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# Career Map for Internationally Trained

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## *Dental Technologists*

College of Dental Technologists  
of Ontario



Ordre des technologues dentaires  
de l'Ontario



# CAREER MAP FOR ACCESS TO THE DENTAL TECHNOLOGY PROFESSION IN ONTARIO

*This document was updated in collaboration with the Labour Market Integration Unit, Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration in December 2008. Some requirements may have changed by the time you apply. Please contact the College of Dental Technologists of Ontario before completing your application.*

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In Ontario, Dental Technologists (RDTs) are registered (licensed) health-care professionals. They are knowledgeable and skilled in the design, construction, repair or alteration of dental prosthetic, restorative and orthodontic devices that are prescribed by dentists or other qualified health-care practitioners for their patients. Only a Dental Technologists can supervise the operation of a dental laboratory.

The College of Dental Technologists of Ontario (CDTO) registers (licenses) Dental Technologists in accordance with the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991*, and the *Dental Technology Act, 1991*. No person can work as a Dental Technologist or use the title "Dental Technologist" or "RDT" without a registration certificate (licence) issued by the CDTO. Registration means applying to the CDTO to get a Certificate of Registration. [General guidance on the registration process is described in this career map.]

Persons without registration (licence) however, can work as assistants under the supervision of a registered member of the CDTO

## REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS IN ONTARIO

Applicants for registration with the CDTO must meet the following requirements:

### A. Education Requirements

Successful completion of:

- 1) Grade 12 education or equivalent 12 years of general education;
- 2) A recognized post-secondary education program in dental technology taken after Grade 12.

### B. Other Requirements

- Completion of 1,950 hours (about one year) of supervised practical dental technology work experience in Ontario performing the full range of activities described in the document "Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists".
- Successful completion of the CDTO registration examination;
- Be a Canadian citizen or legally be allowed to work in Canada;
- Professional liability insurance coverage to a minimum of \$500,000.

## STEP 1 – HAVE YOUR EDUCATION EVALUATED

**Before applying to** sit the CDTO registration examination, an applicant must first submit his/her education transcript, diploma/certificate to a credential assessment agency for evaluation. The agency will verify the status of the school(s) attended by the applicant and compare document by document, course by course the secondary and post-secondary programs undertaken by an applicant before putting down their findings in a report.

The report will indicate if the candidate has successfully completed

- Ontario Grade 12 or equivalent education ;

- a recognized dental technology program offered by an accredited post-secondary school, and
- if the curriculum and actual training of the program covers at least 80% of the “Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists” [this service is only available from ICAS]

The evaluation process, documentation requirements, fees and assessment time-lines of each credential assessment agency may differ. At the minimum, applicants must be prepared to submit secondary (high school) and post-secondary (college or university) transcripts and diplomas/certificates; and if these documents are not in English or French, provide certified translation of each one.

Applicants are advised to directly contact each agency for information.

### **Applying Before You Immigrate to Canada**

Before you come to Canada, you should write to a credential assessment agency to request an assessment package or access the information and forms through the CDTO website [www.cdto.ca](http://www.cdto.ca). This will help you understand if you meet the education requirements.

When you receive the assessment package, carefully read the instructions, then complete the application and return it with all required documents and fees to the agency. Missing documents will normally cause delay.

### **When You Arrive in Ontario**

If you did not start the credential assessment process from overseas, contact a credential assessment agency as soon as possible to have your education assessed.

If you have already completed the Assessment before your arrival in Ontario, contact the CDTO by phone or in writing to set up an appointment with the Registrar to present your credential assessment report. You will then be advised if you met the education requirements to sit the Registration Examination or the Eligibility Examination of the CDTO.

## **STEP 2 – APPLY TO THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL TECHNOLOGISTS TO SIT EXAMINATIONS**

You may apply to the CDTO to sit the Registration Examination at any time during the year, **after**

- Completing the processes in Step 1; and
- Completing 1,950 hours (about one year) of supervised practical dental technology work experience in Ontario performing the full range of activities described in the document “Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists”.

The CDTO usually holds a briefing session on the Registration Examination in November/December of each year. The session will help you:

- better prepare for the examination;
- understand the policies and regulations of the examination;
- understand the legislation that governs the practice of dental technology in Ontario;
- decide whether you are ready to become a Dental Technologist as a regulated health professional.

If you are interested in attending this briefing session, please contact the CDTO by phone or visit the web-site [www.cdto.ca](http://www.cdto.ca) for more specific information on dates.

### **Eligibility Examination**

If the assessment of your dental technology education indicates that your study program is at post-secondary level but does not measure up to 80% of the “Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists”, you may apply to the CDTO to sit the Eligibility Examination to prove your standing. Apply in writing to the CDTO Registration Committee. Your application to sit the Eligibility Examination must include a certificate of competency according to the Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) of 6 or greater from an organization approved by the Registration Committee, who provides English as a Second Language (ESL) testing.

The Eligibility Examination is a 2-hour written examination given in Ontario. It is a test on general dental technology knowledge. Questions are based on the competency areas stated in the “Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists”.

You must get a score of at least 60% in to pass the Eligibility Examination.

Once you have passed the Eligibility Examination and proved that you have completed 1,950 hours of supervised practical dental technology work experience in Ontario, you may then apply to take the Registration Examination.

### **Registration Examination**

The Registration Examination has two parts – Written and Practical.

#### **Written Examinations**

The Written part of the examination includes:

- A 2-hour Theory Examination that tests your general and theoretical knowledge in all subject areas listed in the “Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists”. The examination may include multiple choice questions, labeling of diagrams, short answers or a combination of the above. The passing score is 60%. and
- A one-and-a-half-hour **open-book** Jurisprudence and Ethics Examination that tests your knowledge of current legislation and ethics that govern the practice of dental technology in Ontario. The examination is in the form of multiple-choice questions.

