

	<i>Dental Assistant</i>	<i>Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH)</i>	<i>Dental Health Aide Therapist (DHAT)</i>	<i>Dentist (DDS or DMD)</i>
<i>Education Required</i>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Education</i>	None or optional certification—one year course	Accredited Dental Hygiene Program—Associates, Bachelors, or Masters	Previously trained in New Zealand, currently in Anchorage by AK Native Tribal Health Consortium under University of Washington—no degree.	Accredited Dental Program—Doctorate
<i>Alaska State License Required</i>	No	Yes—Must pass written, clinical, and jurisprudence exams in addition to other qualifications	No	Yes—Must pass written, clinical, and jurisprudence exams in addition to other qualifications
<i>Regulated by State of Alaska</i>	No	Yes	No—DHAT's are regulated by the Federal Government under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act	Yes
<i>Continuing Education Requirements</i>	No—Required to maintain certification (optional)	Yes (14 Credits bi-annually)	Yes	Yes (28 credits bi-annually)
<i>CPR Certification Requirements</i>	No—Required to maintain certification (optional)	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Procedures Performed</i>	Assists the dentist in all treatment procedures Topical preventive agents and sealants	Oral health education, cleanings, topical preventive agents, sealants, root planing and curettage, local anesthesia, other services delegated by a dentist—radiographs, periodontal charting, nitrous oxide	Oral health education, cleanings, topical preventive agents, sealants, local anesthesia, diagnosis, cavity preparation and placement, simple extractions, stainless steel crowns, radiographs	Oral health education, cleanings, topical preventive agents, sealants, root planing, local and general anesthesia, operative and surgical procedures, diagnosis, treatment planning, writing prescriptions, root canals, all restorative procedures, nitrous oxide, radiographs