

Creston Children's Dental Clinic Volunteer FAQ

What services do volunteers provide to patients at Creston Children's Dental Clinic?

We provide comprehensive preventive and restorative dental treatment including: Prophylaxis and fluoride treatments, digital xrays, sealants, fillings, root canals/pulpotomies, and extractions (including 3rd molars and primary teeth). Our A-DEC equipment includes 5 dental chairs, and DAISY dental software.

Due to our location in a school building, we do NOT provide nitrous oxide or sedation.

What paperwork do I need to complete before my first volunteer shift?

- **License** - We need a current copy of your license on file. You can bring this with you on your first day at the clinic, or email or fax us a copy.
- **Background check** - Since we work with children, every volunteer must provide their social security number, birthdate, driver's license number, and past ten years of addresses for a background check before their first day at the clinic. You may fill out this form in the clinic or we can fax or email you a copy to send back to us.

Where is the clinic entrance? Where do I park?

The clinic entrance is to the left of the main school entrance. If you are standing in front of the school, look for the blue "Friends of Creston Children's Dental Clinic" sign with the red toothbrush on it.

There is a small school parking lot across the street, or you can use street parking anywhere in the neighborhood.

What should I wear?

Please wear clinic-appropriate clothing including scrubs or long pants, and close-toed shoes. We provide gowns, safety glasses, disposable gloves, etc. Since we are in close proximity to patients and other volunteers, make sure you wear deodorant and do not have body odor. We are a fragrance-free clinic, so please do not wear perfume or other strong scents.

I only want to treat older children, or I do not feel comfortable providing particular procedures (root canals, 3rd molar extractions).

We do our best to accommodate every volunteer's preferences, but also ask that volunteers keep in mind that most of our patients are elementary school students. Please let us know any concerns in advance and we will do our best to schedule your patients around your preferences. However, we do ask that our volunteers be flexible as much as possible so that we can provide all the services our patients need. Also, please remember that we can always refer patients who may need extra care (such as nitrous or sedation) to partner dentists who are willing to work with our clients in their own office.

Am I going to see as many patients as possible every day? Is this a "drill and fill" assembly line?

No. Our goal at Creston Children's Dental Clinic is to provide a true "dental home" for kids, where families can come for preventative care and education as well as treatment for pain and decay. Our volunteer providers take their time to make a real connection with each patient, and we regularly hear that kids who used to be scared of coming to the dentist now look forward to coming to Creston. We

love seeing familiar families come back regularly, and get the preventative care they need to join our Cavity Free Club! As a volunteer, you will have the time you need to feel confident that you are providing the best possible care.

What happens if a patient needs treatment I don't feel comfortable performing? Do I need to be ready to perform heroic measures?

No! We have a network of wonderful providers who are willing to take referrals from our clinic. We want to make sure all our providers feel comfortable calling a "time out" if necessary. We will always be able to connect your patient to the care they need.

I'm not sure whether I want to volunteer. Can I come take a tour of the clinic?

Yes! We love showing potential volunteers our clinic. Please call us at 503-916-5808 or email marina@crestondental.org to set up a time to come in for a quick ten minute tour.

We also welcome potential volunteers who would like to observe in the clinic for 1-2 hours before their first volunteer shift. Many volunteers find this wonderful preparation for their first shift, especially if they are recent graduates. If you would like to observe in the clinic just let us know and we will work with you to schedule a time that works for you.

I prefer to only work in my own office. Can I still help Creston Children's Dental Clinic?

Yes! There are several ways dentists can help us from their own office:

- Take referrals 1 to 4 times a year for procedures we cannot perform in our clinic. Endodontists, orthodontists, and pediatric specialists are particularly needed.
- Staff our on-call emergency line for one month. We RARELY receive calls on this line, but of course when we do a speedy response is necessary.
- Host a "Creston Day" at your office! Treat patients as you normally do, and donate proceeds to Creston Dental Clinic. Your donations make a big difference for our clinic.

Ready to volunteer? Call us at 503-916-5808 to schedule your volunteer shift.