

Which Dental Specialist Should I See?



ORAL SURGEON

Surgical specialist providing treatment for the mouth, face and jaw



Specializes in the extraction of diseased teeth and wisdom teeth, the placement of dental implants, bone grafting, oral pathology, trauma, administration of IV anesthesia and surgical treatment of pediatric patients



4-6 years of additional post-dental school residency training



PERIODONTIST

Surgical specialist providing treatment of the gums



Specializes in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease, the placement of dental implants, bone grafting, treatment of periodontal inflammation and cosmetic periodontal surgery



3 years of additional post-dental school residency training



PROSTHODONTIST

Specialist in advanced and complex restorative and cosmetic procedures



Specializes in the treatment of patients with complex and restorative needs including the use of crowns, bridges, dentures and implants to produce the best esthetic and functional results



3 years post-dental school residency training



ENDODONTIST

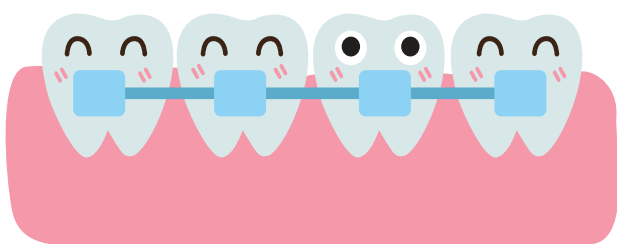
Specialist in saving teeth and maintaining natural smiles



Specializes in salvaging teeth to avoid extraction and to prepare for cosmetic restoration



2-3 years of post-dental school training



ORTHODONTIST

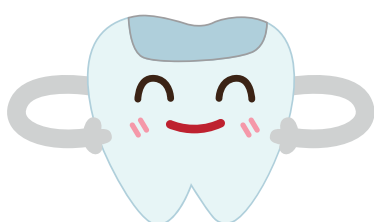
Specialist in correcting misalignments of teeth



Specializes in preventing, diagnosing and treating dental irregularities such as over/underbites, overcrowding and other malocclusions



3 years of post-dental school residency training



PEDIATRIC DENTIST

Specialist in comprehensive general dentistry for children and teens



Specializes in routine cleanings, sealants, cavity fillings, crowns and treatment of minor trauma



2-3 years of post-dental school residency training

A general dentist is considered a patient's primary dental provider who can diagnose and treat general dental health issues. He/she provides preventative care, routine cleanings and exams as well as restorative care including filling cavities and placing crowns. While a general dentist is trained in many areas of dental care and can provide some specialty services, he/she has not completed the additional years of education and training that a dental specialist does. A general dentist will typically refer to specialists with advanced education and training to treat patients who require expert care.

The above specialists are recognized by the American Dental Association.



**NORTHWEST
ORAL SURGERY**