#### **Practical Examination**

The practical examination takes 4½ days. It will test your understanding and interpretation of prescriptions, technical skills, time management, organization skills, equipment operation, and application of safety measures to the standards listed in the “Competency Profile of Canadian Dental Technicians/Technologists”. You will be asked to complete 5 or 6 dental technology projects according to prescriptions given. To pass the examination, you must

- Complete ALL projects according to prescriptions given; and
- Each of your completed projects must meet the marking criteria set for each of the projects.

### **JURISPRUDENCE AND ETHICS Examination Preparation**

George Brown College normally offers a basic course on the Jurisprudence and Ethics on dental technology practice Please contact the George Brown College Continuing Education Department for course dates and fees.

[Study manual (Guide to Dental Technology Practice) for the Jurisprudence and Ethics examination may be purchased from the CDTO.]

### **STEP 3 – APPLY FOR REGISTRATION**

After you have successfully passed ALL parts of the Registration Examination, you are eligible to apply for your Certificate of Registration as a Dental Technologist. Contact the CDTO for the application package. You must provide proof of professional liability insurance coverage issued in your name, character references and declaration of any charge for criminal offence, professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity related to your practice of the profession in or outside of Ontario.

### **LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION**

The outlook for the dental technology profession is fairly good and should continue that way into the future. Employment opportunities will increase as the population’s need for dentures, crowns and bridges, implants and orthodontic devices increases.

It is difficult to obtain detailed figures on wage rates. Laboratory owners generally offer minimum wage to assisting technicians with little or no training. Qualified dental technologists' salary levels vary a lot, depending on the person’s skill and experience. A skilled and experienced dental technologist working full time could earn from \$600 to more than \$1,200 per week.

For detailed Labour Market Information about this and related occupations, visit the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities' Job Futures Web site at [www.on.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/english/lmi/eaid/ojf/](http://www.on.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/english/lmi/eaid/ojf/) or the Human Resources Development Canada web site for Ontario at [www.on.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/](http://www.on.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/)

**FEES (in Canadian Dollars)**

CDTO

Eligibility Examination: \$100.00

Registration Examination Application: \$210.00 (non-refundable)

Written(Theory) Examination: \$155.00

Written (Jurisprudence and Ethics) Examination: \$155.00

Practical Examination: \$930.00

Application for Registration: \$150.00

Annual Registration Fee: \$1232.23

A 5% goods and services tax must be added to all fees. Please make certified cheques or money orders payable to "College of Dental Technologists of Ontario."

**CONTACT INFORMATION****For more information on application requirements, examinations or fees, please contact:**

The Registrar's Office

The College of Dental Technologists of Ontario (CDTO)

2100 Ellesmere Road, Suite 300

Toronto, ON M1H 3B7 CANADA

Telephone: (416) 438-5003

Fax: (416) 438-5004

Website: [www.cdto.ca](http://www.cdto.ca)Email: [info@cdto.ca](mailto:info@cdto.ca)**For more information on assessment of your education credentials, please contact:**

International Credential Assessment Service of Canada (ICAS)

ICAS of Canada

Ontario AgriCentre

100 Stone Road West, Suite 303

Guelph ON N1G 5L3 CANADA

Telephone: 519-763-7282

Fax: 519-763-6964

Website: [www.icascanada.ca](http://www.icascanada.ca)e-mail: [info@icascanada.ca](mailto:info@icascanada.ca)

World Education Services

45 Charles St. East, Suite 700

Toronto, ON M4Y 1S2 CANADA

Telephone: (416) 972-0070

Toll Free Phone: 866-343-0070

Fax: (416) 972-9004

Website: [www.wes.org/ca](http://www.wes.org/ca)Email: [inquiryca@wes.org](mailto:inquiryca@wes.org)**For more information on requirements to enter the Dental Technology Program at George Brown College, please contact:**

George Brown College

Casa Loma Registration Office

160 Kendal Avenue, Building C

Toronto, ON M5R 1M3 CANADA

Telephone: (416) 415-2000

Toll-free: 1-800-265-2002 (in Canada and the USA)

Website: [www.gbrownc.on.ca](http://www.gbrownc.on.ca)E-mail: [info@gbrownc.on.ca](mailto:info@gbrownc.on.ca)

**For information on how to prove the equivalent grade 12 education, please contact:**

The General Educational Development (GED) Administrator  
Independent Learning Centre Branch  
2180 Yonge Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M4S 2B9 CANADA  
Telephone: (416) 484-2737  
Toll Free: 1-800-573-7022  
Email: [ged@tvontario.org](mailto:ged@tvontario.org)  
Website: [www.ilc.org](http://www.ilc.org)

**For information on where and how to get help with settlement in Ontario, please contact:**

Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)  
110 Eglinton Avenue West, Suite 200  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4R 1A3  
Tel: (416) 322-4950 ext. 227  
E-mail: [generalmail@ocasi.org](mailto:generalmail@ocasi.org)  
Website: <http://www.ocasi.org>

**For information about accessing professions and trades in Ontario please contact:**

Government of Ontario  
Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration  
Labour Market Integration Unit  
Telephone: (416) 326-5656  
Toll Free: 1-800-387-5656  
Fax: (416) 326-6265  
E-mail: [aptinfo@mci.gov.on.ca](mailto:aptinfo@mci.gov.on.ca)  
Website: [www.citizenship.gov.on.ca](http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca)