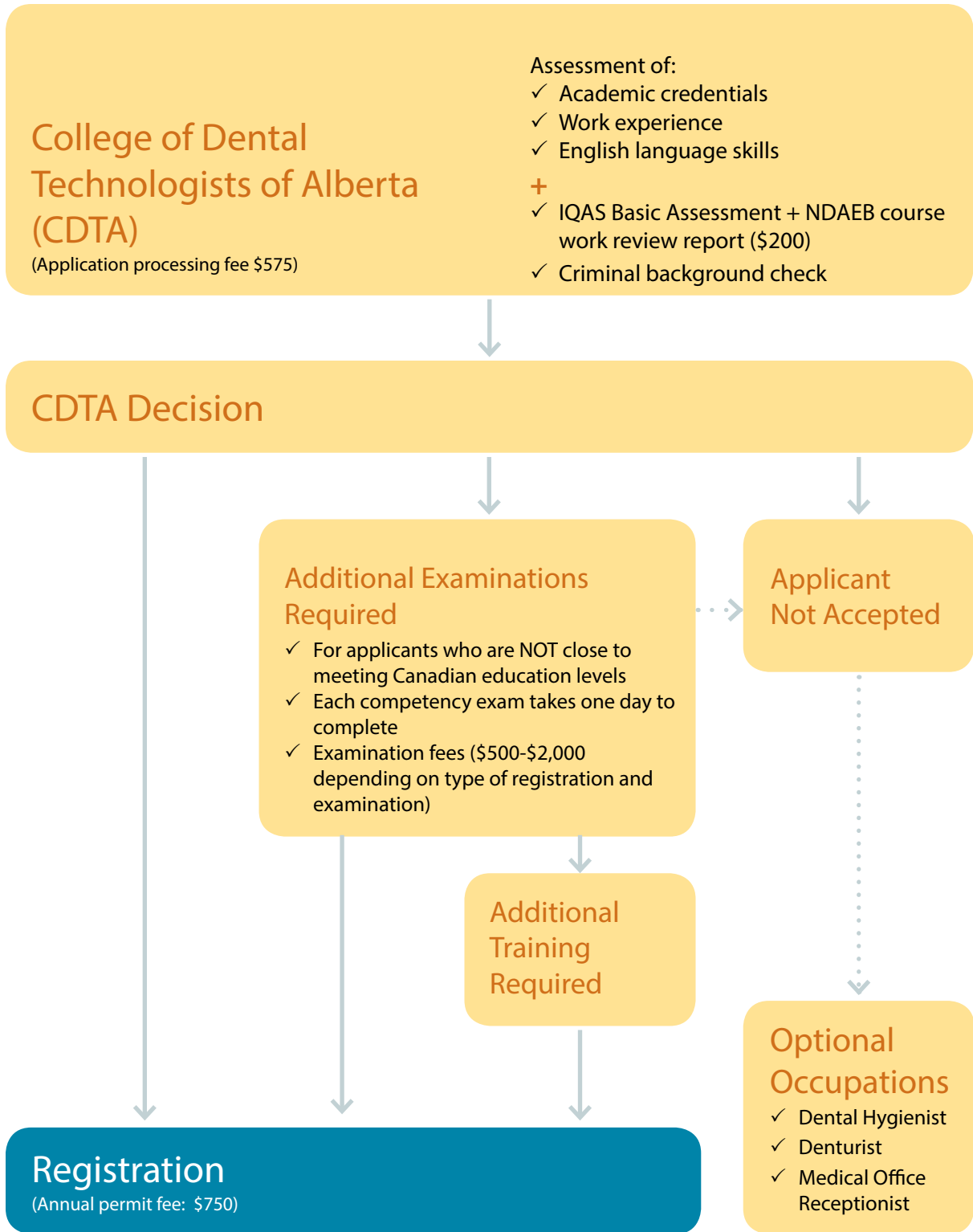


# Dental Technologist/Technician

## Registration Process



## Dental Technologist/Technician

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#### Description of Occupation

Dental Technologists/Technicians fabricate various dental appliances and devices such as crowns, bridges, dentures, partial dentures and orthodontic appliances for damaged, lost or irregular teeth. In Alberta, there are two levels of Dental Technology: Registered Dental Technologist (RDT) and Dental Technician (DT). RDT's are skilled in all four (4) areas of dental technology, while DT's are skilled in one or more areas of dental technology but not all four. Contact the College of Dental Technologists of Alberta for more information on the difference between the designations.

#### Obtaining Licensing in Alberta

To practice in Alberta, all Dental Technologists/Technicians must be registered with the College of Dental Technologists of Alberta (CDTA).

Internationally educated Dental Technologists/Technicians can and should begin the application process before they arrive in Alberta. They should apply to the CDTA by filling out the Application for Practice Permit and mailing it to the CDTA.

