



Applying Volunteer Hours Towards the Practice Hour Requirement

One of the requirements for registration with the College of Dental Hygienists of Manitoba (CDHM) is 600 hours of dental hygiene practice within the three years immediately preceding your application/renewal. Applicants who have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program within the past 12 months are not required to meet this requirement. In some situations, volunteer hours can be counted towards the 600-hour requirement.

FAQ

I work part-time and anticipate having difficulty maintaining 600 worked hours over the next few years. Can the volunteer work that I do be counted towards the 600-hour requirement?

Perhaps, but there are several conditions that must be met:

- You must be on the practicing register while completing the volunteer hours.
- Your volunteer work must be pre-approved by CDHM.
- The volunteer service you provide must be directly relevant to the practice of dental hygiene.
- The organization you volunteer for, and the clients you interact with, (if applicable), must understand and acknowledge that you are providing dental hygiene service.

Is there a specific process for using volunteer hours?

You must make a request in writing to CDHM. Any volunteer work that you intend to use towards the hour requirement must be approved by CDHM prior to volunteering. In some situations, if volunteer dental hygiene services have been provided outside Canada, it may be possible to have this work approved after the fact.

I volunteer on CDHM Committees and for the Manitoba Dental Hygienists Association (MDHA). Does this count as volunteer hours?

Yes, understanding you may be required to provide documentation of your volunteer hours from the organization. If you are claiming these hours as volunteer time you will be unable to use the claimed hours as part of your Professional Activity Record (PAR) of the Continuing Competency Program.

What types of volunteer hours are typically approved?



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Some volunteer activities have been pre-approved, such as providing dental hygiene care at Siloam Mission, oral health presentations, volunteering with CDHM, MDHA, and/or the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA). Other volunteer activities will be assessed upon application in writing.

How do I provide proof of having completed volunteer work?

A signature from a supervisor or organizer of the program/organization where volunteer hours were provided is required. The signed record of volunteer hours is then submitted to the CDHM.

Are there other specific requirements?

You must be a practicing registrant in good standing.

For more information, please contact CDHM at (204) 219-2678 or by email at cdhm@cdhm.info