



Careers in Dentistry

Dentistry, a lucrative profession, is concerned with all health problems afflicting the mouth, teeth, gums and other hard and soft tissues of the oral cavity. Dentistry is changing rapidly, creating many opportunities and challenges. To an extent, it includes cosmetology where corrective treatment is involved. Dentists improve patients' appearance by using a wide variety of cosmetic dental procedures. These days, dentists are assuming very important roles in the whole healthcare system. With an increasing awareness of the importance of oral health and the introduction of new fields like periodontics (care of gums and the diseases that might afflict them), oral pathology (diagnosis for diseases that affect the mouth) and orthodontics (straightening and aligning teeth and jaws) have all enhanced the scope of this field. Dentists or dental surgeons provide surgical, medical and other forms of treatment for oral and dental disorders and diseases by examining teeth and mouth of the patients. They treat a diverse group of patients in a variety of settings using a variety of

techniques and procedures such as computers and magnetic resonance imaging. This may include filling, crowning and scaling of teeth, extracting teeth, treating gum diseases and fitting artificial replacements where necessary and surgically handling injuries or other irregularities of the teeth and jaw. Problems dealing with the jaw or any invasive oral procedure are usually undertaken by an oral surgeon. Dentists perform trauma surgery, implants, tissue grafts and laser surgery to correct them. The core function of a dentist is prevention and treatment of diseases related to the oral cavity, including the floor of the oral cavity, the 'roof' of the mouth, teeth, gums, tongue etc. Their job includes educating patients about oral hygiene and ways to preserve a healthy mouth and prevent dental problems.

Eligibility: To practice as a dentist one must need at least a Bachelor's degree in Dental Science (BDS). If you want your career to grow, then you will have to be a specialist with a Masters (MDS) degree. The main specialization areas of Dentistry

are Orthodontics which deals with straightening and aligning teeth and jaws; Periodontics which specializes in the care of gums and the diseases that might afflict them; Operative Dentistry or Endodontics for root canal jobs, fillings and cosmetic surgery; Prosthodontics which involves the making of artificial teeth; Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery which deals specifically with operations on the mouth and jaw, Paediatric Dentistry for treating children and Oral Pathology which provides the diagnosis for diseases that affect the mouth. **Eligibility:** Candidates who have passed 10+2 with Physics, Chemistry and Biology, with at least 50% marks are eligible for admission in the Bachelor of Dental Science (BDS) course. The BDS (Bachelor of Dental Science) degree programme is a 4 years course divided into 4 parts each of 1 years duration, followed by one year of rotating internship. Subjects such as basic anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology and microbiology are covered in the first two years. Specialization in dentistry and hands on training are provided in the last two semesters. Those who

have completed the BDS should be registered to practice dentistry by the Dental Council of India. An MDS (Masters in Dental Science) requires two years of additional training. **Personal Skills:** Today Dentists must have an artistic sense besides scientific knowledge. He is the scientist dedicated to the highest standards of health through the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of all oral diseases and conditions. He must have an artist's aesthetic sense as well to realign an entire jaw or to brighten one tooth, to help patients look their best. It is a very hard working profession that requires craftsmanship and skill as much as theoretical knowledge. The foremost attribute required for a good dentist is patience, stamina to work hard for long periods, good health, power of concentration, manual dexterity and accuracy. Besides these they must have a keen eye for detail, ability to memorise and recall scientific facts, comprehensive medical understanding, cool temperament and strong interpersonal skills. The best dentists are skilful communicators and their analytical and logical reasoning

skill should be above average. **Job Prospects and Career Options:** Excellent employment opportunities are available for dentists in dental departments in hospitals, nursing homes, dental clinics and health departments as well as teaching departments in dental colleges. Apart from this, dentists could also work in the Research and Advisory functions of a pharmaceutical and other companies producing oral care products and medicines like toothpaste, mouth wash, gum care products, etc. Self-employment is also a promising avenue. With gaining experience, one can start his/her own individual practice. Many dentists prefer to be in private practice, as it provides the best financial prospects as well as greater independence. Private practitioners work either alone, often setting up a clinic on their own premises, or in partnership with colleagues, sharing resources and overheads. Besides these, in dentistry one can also take up work as a Dental Hygienist, Dental assistant or as a Dental consultant to models and film artists which could fetch a lot of money. ●

INDIA'S TOP PRIVATE DENTAL COLLEGES



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Dr. D.Y. Patil Dental College & Hospital, Pimpri, Pune
JSS Dental College & Hospital, Mysore
Manipal College of Dental Sciences, Manipal
SDM College of Dental Sciences & Hospital, Dharwad
Manav Rachna Dental College, Faridabad
Saveetha Dental College, Chennai
Bapuji Dental College & Hospital, Davangere
Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences, Bhubaneswar
Saraswati Dental College, Lucknow
A.B. Shetty Memorial Insti of Dental Sciences, Mangalore



Name of the Institute
School of Dental Sciences, Sharda University, Noida
KLE Societys Institute of Dental Sciences, Belgaum
Meenakshi Ammal Dental College, Chennai
Amrita School of Dentistry, Kochi
Chettinad Dental College & Research Insti, Chennai
Dr. D. Y. Patil Dental College & Hospital, Navi Mumbai
SRM Dental College, Chennai
Bharati Vidyapeeth Dental College & Hospital, Pune
Sri Siddhartha Dental College, Tumkur
I.T.S Centre for Dental Studies & Research, Ghaziabad
Bangalore Insti of Dental Sciences & Hospital, Blr
M.S.Ramaiah Dental College, Bangalore



Name of the Institute
The Oxford Dental College & Hospital, Bangalore
Vinayaka Mission's Sankaracharya Dental College, Salem
Shri Ramachandra Dental College, Chennai
Sri Gobind Tricentenary Dental College, Gurgaon
Santosh Dental College, Ghaziabad
Yenepoya Dental College, Mangalore
Singhad Dental College & Hospital, Pune
VSPM's Dental College & Research Centre, Nagpur
Gurunanak Insti of Dental Science & Research, Kolkata
Jaipur Dental College, Jaipur
Narayana Dental College & Hospital, Nellore
Noorul Islam College of Dental Sciences, Coimbatore
Dayanand Sagar College of Dental Sciences, Bangalore
Sardar Patel Insti of Dental & Medical Sciences, Lucknow
Rajarajeswari Dental College & Hospital, Bangalore

The top private dental colleges are rated based on a survey conducted among the academicians, dental practitioners and students who were asked to select and rate the top colleges of their region on the basis of its Brand Reputation. For any queries, please write to info@mainlinemedia.in

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