

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FOR MORE INFORMATION
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**Massachusetts Dental Society Awards
Grants for Dental Auxiliary Programs**

As part of its ongoing commitment to enhance opportunities for individuals who wish to pursue dental careers, the Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS), on the recommendation of the MDS Foundation, has awarded \$120,000 in grants to three community colleges and one vocational high school in the state. Each grant will be used to help expand dental hygiene and dental assisting programs.

Those organizations being awarded funds are:

- Bristol Community College (Fall River)—\$25,000 to conduct a feasibility study to determine if its dental hygiene program should be expanded
- Massasoit Community College (Canton)—\$10,000 to upgrade its dental equipment
- Quinsigamond Community College (Worcester)—\$60,000 to expand its dental hygiene program
- Tri-County Regional Vocational High School (Franklin)—\$25,000 to expand its dental assisting program

“The Massachusetts Dental Society is very pleased to have recently awarded four grants to area schools in order to help their dental hygiene and dental assisting programs grow and accept more applicants,” says Dr. Andrea Richman, president of the MDS.

“Dental assisting and dental hygiene are wonderful careers that are high in demand, and we expect that any new vacancies created will be filled quickly.”

The MDS and the MDS Foundation established a special grants program in 2003 to address the shortage of hygienists, assistants, and lab technicians, as well as to create, expand, and enhance programs offering access to dental care for those in need.

For more information on Dental Society’s grants program, call the Massachusetts Dental Society at **(800) 342-8747** or log on to **www.massdental.org**.

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