



APPLE TREE DENTAL

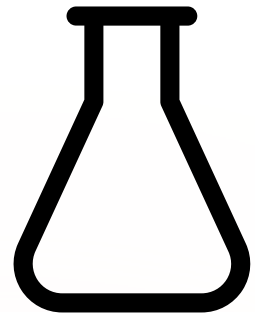
Access • Compassion • Excellence

Dental Career Pathway Guide

Apple Tree Dental's Career Equity Project



What can I do in dentistry?



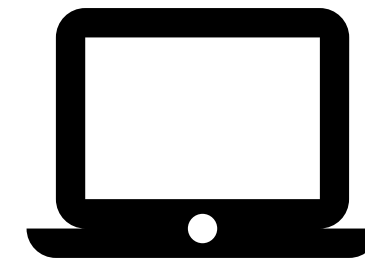
Lab Work

Use your hands and artistry to create dentures, crowns, mouth guards, and more



Clinical Work

Work directly with patients to improve their oral health



Administrative Work/Management

Help support patient care by scheduling appointments, communicating with patients, or even managing staff



Dental Career Pathway

Matt T.



Dental Assistant

Entry level or one-year license

Valerie B.



Dental Hygienist

Associates or Bachelors degree

Thuy N.



Dental Therapist

Masters degree

Dr. Ashok G.



Dentist

Doctorate degree

Dr. Christine F.



Dental Specialist

Doctorate degree + more

Tip: You don't need to hit every stop on this pathway!



Coze S.



Types of Dental Jobs

Dental Assistant

Support patient care, take x-rays, and keep records; assist dentist with procedures. This is the **entry point into many dental careers** - you can get a license in about one year!

Dental Hygienist

Assess patients, provide preventive care, and educate patients about their oral health.



Thomas M.



Types of Dental Jobs

Dental Therapist

Provide evaluative, preventive, and restorative dental care. Work in collaboration with a dentist.

Dentist

Diagnose and treat patients' teeth and gums, working with the entire dental team.



Anthony X. and Dr. Ashley J.



Types of Dental Jobs

Dental Specialist (Dentist)

This is when a dentist specializes in one area. Examples include:

- Orthodontics
- Prosthodontics
- Periodontics
- Oral Surgery
- Endodontics
- Pediatrics
- Public Health



How much education do I need?

	Certification 3 mo - 2 yr	Associates Degree 2-3 yr	Bachelors Degree 4 yr	Masters Degree 3 yr	Dental School 4 yr	Specialization 2-6 yr
Licensed Dental Assistant						
Dental Hygienist			<i>Optional</i>			
Dental Therapist						
Dentist						
Dental Specialist						



Dental Assistant



High School

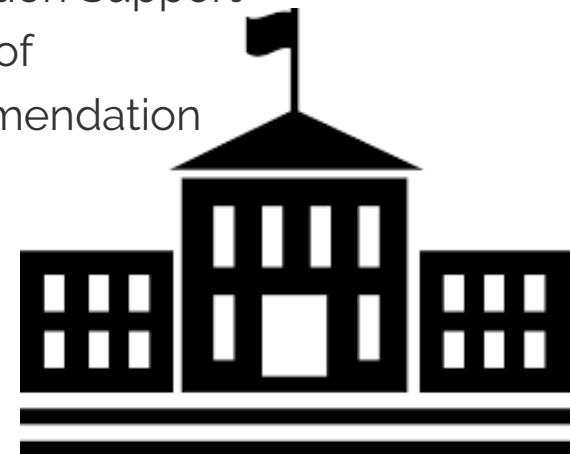
4 years
\$0

Focus on Courses

- Health
- Biology
- Chemistry

Admittance Considerations

- GPA, ACT/SAT
- Extra Curriculars
- Work Experience
- Application Support
- Letters of Recommendation



