



Background Information

- The College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario (CDHO) regulates the dental hygiene profession in Ontario.
- The College establishes requirements to be registered as a dental hygienist and practice standards for safe, ethical care for all Ontarians.
- CDHO registrants undergo rigorous certification and are expected to engage in ongoing knowledge building and quality assurance. Accordingly, CDHO articulates and promotes practice standards, establishes requirements for entry-to-practice and enforces practice standards and professional conduct.
- Dental Hygiene in Ontario has been a self-regulating profession since December 31, 1993. Ontario's dental hygiene profession governs itself through the CDHO. CDHO currently regulates approximately 13,300 registered dental hygienists.
- CDHO's governing Council includes dental hygienists who have been elected by their peers, and public members appointed through an Order in Council by the provincial government.
- CDHO Council safeguards the public interest as required by and in accordance with the *Regulated Health Professions Act* and the *Dental Hygiene Act*.