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## The College

The College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario (“CDHO”) is the regulatory body for over 12,500 registered dental hygienists in Ontario.

The CDHO regulates the dental hygiene profession in Ontario by setting the requirements to be registered as a dental hygienist and establishing practice standards for safe, ethical care for all Ontarians.

## Mission

The mission of the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario is to regulate the practice of dental hygiene in the interest of the overall health and safety of the public of Ontario.



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## Contact Us

### College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario

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Toronto, ON M4W 1A9

**t:** 416 961-6234 x 228

**tf:** 1 800 268-2346  
hearings@cdho.org

[www.cdho.org](http://www.cdho.org)

## Discipline Hearing Decorum

## Information for Observers

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## What Is a Discipline Hearing?

A discipline hearing is the final stage of the discipline process. Evidence is heard and submissions are made, usually by legal counsel, respecting allegations of professional misconduct and/or incompetence to a panel of the Discipline Committee. Based on the information presented during the hearing, the discipline panel makes a finding as to whether or not the allegations have been proved. If there is a finding of professional misconduct and/or incompetence, the discipline panel will also hear submissions respecting penalty, and may issue an Order on penalty at the conclusion of the proceedings.

Hearings are open to the public unless the panel has ordered otherwise.

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Should you have any questions concerning a discipline hearing or wish to attend\* an upcoming hearing, please contact the College.

**Tel.:** 416 961-6234 or  
1 800 268-2346 ext. 228

**Email:** [hearings@cdho.org](mailto:hearings@cdho.org)

## Protocol to Be Observed During the Hearing

- Generally, only participants to the hearing may speak, and then only when recognized by the discipline panel Chair.
- All present are required to rise as the discipline panel enters or leaves the hearing room and to remain standing until the panel is seated or has exited the room.
- Observers are advised to enter or exit the hearing room during breaks only.
- Anyone not following this protocol may be removed by the Chair.

\* Attendance at a hearing is subject to space available.

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## General Information for Observers

- The use of any audio/visual equipment, including video cameras, laptop computers, tape recorders or phones in the hearing room is not permitted.
  - Cell phones, pagers, alarms and electronic devices should be turned off during the proceedings.
  - Refrain from conversing during the proceedings.
  - Remain as quiet as possible in the area immediately outside of the hearing room to avoid disrupting the proceedings.
  - Refrain from approaching or speaking with any participants to the hearing, including the registrant, witnesses, the discipline panel and lawyers.
  - No food or drink other than water is permitted in the hearing room, except during breaks.
  - Please refrain from wearing perfume, aftershave or other scents.
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