Dental Careers and Graduate Program | Core Dental

Canonical: https://www.coredental.com.au/careers/

Details:

Core Dental is a family-owned group of nine dental clinics across Melbourne, and we are always interested in hearing from people who share our focus on caring for local patients. We employ dentists, registered specialists, hygienists and therapists, dental assistants and reception and practice management staff. We also run a dedicated graduate dentist program that we have refined over the last 10 years. To ask about current roles, call us on 13 13 16.

What is it like to work at Core Dental?

At Core Dental we have built a friendly working environment, and our team's positive attitude is a large part of it. We have multiple locations across Melbourne and a range of diverse roles, from clinical positions to reception and practice management. Our team members can also receive discounts on their own dental treatment with Core Dental. Ask us for the current terms.

We offer ongoing training, mentoring, apprenticeships and the opportunity to develop and advance within the company and your career. Our supportive management team encourages staff to build on their skills and strengths. We like to recognise team members who have worked with us for a number of years, and we celebrate that commitment by presenting awards at our annual financial year dinner. Twenty-five of our management, reception and nursing staff have been with our practices for more than 10 years.

What roles do we offer?

We are a multidisciplinary group. Our clinical team consists of dentists, hygienists and registered specialists, supported by an auxiliary team of management, reception and nursing staff. Having multiple locations helps us give every clinician access to the same range of technology across our practices.

Registered general dentists and specialists: we offer opportunities for full-time registered general dentists, and for registered specialists on a full-time or part-time basis. Experienced clinicians can use their clinical and interpersonal skills to build their professional reputation within our group.

Graduate dentists: new graduates can develop a broad range of clinical experience in a supportive environment through our dedicated graduate dentist program.

General dentists: you would join a multidisciplinary practice served by an experienced team of general practitioners and board-registered specialists, supported by our management, reception and nursing staff.

Dental specialists: our group works with board-registered specialists in oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, orthodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics and paediatric dentistry.

Dental hygienists and therapists: our hygienists and oral health therapists have a wide set of oral health skills and interests, which they maintain through ongoing training and education. We employ oral hygienists, dental therapists, and orthodontic and dental therapists.

Dental assistants: our nursing team has a broad range of skills and diversity, with a strong emphasis on career development and learning. Our nurses can be trained across the different areas of dentistry that

we offer.

Reception and practice management: reception is the first point of contact for our patients, and we offer rewarding opportunities in dental reception and administration.

What is our graduate dentist program?

We run a dedicated graduate program that has been refined over the last 10 years. Graduate dentists work with multiple clinical mentors across both general and specialty departments, and they receive an extensive clinical induction and a tailored ongoing support program. You can read about a past program on our general dentist graduate program page and our 2024 graduate program page . Those pages describe programs from earlier years, so please ask us about the current intake and application process.

How do you apply or find out about current vacancies?

Please call us on 13 13 16 or use our contact page to tell us which role and which location interest you. Vacancies change over time, and this page does not confirm any specific opening. When you get in touch, it helps to tell us about your qualifications and registration, the locations you could work from, and the hours you are available. Clinical roles require current registration, which anyone can check on the AHPRA register at ahpra.gov.au.

There is more than one registered career in dentistry

Dental careers are often discussed as though there is one path. The Dental Board of Australia registers several distinct divisions of practitioner, each with its own protected title.

The divisions the Board names. "Dental hygienists, dental therapists, and oral health therapists are divisions of dental practitioners."

Each title is protected. "You can only use the protected title of dental hygienist if you are registered in that division."

One qualification covers two roles. "A registered oral health therapist is considered qualified to practise as dental therapist and/or dental hygienist."

And you can hold more than one. "You can apply for registration and renew your registration in multiple divisions. You will be expected to meet all registration standards."

All divisions work to the same standard. "Dental hygienists, dental therapists, and oral health therapists must adhere to the same Scope of practice registration standard as all other divisions of dental practitioners." That standard is short: "Dental practitioners must only perform dental treatment: a. for which they have been educated and trained, and b. in which they are competent."

Scope is individual, and this is the point worth understanding before choosing a role. "Your scope of practice depends on your education, qualifications, training, experience, and competence. This means that even within a division, your scope may vary from another practitioner's. You should not rely on your scope being the same as a colleagues, as your training, experience and competence may be different from theirs."

So two practitioners with identical registration can do different work. What a role offers in training and supervised experience therefore shapes a career more than the title does.