Complete the application form and provide detailed and accurate answers to all questions. When your application is complete with all documents, sign it and send it to the CDTA. Although fees are listed at the top of the application form, you do not have to pay any application fees until you have been approved by the CDTA.

Contact information, links to the Application for Practice Permit and other resources are at the end of this document.

#### Residency Requirement

There is no residency requirement to register with the CDTA.

#### Registration Requirements

Internationally educated Dental Technologists/Technicians must meet the following registration requirements:

##### 1. Academic Credentials

A two-year diploma from a dental technology training school approved by the CDTA or equivalent is the minimum requirement.

- Contact the school you graduated from and ask for an official, notarized copy of your academic transcripts
- If transcripts are in a language other than English you must also have a notarized translation sent along with your documents.

##### 2. International Qualifications Assessment

Once your application is received by the CDTA, you will be referred to the International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS). You will need a specialized assessment. Your international educational credentials will be compared to educational credentials in Canada.

IQAS will report its assessment findings to the CDTA and the College will determine how your application will proceed from there. For details on how to obtain an IQAS assessment and to download an application, visit the IQAS website at the address provided at the end of this document.

### 3. **Examinations**

The Registration, Education and Competency Committee will review your application and the results of the IQAS assessment. Depending on the results of the review, the committee may decide that you must take a practical examination in one or more of the following four (4) competencies:

- Removable prostheses
- Removable partial prostheses
- Fixed partial prosthesis
- Fixed and removable orthodontic and periodontal appliances.

If required by the committee, you must pass the practical examination for each of the four (4) competencies in order to become a Registered Dental Technologist (RDT). To become a Dental Technician (DT), you must pass a practical examination in at least one (1), and up to all four (4), of the competencies.

The full practical examination is for applicants whose post-secondary education is *not* assessed as being equivalent to Canadian education, or for those applicants who are not graduates of Dental Technologist/Technician training schools. It takes one (1) day to complete one (1) competency, and the entire process is monitored within a laboratory. Exams are administered once per year. The passing mark for each examination is 70%.

### 4. **References**

You must provide one (1) reference that can verify both your work experience and character.

### 5. **English Language**

You must be competent in the English language, both written and oral, and be able to effectively communicate in the workplace. This will be assessed by the CDTA throughout the examination process.

### 6. **Personal Information**

Applicants are required to include personal information. This includes:

- Any previous disciplinary or competency action
- A criminal background check (foreign or domestic)

### **Continuing Competency Requirements**

All registered members are required to upgrade their knowledge in Dental Technology on an ongoing basis. Continuing competency development for Dental Technologists/Technicians is self-directed and includes activities such as taking courses, attending or giving lectures, researching and publishing research papers, taking part in a mentorship program and being part of a study group.

For each hour of competency activity a member gains one (1) credit. Members must acquire 60 hours of Continuing Competency Credits over a five (5) year period.

## Payment

The following fees must be submitted during the registration process once the applicant has been approved. Fees are in Canadian dollars.

Initial Application Fee (international applicants)	\$575
Criminal Background Check	Fees vary
Full Practical Examination Fee	\$500 per competency
IQAS Basic Assessment Fee (+ NDAEB coursework review report)	\$200
Practice Permit Fee (pro-rated)	\$750
*Fees are subject to change. See the CDTA website for the most up-to-date fees.	

## Average Earnings

The overall average earnings for all Dental Technologists/Technicians, according to the Alberta 2013 Wage and Salary survey:

Average hours worked per week	37.7
Average wage per hour	\$23.77
Average salary per year	\$46,378

## Employment Options

You can also consider working in Alberta in a related occupation such as a Dental Assistant, Dental Hygienist or Denturist.

For more information about additional employment options, go to the following website: [Alberta Learning Information Service \(ALIS\) Occupational Profiles — Dental Technologist/Technician](#) (for information on all occupations see [www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo)).

## Contact Information

College of Dental Technologists of Alberta

#7, 9343-50 Street  
 Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2L5  
 Telephone: (780) 469-0615  
 Fax: (780) 469-1340  
 Email: [membersinfo@cdta.ca](mailto:membersinfo@cdta.ca)  
 Website: [www.cdta.ca](http://www.cdta.ca)

International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS)  
 9th Floor, 108 Street Building 9942 - 108 Street  
 Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2J5  
 Phone: 780-427-2655 Fax: 780-422-9734  
 Website: [www.work.alberta.ca/iqas](http://www.work.alberta.ca/iqas)

## Resources

This information is an overview of the registration process. For the most current information on Dental Technologist/Technician registration visit the College of Dental Technologists of Alberta website at [www.cdt.ca](http://www.cdt.ca)

Application Forms and Information

[Membership Categories](#)

[Registration Checklist](#)

[Application Forms](#)

Examinations

[CDTA Examination Application Forms](#)

[CDTA Continuing Competence Program](#)