College

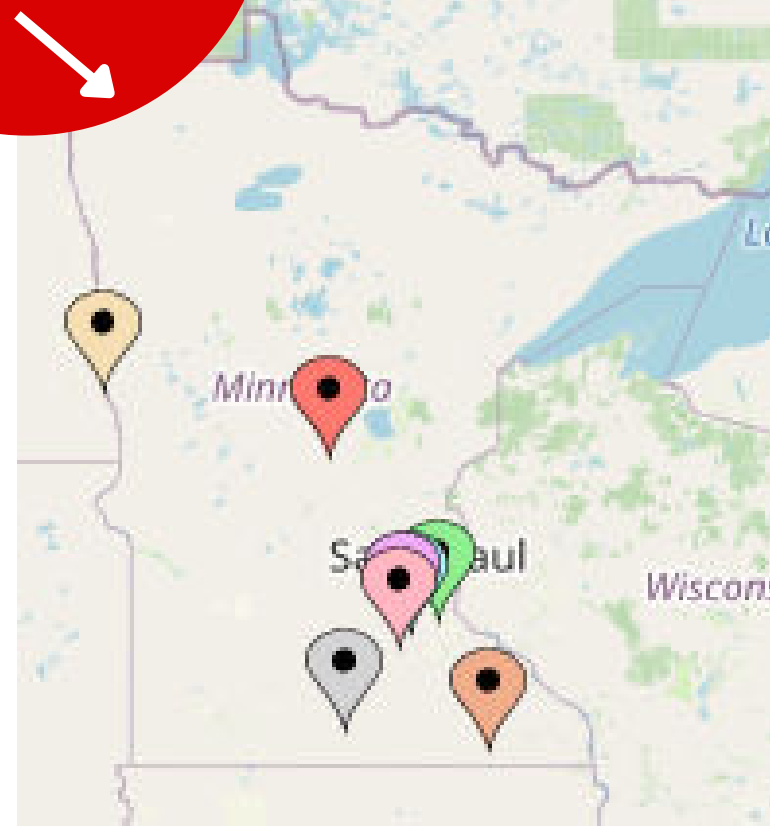
1-2 years
\$10k - \$15k

Major in Dental Assisting

Sample Courses:

- Dental Materials
- Dental Radiology
- Chair-side Assisting
- and more

Dental Assisting School Locations in Minnesota



Hiring Considerations

- GPA
- Experience
- Networking
- Letters of Recommendation



Career

Average
\$31 per hour

Dental assistants provide patient care, take x-rays, and keep records, as well as assist a dentist with procedures



Dental Hygienist



High School

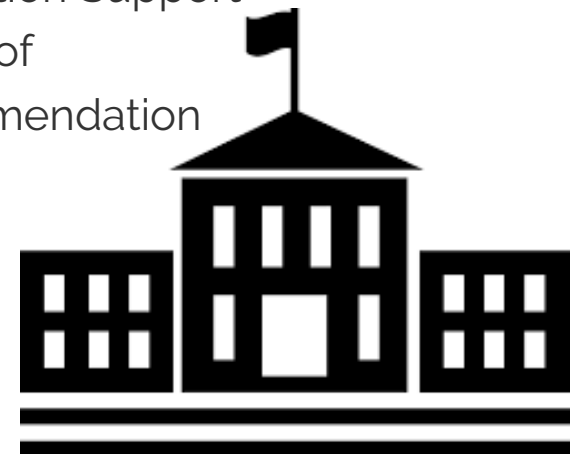
4 years
\$0

Focus on Courses

- Health
- Nutrition
- Biology
- Chemistry

Admittance Considerations

- GPA, ACT/SAT
- Extra Curriculars
- Work Experience
- Application Support
- Letters of Recommendation



College

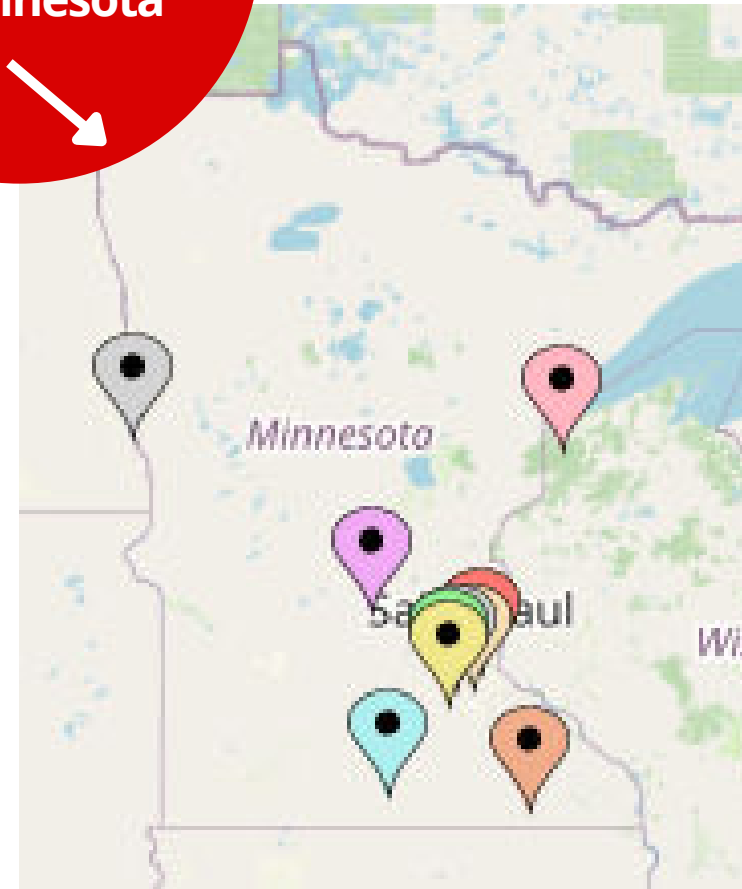
2 years or 4 years
\$20k-\$35k or \$40k-\$150k

