

## Before You Apply

Dental hygienists scale teeth of hard deposits, examine patients for signs of oral diseases such as gingivitis, and provide other preventive dental care. They also educate patients on ways to improve and maintain good oral health.

Through the ordinary care of patients the dental hygienist may be exposed to saliva and blood, blood borne pathogens like the hepatitis viruses B, C, D; Herpes Viruses and the Human Immunodeficiency Virus, HIV.

Most all dental hygienists worked in dentists' offices. Ongoing research linking oral health to general health will continue to spur demand for preventive dental services, which are provided by dental hygienists.