

## Associate of Science Degree of Dental Hygiene Licensure as a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH)



### Educational Goals

Prepare dental hygienists who will be able to effectively assess, diagnose, plan, implement, and evaluate current dental hygiene services; develop appropriate decision-making skills and utilize professional judgment, conduct, and ethics to provide optimum care; promote innovative approaches to problem solving and critical thinking that stimulate independence and responsibility; enhance communication skills that enable students to work effectively with diverse populations as members of the health care team; promote active participation and leadership in community activities, service learning and professional associations; instill a commitment to strive for excellence, demonstrate lifelong involvement in their profession and community, and incorporate contemporary knowledge into the practice of dental hygiene; assume the dental hygiene roles of educator, clinician, researcher, administrator/manager, consumer advocate, and public health advocate.

### Minimum Requirements for entry into the program

- Students making application must complete the minimum requirements as outlined below to be considered. Admission to the dental hygiene program is competitive and it is to the student's advantage to apply with proven strength in science coursework.
- After pre-requisite coursework is met, the following are application requirements necessary to be considered:
  - ✓ All pre-requisite coursework completed or "in progress" must be grade of "C" or better and should have been completed within the last five (5) years.
  - ✓ Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended.
  - ✓ Completion and results of the Health Occupations Basic Entrance Test (HOBET).
  - ✓ Employment Verification form if applicable for credit of past dental assisting experience.
  - ✓ Completion of Observation form: sixteen (16) hours of dental hygiene observation.
  - ✓ Attend one of the DACC Dental Hygiene orientation sessions (scheduled each spring).
  - ✓ Copies of all certifications student currently holds i.e. certified dental assistant.

### Dental Hygiene Application Process

An overall GPA of 2.75 or higher is required. The pre-requisite courses (29 credits) listed below or their equivalents must be completed or “in progress” spring semester before an application can be processed.

- BIOL 225 Human Anatomy & Physiology I (4)
- BIOL 226 Human Anatomy & Physiology II (4)
- CHEM 110 Principles and Application of Chemistry (4)
- CHEM 210 Chemistry for Allied Health (3)
- BIOL 221 & 221L Introduction to Microbiology & Lab (4)
- HNDS 251 Human Nutrition (3)
- ENG 11G Rhetoric and Composition (4)
- MATH 120 Intermediate Algebra (3)

### Specialized Dental Hygiene Program Requirements

#### **Fall Semester Junior Year**

- DHYG 110 Preclinical Dental Hygiene (3)
- DHYG 112 Preclinical Dental Hygiene Lab (3)
- DHYG 114 Dental Embryology and Histology (2)
- DHYG116 Head and Neck Anatomy (4)
- DHYG 118 Dental Radiology (3)

#### **Spring Semester Junior Year**

- DHYG 120 Dental Hygiene Theory I (3)
- DHYG 122 Dental Hygiene I (3)
- DHYG 124 General and Oral Pathology (3)
- DHYG 126 Periodontology (3)
- PSY 201G Psychology (3)
- AHS 202 Legal and Ethical Issues in Health Care(3)

#### **Summer Semester Junior Year**

- DHYG 132 Clinical Dental Hygiene II (1)
- DHYG 134 Dental Materials (3)
- COMM 253G Speech (3)

**Fall Semester Senior Year**

DHYG 210 Dental Hygiene Theory III (2)

DHYG 212 Clinical Dental Hygiene III (4)

DHYG 214 Dental Pharmacology (3)

DHYG 216 Dental Public Health (3)

DHYG 218 Pain and Anxiety Control (3)

**Spring Semester Senior Year**

DHYG 220 Dental Hygiene Theory IV (3)

DHYG 222 Clinical Dental Hygiene IV (4)

DHYG 224 Principles of Practice (2)

DHYG 226 Community Dental Health (2)

SOC 101G Sociology (3)

Total Dental Hygiene Program Credits = 69



**DENTAL HEALTH AIDE THERAPIST  
CURRICULUM FOR YEAR 1  
(Anchorage)**



- Unit 1 Introduction to Dental Health Aide
- Unit 2 Community Based Prevention Project
- Unit 3 Dental Assisting
- Unit 4 Dental Radiology
- Unit 5 General Health Sciences
- Unit 6 Professional Role Development
- Unit 7 Oral Health Sciences
- Unit 8 Basic Restorative Functions
- Unit 9 Local Anesthetic, part 1
- Unit 10 Advanced Behavioral and Anxiety Control
- Unit 11 Diagnosis and Treatment Planning
- Unit 12 Cariology
- Unit 13 Atraumatic Restorative Treatment
- Unit 15 Restorative Dentistry
- Unit 16 Dental Hygiene Treatment and Prevention
- Unit 17 Special Topics
- Clinic I Preclinical Experience
- Clinic II Beginning Patient Encounters

**CURRICULUM FOR YEAR 2  
(Bethel)**

Clinical year: Practice full scope of DHAT practice under direct supervision of a dentist instructor. Typically have 2-3 patients scheduled per pair of students per day. Didactics are covered in the morning prior to clinic. Each student is responsible to develop and implement a community dental disease prevention project. There are no set number of procedures to complete, the program is competency based. Students also experience dental care delivery during remote village travel with a dentist.

Didactic topics include:

Local Anesthesia, part II	Oral Pathology review
Complex Amalgams	Introduction to Operating Room Dentistry
Community Projects	Pediatric Dentistry
Complex Composites	Dental Disease Prevention
Dental Emergency, Alleviate Pain and Infection	Professional Role Development
Introduction to Epidemiology	Telemedicine
Equipment Maintenance	Dental Trauma, How to Address Injuries to Permanent Anterior Teeth
Dental Extractions	Diagnosis and Treatment Planning



# STAFF LIST FOR THE YEAR 1970-1971

1	Chairman
2	Vice-Chairman
3	Executive Director
4	Deputy Executive Director
5	Director of Research
6	Director of Publications
7	Director of Administration
8	Director of Finance
9	Director of Membership
10	Director of International Relations
11	Director of Public Affairs
12	Director of Technical Services
13	Director of Library
14	Director of Archives
15	Director of Records Management
16	Director of Information Systems
17	Director of Computing Services
18	Director of Telecommunications
19	Director of Security
20	Director of Safety
21	Director of Environmental Health
22	Director of Occupational Safety and Health
23	Director of Radiation Safety
24	Director of Hazardous Waste Management
25	Director of Emergency Response
26	Director of Crisis Management
27	Director of Business Continuity
28	Director of Disaster Preparedness
29	Director of Post-Disaster Recovery
30	Director of Reconstruction
31	Director of Rehabilitation
32	Director of Social Services
33	Director of Community Development
34	Director of Economic Development
35	Director of Environmental Planning
36	Director of Environmental Assessment
37	Director of Environmental Impact Statement
38	Director of Environmental Quality
39	Director of Environmental Health
40	Director of Environmental Safety
41	Director of Environmental Security
42	Director of Environmental Protection
43	Director of Environmental Conservation
44	Director of Environmental Stewardship
45	Director of Environmental Ethics
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63	Director of Environmental Alliance
64	Director of Environmental Coalition
65	Director of Environmental Network
66	Director of Environmental Web
67	Director of Environmental Grid
68	Director of Environmental Framework
69	Director of Environmental Structure
70	Director of Environmental System
71	Director of Environmental Mechanism
72	Director of Environmental Process
73	Director of Environmental Function
74	Director of Environmental Activity
75	Director of Environmental Operation
76	Director of Environmental Performance
77	Director of Environmental Achievement
78	Director of Environmental Success
79	Director of Environmental Fulfillment
80	Director of Environmental Realization
81	Director of Environmental Attainment
82	Director of Environmental Completion
83	Director of Environmental Finality
84	Director of Environmental Closure
85	Director of Environmental Resolution
86	Director of Environmental Settlement
87	Director of Environmental Accord
88	Director of Environmental Understanding
89	Director of Environmental Agreement
90	Director of Environmental Pact
91	Director of Environmental Treaty
92	Director of Environmental Compact
93	Director of Environmental Covenant
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95	Director of Environmental Vow
96	Director of Environmental Promise
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## DENTAL THERAPIST-HYGIENIST LICENSURE BILL

### *A Community, Job Creation Solution for Bringing Quality, Cost-Effective, Dental Care to Rural, Tribal & Underserved New Mexicans*

#### Access to Dental Services: A Health Crisis for Rural, Tribal & Underserved New Mexicans

- NM ranks 39<sup>th</sup> worst in the U.S. in the number of dentists/1,000 people. 69% of dentists are in NM metropolitan areas, and over 30% of our dentists are over age 60.
- 34% of all NM 3rd graders have untreated dental decay.
- Thousands of New Mexicans – working families, children, elders & persons with disabilities – do not have access to, or must wait many months for necessary dental care.
  - **Result:** Living in pain, miss school or work, low school performance, lost work productivity, life threatening medical emergencies, long-term serious health problems.
- Very few dentists include Medicaid patients as a significant portion of their patient mix.
- Demand will only increase: Federal law mandates dental coverage for children up to 21 yrs.

#### Dental Therapists: High-Quality, Local Community Providers

- Dental providers who under the off-site supervision of dentists, study after study shows provide high quality, cost-effective dental services to rural, tribal and underserved communities.
- Home-grown, culturally competent providers, selected by their communities, practice in their home or underserved community.
- Obtain rigorous, competency-based education, training and clinical experience.
- Expand dentists' reach to underserved and remote communities using telemedicine.
- Economically viable workforce model: Dental therapists provide a range of necessary and billable services from prevention education and teeth cleaning to routine extractions and restorations.
  - Cost employers less than 30 cents for every dollar they generate when serving underserved populations. (*Community Catalyst Report, May 2013*)
- Since 2005, provided care in remote Alaskan tribal villages. Over 90 years, provided care in 50 countries including industrialized countries with advanced dental systems like the U.S.
- Over 14,000 dental therapists practice worldwide.
- Approx. 20 states are looking to add dental therapists to their dental teams.

#### Dental Therapists: A Workforce Solution for New Mexico

- **State Law Change Needed to: Restore Rural Communities' Right to Self-Determination & Tribal Sovereignty** - For NM rural and tribal communities to have the right to train and employ a dental therapist NM state law must specifically allow dental therapists to practice in NM. Federal law took away rural and Native communities' rights to have dental therapists.
- **JOBS, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY & CAREER PATHWAYS**
  - Career opportunities for all NM communities. (NM rural and low-income communities favor mid-level oral health providers for their communities and healthcare career path opportunities for their citizens. *Con Alma Health Foundation, 2010*)
  - Provides a career pathway for NM dental hygienists to become dental therapists.

- Allows NM entities to be eligible for a **federal demonstration program grant** to train or employ dental therapists to increase access to dental services in rural and underserved communities.

***Call to Action:***

- To improve all New Mexican's access to high-quality, cost-effective dental services,
- Provide jobs and economic opportunity for these communities, and
- Restore rural communities' right to self-determination and tribal sovereignty rights...

**Support the NM Dental Therapist-Hygienist Bill, that adds dental therapists to New Mexico's dental team.**

***To learn more and contribute to this innovative, healthcare access solution for NM,  
please contact: Health Action New Mexico***

505.867.1095

[info@HealthActionNM.org](mailto:info@HealthActionNM.org)

[www.HealthActionNM.org](http://www.HealthActionNM.org)



# Dental Therapist-hygienists: A clear, job creation solution for New Mexico's dental crisis.



## ENDORSERS:

**NM State Legislative Health & Human Services Committee** – Endorsed dental therapist legislation (Nov '12)

AARP New Mexico

Albuquerque Area Indian Health Board (AAIHB)

Center for Civic Policy

Centro Sávila

Concilio CDS, Inc. – Las Cruces

Des Moines School Health Advisory Council

Elev8 NM

Family Promise of ABQ

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of New Mexico

Native American Professional Parent Resources, Inc. (NAPPR)

Native Health Initiative

**Navajo Nation** – wants dental therapists in their community

Nizhoni Smiles Dental Clinic – Shiprock

**Northern New Mexico College** – Española

NM Alliance for Retired Persons

NM Alliance for School-Based Health Care

NM American Federation of Teachers Retirees

NM Center on Law & Poverty

NM Conference of Churches

**NM Dental Hygienists' Association**

NM Health Resources

NM League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

NM Public Health Association (NMPHA)

NM Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

NM Telehealth Alliance

NM Voices for Children

NM Youth Development, Inc.

OLE NM

Place Matters

**Pueblo of Kewa/Santo Domingo Health Board** - wants dental therapists in their community.

RESULTS Santa Fe

Rio Arriba Community Health Council

Rio Arriba County Health & Human Services

Southwest Women's Law Center

**Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute**

Tierra del Sol – Las Cruces

**Union County Network** wants dental therapists in their community – Clayton

Union County General Hospital

Union County Health Alliance

Women's Intercultural Center – Anthony

William H. Johnson, Jr., Fmr. NM Cabinet Secretary for Human Services Dept.

Alfredo Vigil, MD FAAP, Fmr. NM Cabinet Secretary for Health & Human Services – Taos

Ronald J. Romero, DDS, Fmr. NM Dept. of Health Dental Director, Private practice dentist – Santa Fe

DezBaa Damon-Mallette DMD – Aztec

Bob Giannini, DDS – Fmr. NM Dental Board Chair

Howard Rhoads, DDS – Artesia

Roger Ames, DDS – Mora

Bill Niendorff, DDS

Patricio Larragoite, DDS

Harris Silver, MD

William H. Wiese, MD, MPH, Ret. UNM faculty; Fmr. NM DOH Public Health Division Director

## OPPONENTS:

NM Dental Association

**Dental Therapist-Hygienists offer a community solution.**

NM has a choice: choose dental therapist-hygienists for the future of our families, or ignore a state-wide dental crisis.

## INDIVIDUAL ENDORERS:

- Santa Fe Community College health careers students – Santa Fe, NM
  - Christoph Newl, Laura Ellis, Melody Chesley, Kerry A. Kajdasz, Michelle Lott
- Matsuda family – Santa Fe, NM
- Judy Higuera, Senior Citizen – Las Vegas, NM
- Kathryn C. Sherlock, Instructor, Northern New Mexico College – Santa Fe, NM
- Nat Dean, Disabled Individual – Santa Fe, NM
- Teresa Guerra, Director of Tres Manos Weaving Studio – San Miguels, NM
- Victoria Scott – Santa Fe, NM
- Janet L. Krakow – Bernalillo, NM
- Kenneth Searby, Advocate - Santa Fe, NM
- Nancy Matthews
- Betty Ann Arner, R.N.
- Marilyn Bennett, Disability Advocate – Santa Fe, NM
- David Follataedt
- Helen Benoist
- Sonia M. Lersten
- JoAnn S. Track, Advocate – Taos, NM
- Lione Adams, Poverty & Public Health Coordinator - Bernalillo County
- Cheryl Christopherson, RN - Bernalillo County
- Orlando Lucero, MPH Student - Bernalillo County
- Constance Monohan - Bernalillo County
- Kelly Morantes - Bernalillo County
- Juan Reynosa - Bernalillo County
- Julia Stephens, Community Planner - Bernalillo County
- Linda Stiles, Fmr. RDH - Bernalillo County

### Endorsement Statement

**Whereas** thousands of New Mexicans, many of them children, elders, persons with disabilities, and working families do not have access to quality, affordable dental care;

**Whereas** a model Dental Therapist program has been in existence, and has been thoroughly evaluated for safety, quality, and appropriate scope of practice in Alaska, and has received high results and accolades from patients, health care professionals and community leaders in the U.S. and in over 50 other countries;

**Whereas** New Mexico has the talents and the means to replicate and sustain this model with existing training institutions and communities that are in need of this program;

**Be it therefore resolved** that we endorse and support this program to be fully approved under New Mexico law as early as the 2013 New Mexico legislative session.

# New Mexico Dental Team

community-based. patient focused.



**Dentist (DDS/DMD)**  
**500 competencies**  
(Head of dental team)  
Provides routine & complex procedures and treatment.



**Dental Therapist-Hygienist (DTH)**  
**90 competencies**  
(Dentist off-site supervision)  
Provides preventive services & routine treatment (e.g. cleanings & fillings), oral health education.

## Extending Care to More Community Settings



↑ **Can diagnose**



**Dental Hygienist (DH)**  
Provides oral health education, scaling & cleanings.



**Dental Assistant (DA)**  
Chairside support for dentist before & during treatment.



**Community Dental Health Coordinator (CDHC)**  
Works in communities providing oral health education, coordinates patient care.



1. *Introduction*  
2. *Methodology*  
3. *Results and Discussion*  
4. *Conclusion*

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