Major in Dental Hygiene

Sample Courses:

- Chemistry
- Physiology
- Dental anatomy
- Patient management
- and more

Dental Hygiene School Locations in Minnesota



Hiring Considerations

- GPA
- Experience
- Networking
- Letters of Recommendation



Career

Average
\$44 per hour

Dental hygienists assess patients, provide preventive care, and educate patients about their oral health.



Dental Therapist



High School

4 years
\$0

Focus on Courses

- Health
- Nutrition
- Biology
- Chemistry

Admittance Considerations

- GPA, ACT/SAT
- Extra Curriculars
- Work Experience
- Application Support
- Letters of Recommendation

or



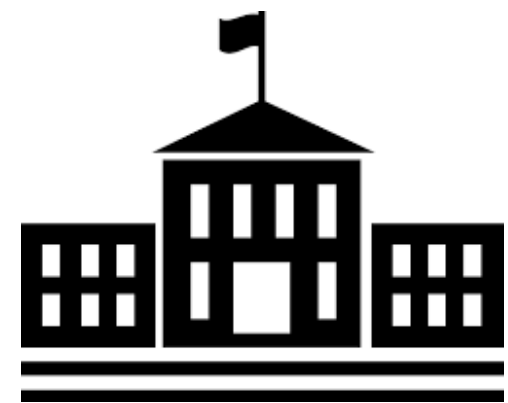
College

2-4 years
\$20k-\$50k
Major in
Dental Hygiene



College

2-3 years
\$43k-\$70k
Major in
Dental Therapy

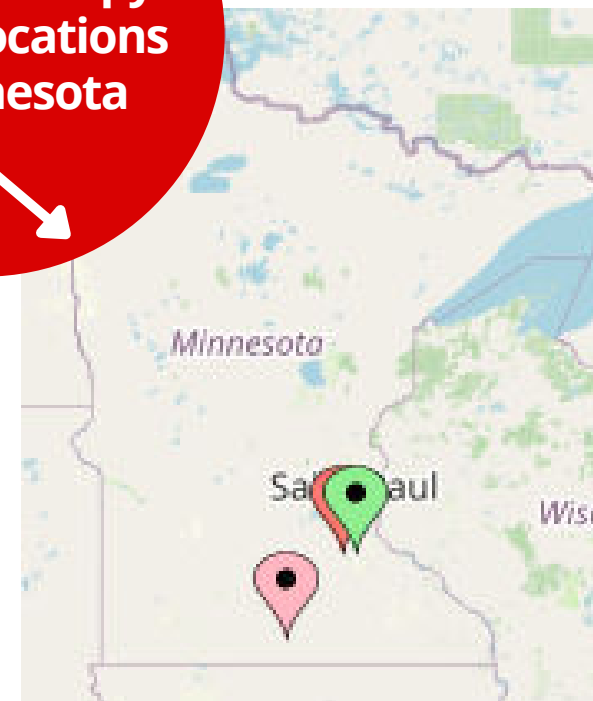


College

4 years (year-round)
\$100k+

"Dual Degree" in Dental
Hygiene and Dental Therapy

**Dental Therapy
School Locations
in Minnesota**



Hiring Considerations

- GPA
- Experience
- Networking
- Letters of Recommendation



Career

Average
\$52 per hour

Dental Therapists
provide evaluative,
preventive, and
restorative dental care.

They work in
collaboration with a
dentist.