One transitional provision the Board records. "If you have been trained as both a dental hygienist and dental therapist, before the National Scheme, you may be able to continue to perform dental treatment for which you have been educated and trained and in which you are competent."

Sources: Dental Board of Australia, Dental hygienist, dental therapist and oral health therapist, dentalboard.gov.au (the page states it was reviewed 18/03/2025); Scope of practice registration standard, dentalboard.gov.au (effective from 1 July 2020). Both accessed 6 November 2026.

What every registered role requires, and where each can lead

Beyond the qualification, registration carries continuing obligations — and each path has recognised next steps.

What registration requires on an ongoing basis. The Board lists "having appropriate professional indemnity insurance and meeting the recency of practice, the continuing professional development (CPD) and the English language skills requirements."

Recency of practice and CPD are ongoing conditions, not one-off hurdles.

Who sets the entry competencies. "The Australian Dental Council (ADC) is, the Board's accreditation authority, and has published the Professional competencies of the newly qualified dental practitioner. This document outlines the competencies expected of the newly qualified dental practitioner, including, dental hygienists, dental therapists, and oral health therapists to be eligible for registration."

Routes in for practitioners trained overseas. Three, in the Board's description. Trans-Tasman mutual recognition for practitioners registered in New Zealand, "irrespective of where training was carried out and qualifications held". A Board-published list of qualifications from "institutions in the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland and New Zealand" considered substantially equivalent. Or otherwise "the assessment process organised by the ADC", involving "an assessment of your qualification(s) and completing the ADC written and practical examinations".

For dentists, the specialist pathways. "There are 13 dental specialties in Australia which are approved by the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council)": "dento-maxillofacial radiology", "endodontics", "forensic odontology", "oral and maxillofacial surgery", "oral medicine", "oral and maxillofacial pathology", "oral surgery", "orthodontics", "paediatric dentistry", "periodontics", "prosthodontics", "public health dentistry (community dentistry)" and "special needs dentistry".

Entry to any of them requires having "completed a minimum of two years general dental practice (this requirement may be achieved by experience outside Australia, subject to assessment and approval by the Board)".

And one endorsement that is not a specialty. On conscious sedation, the Board states that only dentists "whose registration is endorsed for conscious sedation can use this technique in their practice".

Where the whole profession is visible. "Ahpra publishes an online register of all dental practitioners that provides the profession and the public with up-to-date information about a dental practitioner's registration status. This register also includes details of the specialty or specialties for dentists who hold specialist registration."

And a note on where the work is. Public dental services in Victoria run "through the Royal Dental Hospital Melbourne (RDHM) and more than 40 integrated and registered community health services and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations across Victoria" — one indication of the range of settings in which a registered practitioner can work in this state.

Sources: Dental Board of Australia, Dental hygienist, dental therapist and oral health therapist, dentalboard.gov.au (the page states it was reviewed 18/03/2025); Specialist Registration, dentalboard.gov.au (the page states it was reviewed 18/03/2025); Conscious sedation, dentalboard.gov.au ; Victorian Department of Health, Access to Victoria's public dental care services, health.vic.gov.au . All accessed 6 November 2026.

Frequently asked questions

Do you hire experienced general dentists and specialists?

Yes. We offer opportunities for full-time registered general dentists and for registered specialists on a full-time or part-time basis. Contact us on 13 13 16 to ask about current openings and locations.

Which types of specialists work with Core Dental?

We work with board-registered specialists in oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, orthodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics and paediatric dentistry. Which specialists attend each clinic varies, so ask about a particular location.

What does a hygienist career with us involve?

Our hygienists and oral health therapists use a wide set of oral health skills and keep building them through ongoing training and education. We employ oral hygienists, dental therapists, and orthodontic and dental therapists.

Are there career paths beyond clinical roles?

Yes. Our dental assistants can be trained across different areas of dentistry, and reception staff can develop into practice management and administration roles. We offer ongoing training, mentoring and the opportunity to advance within the group.

Which registered dental roles are there besides dentist?

The Dental Board of Australia names three divisions: "Dental hygienists, dental therapists, and oral health therapists are divisions of dental practitioners."

Are those titles protected?

Yes. "You can only use the protected title of dental hygienist if you are registered in that division."

Does one qualification cover more than one role?

It can. "A registered oral health therapist is considered qualified to practise as dental therapist and/or dental hygienist." And "you can apply for registration and renew your registration in multiple divisions".

Do all divisions work to the same rules?

Yes. "Dental hygienists, dental therapists, and oral health therapists must adhere to the same Scope of practice registration standard as all other divisions of dental practitioners."

