

NEBRASKA DENTAL HYGIENE SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The Nebraska Dental Board states: When authorized by and under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, a licensed dental hygienist may perform the following intra and extra oral procedures and functions:

- Oral prophylaxis, periodontal scaling, and root planing which includes supragingival and subgingival debridement
- Polish all exposed tooth surfaces, including restorations
- Conduct and assess preliminary charting, probing, screening examinations, and indexing of dental and periodontal disease, with referral, when appropriate, for a dental diagnosis by a licensed dentist
- Brush biopsies
- Pulp vitality testing
- Gingival curettage
- Removal of sutures
- Preventive measures, including the application of fluorides, sealants, and other recognized topical agents for the prevention of oral disease
- Impressions for study casts
- Application of topical and subgingival agents
- Radiographic exposures
- Oral health education, including conducting workshops and in service training sessions on dental health
- Application or administration of antimicrobial rinses, fluorides, and other anticariogenic agents
- Upon completion of education and testing approved by the board, interim therapeutic restoration technique
- All the duties that a dental assistant who is not licensed is authorized to perform.

The Nebraska Dental Board States: Licensed dental hygienist; activities related to analgesia authorized; administer local anesthesia; when:

- A licensed dental hygienist may monitor nitrous oxide analgesia under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist.
- Upon completion of education and testing approved by the board, a licensed dental hygienist may administer and titrate nitrous oxide analgesia under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist.
- A licensed dental hygienist may be approved by the department, with the recommendation of the board, to administer local anesthesia under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist.