# GLADEOGRAPHIX PRESENTS

**DENTAL HYGIENIST**

**PEOPLE PERSON . BUILDER . ORGANIZER**

**EDUCATION NEEDED**

- Associate’s degree in dental hygiene.
- Pass Dental Hygiene National Board Examination.
- Get licensed as a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH).
- Recommend Bachelor’s degree in Science if you might want to continue with other careers related to RDH.

**SKILLS NEEDED**

- Compassion
- Manual dexterity
- Good with details
- Ability to put patients at ease
- Good communication skills

**THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN A PROGRAM**

- High percentage of graduates that passed the national board exam.
- High percentage of graduates that passed the clinical licensing exam on the first try.
- High percentage of students that found full-time employment within months of graduation.
- Good network and alumni involvement to help students find internships and full-time employment.
- Respected faculty in the industry.

**THINGS TO DO HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE**

- Take science classes.
- Talk to your dental hygienist and dentist about the dental industry.
- Practice your social skills with different people.
- Learn Spanish.

**LAND YOUR 1ST JOB**

1. Intern while you are in school. After your internship, see if there are openings at that practice. If not, ask for a reference letter or a referral. Use that letter when you are applying for other jobs. REFERRALS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO SET YOU APART!
2. Be willing to intern/work for free to show the dental office your worth.
3. Find and sign up with a local dental hygienist temp/staffing agency.

**HOW TO STAY COMPETITIVE**

- Keep up with the technology.
- Read the trends, the health policies that are being introduced.
- Be up to date with preventative education.
- Attend meetings and continuing education sessions in your area.

To learn more about this career, visit [www.gladeo.org](http://www.gladeo.org) Designed by Danny Shin