Will my scope match my colleagues' with the same registration?

Not necessarily. "Even within a division, your scope may vary from another practitioner's. You should not rely on your scope being the same as a colleagues, as your training, experience and competence may be different from theirs."

What does registration require on an ongoing basis?

"Having appropriate professional indemnity insurance and meeting the recency of practice, the continuing professional development (CPD) and the English language skills requirements."

Who sets the competencies for entry?

"The Australian Dental Council (ADC) is, the Board's accreditation authority, and has published the Professional competencies of the newly qualified dental practitioner."

What are the routes in if I trained overseas?

Trans-Tasman mutual recognition for practitioners registered in New Zealand, "irrespective of where training was carried out and qualifications held"; a Board-published list of qualifications from "institutions in the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland and New Zealand" considered substantially equivalent; or "the assessment process organised by the ADC", involving "an assessment of your qualification(s) and completing the ADC written and practical examinations".

What specialist paths exist for dentists?

Thirteen specialties, which the Board lists as "dento-maxillofacial radiology", "endodontics", "forensic odontology", "oral and maxillofacial surgery", "oral medicine", "oral and maxillofacial pathology", "oral surgery", "orthodontics", "paediatric dentistry", "periodontics", "prosthodontics", "public health dentistry (community dentistry)" and "special needs dentistry".

How much general practice is needed before specialising?

"A minimum of two years general dental practice (this requirement may be achieved by experience outside Australia, subject to assessment and approval by the Board)."

Is there a path that is an endorsement rather than a specialty?

Conscious sedation. Only dentists "whose registration is endorsed for conscious sedation can use this technique in their practice".

Where can I check a practitioner's registration?

"Ahpra publishes an online register of all dental practitioners that provides the profession and the public with up-to-date information about a dental practitioner's registration status."

Related services and further reading

Graduate dentist program

2024 graduate program

Our dentists and registered specialists

The Core Dental ambience

Specialist care at Core Dental

Contact Core Dental

Core Dental Southbank

Core Dental Epping

Core Dental at a glance

Nine Core Dental clinics across Melbourne: Southbank, South Melbourne, Caroline Springs, Carrum Downs, Epping, Wyndham, Berwick, Bayside and Glenferrie.

Open six days a week: Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm and Saturday mornings.

Interest-free payment plans, HICAPS on-site claiming and bulk billing for eligible children under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule.

Invisalign Blue Diamond provider, as stated on coredental.com.au.

Call 13 13 16 or book online.

Contact Core Dental

Phone	13 13 16
Online booking	Book Now at coredental.com.au
Hours	Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm, Saturday 8.00am to 1.30pm (Bayside Saturday 8.30am to 1.30pm), Sunday closed
Clinics	Southbank , South Melbourne , Caroline Springs , Carrum Downs , Epping , Wyndham , Berwick , Bayside , Glenferrie

Results, recovery times and potential risks vary for each individual. This information is general in nature and is intended for people over 18. Seek advice from a qualified, AHPRA-registered practitioner before proceeding.

What kinds of careers does Core Dental offer?

Core Dental offers careers for general dentists, registered specialists, graduate dentists, dental hygienists and therapists, dental assistants, and reception and practice management staff across our nine Melbourne clinics.

How long has Core Dental run its graduate dentist program?

We have refined our dedicated graduate dentist program over the last 10 years. Graduates work with multiple clinical mentors across general and specialty departments and receive an extensive induction and tailored ongoing support.

Which registered specialists work with Core Dental?

Core Dental works with board-registered specialists in oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, orthodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics and paediatric dentistry. Ask about a particular clinic to learn which specialists attend there.

How does Core Dental recognise long-serving team members?

We recognise team members who have worked with us for a number of years by presenting awards at our annual financial year dinner. Twenty-five of our management, reception and nursing staff have

been with us for more than 10 years.

How do I ask about a job at Core Dental?

Call Core Dental on 13 13 16 or use our contact page to tell us the role and clinic location you are interested in. Vacancies change, so we confirm current openings and application steps directly.

What training does Core Dental offer its team?

Core Dental offers ongoing training, mentoring, apprenticeships and the chance to advance within the group. Our dental assistants can be trained across different areas of dentistry, and our hygienists keep building skills through ongoing education.

Does Core Dental offer staff dental discounts?

Our team members can receive discounts on their own dental treatment with Core Dental. We have not published the terms here, so please ask us for the current conditions when you enquire.