



# Your Diploma What Next: *Dental Hygiene*

## What can I do with my diploma?

As a graduate of Dental Hygiene from Trinity, you have placed yourself in an excellent position for employment with the HSE and private practices within Ireland and Europe. You will be able to pursue opportunities working as a Dental Hygienist with confidence and experience.

The Diploma in Dental Hygiene entitles you to register immediately after graduation as a dental hygienist on the Register of the Irish Dental Council. This registration is mandatory for working as a dental hygienist in Ireland.

Many dental hygienists who are graduates of your course will work in general dental practices or within the public health service. As you progress through your career, opportunities also exist to teach or become involved in research. The opportunity to work abroad is also popular but may require you to sit some local examinations in the country of choice. Further courses of study are available to dental hygienists, including the Diploma in Orthodontic Therapy.

### Roles

Dental Hygienist  
Research Assistant  
Orthodontic Therapist  
Entrepreneur

### Employers

HSE  
Private Practices  
Irish Dental Association  
UK Infinity Dental

## Useful Resources

The organisations and professional bodies listed below are useful resources for career / sector specific information:

### Professional Bodies and Useful Sites

[Irish Dental Association](#)  
[Irish Dental Hygienists Association](#)  
[Association for Dental Education in Europe](#)  
[Dental Technicians Association UK](#)

### Resources

[Dental Hygienists Positions](#)  
[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[www.cpl.ie](http://www.cpl.ie)  
[www.goabroad.com](http://www.goabroad.com)  
[www.volunteer.ie](http://www.volunteer.ie)

## Graduate attributes and transferrable skills you can develop at Trinity

Alongside the obvious clinical and technical skills you have developed, you gain a wide range of other skills and attributes while at College, through academic study, clubs and societies, voluntary work, student politics, work and other commitments. These are important to recognize as they inform your career decisions and are a critical ingredient in your applications for postgraduate study and jobs.

Here are some skills you can gain :

**1. Critical Thinking** - Learning to work on your own and to make independent judgments. You have to discover the information that you need to analyse complex questions and develop your ideas about them and to present your arguments clearly and persuasively.

**2. Teamwork** - Learning to work as part of a team is an important skill; sharing the workload, agreeing roles and working as a team to develop ideas and present a coherent group argument.

**3. Independent Research** - You will have learnt how to use the library and other complex information resources and co-ordinate information from a wide variety of sources.

**4. Logical argumentation** - You will know how to bring together facts and arguments in order to answer a specific question or analyse a problem.

**5. Time and project management** - By working on assignments and studying for exams you will have developed the ability to revise and consolidate your work and know how to extract the essential points from a mass of information. You will also have learned how to manage your own time and to work under pressure of deadlines.

**6. Verbal communication** - You will know how to present your ideas orally and to contribute constructively to discussions.

**7. Written communication** - You will have had the opportunity to present your ideas in writing accurately and concisely, using convincing arguments which are based on solid evidence; responding flexibly to different types of questions and expressing your thoughts concisely; carrying out in-depth research on a specialised topic and develop the sustained writing skills needed.

**8. Digital Skills** - You will have the opportunity of developing your computer skills both from typing up your own essays and papers and from undertaking searches on the web & using databases.

**9. Personal Development** – You are managing the learning required for a degree and recognising the gaps in your understanding and ensuring that these are addressed in ways that best suit your learning style.

### How can the Careers Service help me?

The Careers Service supports students in exploring their career options and connects students with employers. You can book an appointment with your careers consultant to help you deciding your next step in your career.

Login to MyCareer at [www.tcd.ie/careers](http://www.tcd.ie/careers) and book your appointment today.

### Contact Us

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