Dentist



High School

4 years
\$0

Focus on Courses

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Math
- Physics

Admittance Considerations

- GPA, ACT/SAT
- Extra Curriculars
- Work Experience
- Application Support
- Letters of Recommendation



College

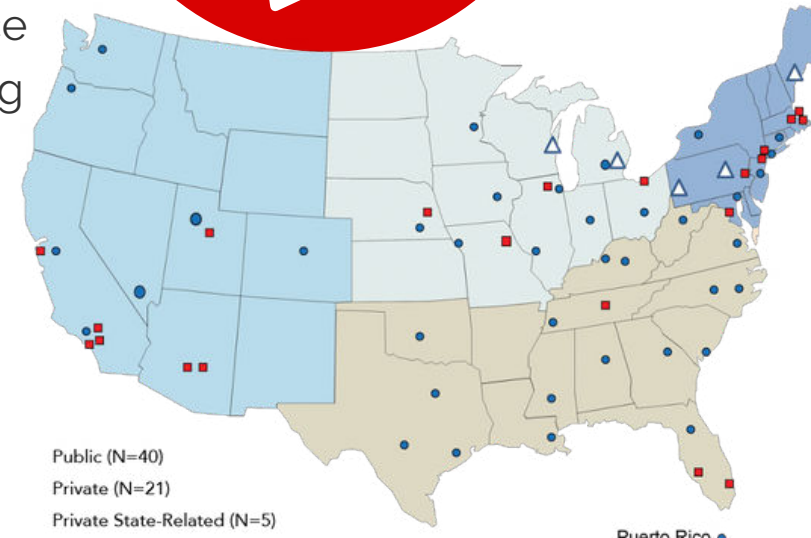
4 years
\$40k-\$200k

Major in STEM Field such as:

- Biology
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Molecular Biology
- Physics
- Statistics

Admittance Considerations

- GPA of 3.5+
- Dental Admissions Test Score
- Internships/Experience
- 40+ Hrs Job Shadowing
- Letters of Recommendation



Dental School

4 years
\$200k-\$400k

Years 1 and 2

Anatomy, Physiology,
Biochemistry, Microbiology,
Pharmacology, Oral Anatomy,
Oral Pathology, Oral Histology

Years 3 and 4

Clinical Studies (Direct Patient Care)
Practice Management

Hiring Considerations

- GPA
- Experience
- Networking
- Letters of Recommendation



Career

Average
\$170k-\$300k per year

Build your own practice

Run your own business
managing staff, conducting
operations, and practicing
dentistry

Join a group practice

Practice dentistry with less
administrative overhead



Dental Specialist



High School

4 years
\$0

Focus on Courses

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Math
- Physics

Admittance Considerations

- GPA, ACT/SAT
- Extra Curriculars
- Work Experience
- Application Support
- Letters of Recommendation



College

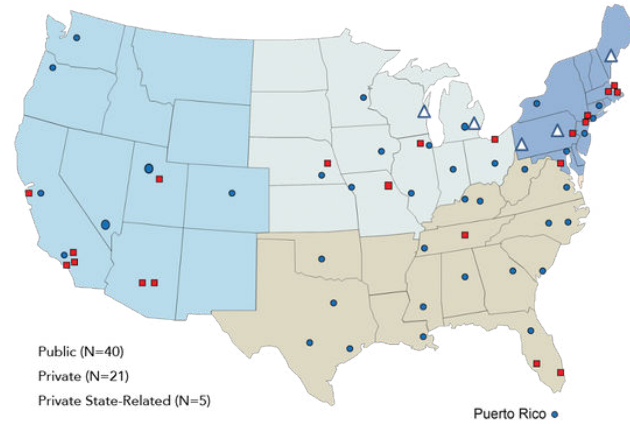
4 years
\$40k-\$200k

Major in STEM Field such as:

- Biology
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Molecular Biology
- Physics
- Statistics

Admittance Considerations

- GPA of 3.5+
- Dental Admissions Test Score
- Internships/Experience
- 40+ Hrs Job Shadowing
- Letters of Recommendation



Dental School

4 years
\$200k-\$400k

Years 1 and 2

Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Oral Anatomy, Oral Pathology, Oral Histology

Years 3 and 4

Clinical Studies (Direct Patient Care)
Practice Management



Specialization Residency

2-3 years
\$200k-\$400k

Work under a specialist while studying

Sample specialties:

Orthodontics, Prosthodontics, Periodontics, Endodontics, Oral Surgery, Pediatrics

Hiring Considerations

- GPA
- Experience
- Networking
- Letters of Recommendation



Career

Average
\$250k + per year

Build your own practice

Run your own business managing staff, conducting operations, and practicing dentistry

Join a group practice

Practice dentistry with less administrative overhead



Unlock your potential with Apple Tree Dental's Career Equity Project

Get in touch with us to start your journey!

Apple Tree Dental
Corporate Office
2442 Mounds View Blvd,
Mounds View, MN 55112

Website:
[www.appletreedental.org/
careers/career-equity-
project](http://www.appletreedental.org/careers/career-equity-project)

Interest Form:
[https://forms.office.co
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