PREPARATION IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Prepare for high school
 - Look into your school district's technical schools or career centers for dental options
 - Include strong science courses in your schedule
 - Study hard
- Volunteer and participate in community service
- Shadow dental professionals
- Intern/work in a dental office
- Prepare for college expectations
- Take high-level courses in high school

WHY CHOOSE A **DENTAL CAREER?**

- Impact lives and your community
- Thrive in a people-oriented atmosphere
- Variety of career opportunities
- Enjoy a flexible schedule
- Earn a comfortable salary

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DENTAL **CAREERS**



CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare, (visited January 12, 2023)

*Information not widely available through Dept. of Labor for PA-specific positions

REASONS TO CHOOSE A DENTAL CAREER



BACKGROUND

- One of the oldest health professions
- Top 10 careers in America
- Provides a variety of opportunities in private practice, teaching, research, public health, and administration settings

DENTAL PROFESSIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Artistic
- Hand-eye coordination
- Easy to talk to
- Trustworthy
- Detail-oriented
- Leadership
- Goal-oriented
- Passionate, caring
- Good communicator
- Good judgment
- Critical thinker
- Professional
- Interaction skills
- Negotiator

DENTAL CAREER OPTIONS

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Median Annual Income \$38,600



- High school diploma
- Assists dentist chairside
- Sterilizes equipment
- Typically x-ray certified

DENTIST

Median Annual Income \$163,220



- Additional 4 years of dental school after college
- Performs fillings and repairs teeth
- Small business owner or work as an employee or partner

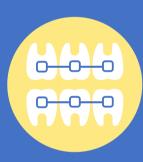
EXPANDED FUNCTION DENTAL ASSISTANT

Annual Income* \$35k-\$50k



- Some college/work experience
- Places fillings and sealants
- Assists dentist

DENTAL SPECIALISTAnnual Income* \$175,000-\$250,000



- Additional 2-3 years education beyond DMD/DDS
- Endodontics, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Pedodontics,
 Orthodontics, etc.

REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST

Median Annual Income \$77,810



- College degree
- Performs x-rays, cleanings, gum treatment, sealants, fluoride, etc.
- Additional certification to work in public health settings

CERTIFIED COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

Median Annual Income \$48,860



- High school diploma
- Works in the community
- Promote wellness by helping people adopt healthy behaviors