



## DENTURIST

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### What is a Denturist?

Denturists are health care providers who specialize in any non-surgical intra oral procedures in order to make a removable dental prosthesis (denture, partial denture, denture over implant, mouth guard, and anti-snoring device) directly to the public.

#### Job responsibilities for denturists typically include:

- Medical and dental histories
- Oral examinations
- Take impressions of ridges and/or natural teeth
- Construct dentures using a variety of materials
- Fit patient with final product
- Repair or reline existing dental prosthesis
- Consult with other medical and dental health care and
- Hire auxiliary staff

#### A career as a denturist requires:

- A high degree of manual dexterity
- Good vision and an ability to recognize very fine colour shadings
- Scientific aptitude
- An ability to follow instructions;
- Attention to detail and precision work
- Interpersonal communication skills; and
- Basic analytical skills

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### How do you become a Denturist?

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Typical employment requirements are:

- Completion of a two or three year college program in denturist technology;
- An internship in a registered denture clinic and
- Licensure with the Denturist Society of Saskatchewan: <http://www.saskdenturists.ca/>

In Saskatchewan, Denturists are regulated through the *Dental Disciplines Act*.

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### Where can you get trained to be a Denturist?

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#### Alberta

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)  
Dental Health Sciences  
<http://www.nait.ab.ca/programs/DET/>

**Please Note:** The Saskatchewan government purchases seats in the Denturist Technology program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). These seats are reserved exclusively for qualified Saskatchewan students on a competitive basis.

#### British Columbia

Vancouver Community College  
[http://www.vcc.ca/programs/detail.cfm?wpgm\\_division\\_ID=6&wpgm\\_program\\_ID=47](http://www.vcc.ca/programs/detail.cfm?wpgm_division_ID=6&wpgm_program_ID=47)

#### Ontario

George Brown Toronto City College  
<http://www.georgebrown.ca/Marketing/FTCal/hsci/S101.html#maincontent>

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## What do you need to get into NAIT's Denturist training program?

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NAIT's Denturist Technology program has the following Academic Requirements for Admission:

- An Alberta High School Diploma or equivalent, including English 30 or 33, Biology 30, and Math 20 pure or applied, or Math 23.
- In order to be successful in this program, students must have basic computer literacy.
- A career investigation report is required (<http://www.nait.ab.ca/programs/DET>).

Non-Academic Criteria:

- Students are required to have a current Standard First Aid Level C-CPR certificate prior to acceptance into second year.
- Students must have two red measles vaccinations or documented proof of immunity. Students are also required to have a tuberculosis test within two months of registration, and are required to be immunized for Hepatitis B once accepted into the program.

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## What does a Denturist study?

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Programs for Denturists typically include:

- Communication skills
- Anatomy,
- Oral pathology
- Laboratory procedures,
- Denture design and
- Practice management

Students apply theoretical knowledge in laboratory and patient care clinics.

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## Where does a Denturist work?

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- Private clinics

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## What is the salary of a Denturist?

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There is great variation in earnings for denturists, from those at the entry level to those well experienced. Those who own their business can earn substantially more, depending on their skills, reputation and client base.

According to the NAIT graduate survey of 2001 the monthly starting salary range for those graduating in 2001 was \$1800 – 2200/month. 100% of those graduating in 2001 had full time employment within 6-9 months of graduating.

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## Related Links

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**The Denturist Society of Saskatchewan**

<http://www.saskdenturists.ca>

**Denturist Association of Canada**

<http://www.denturist.org/>