the deterioration of enamel which can lead to infection and the need for restorative intervention.
- Local anesthetic – perform safe and effective administration techniques.

- Dental prophylaxis – cleaning of the teeth including removal of plaque, materia alba, calculus, and extrinsic stains as a preventive measure for control of gingivitis.
- Dental scaling – removal of calculus buildup below the gum line to prevent bacteria that could cause bone loss.
- Obtain baseline oral hygiene assessment data – based upon accepted principles.
- Review and record patient’s electronic health record – to reflect nature of contact, condition and care of patient and treatment provided. This includes patient’s vital signs and medical and dental histories.
- Provide oral health education and counseling – about good nutrition and its impact on oral and overall health.
- Perform procedures as delegated and directed by the dentist – in accordance with state regulations and law.
- Collaborative practice in alternate settings – commitment to advancing oral health professional practice, development of collaborative partnerships, and increasing access points for oral health care delivery.
- Silver Diamine Flouride Application – to stop the process of tooth decay.
- Assist in compliance with policies and procedures relative to infection control, exposure control, safety and HIPAA issues.
- Continuing education credits, growth and development – remain current in CPR at a level required for Minnesota licensure, completion of courses in medical emergencies and infection control as required under the collaborative practice in community settings statute, help increase knowledge of specific topics in the field as well as technological advancements.

Possible Certifications

- Dental Hygiene Associate in Applied Science Degree
- Dental Hygiene Bachelor of Science
- Post-Baccalaureate in Dental Hygiene
- Sedation Monitoring Certification
- Restorative Expanded Functions (REF) Credential
- Master of Science in Dental Hygiene
- Sedation Monitoring Certification
- Restorative Expanded Functions (REF) Credential

Dental Hygienist Occupational Competency Training Plan

	Course	Course Description	Credit/Non-Credit	Hours spent on Competency
<i>Related Instruction Competencies</i>				
Infection control and hazard management				
Dental pharmacology				
Medical ethics				
Clinical procedures				
Documentation				
Diagnostic procedures				
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology				
Periodontology				
CPR/Medical emergencies				
<i>On-The-Job Training is the work experience and instruction. Training experience need not be in the exact order as listed below.</i>				
	Trainer/Instructor	Name of person responsible for verifying competency mastery	Hours spent on competency	
Provide oral health management of patients				
Sealant and flouride application				

Local anesthetic			
Dental prophylaxis			
Dental scaling			
Obtain baseline oral hygiene assessment data			
Review and record patient's electronic health record			
Provide oral health education and counseling			
Perform procedures as delegated and directed by the dentist			
Collaborative practice in alternate settings			
Silver diamine fluoride application			
Assist in compliance			
Continuing education credits, growth and development			