



Dental Hygiene 04/15/08

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Your application file must be **COMPLETE by March 15th** of the year you wish to be admitted.

The Dental Hygiene program educates men and women to become vital members of the dental health profession. The two-year basic core curriculum leading to an Associate in Science degree follows the guidelines adopted by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation. The graduate is eligible for licensing examination in each of the fifty states. She/he may transfer credits toward a Baccalaureate degree. The Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education.

The curriculum is designed to provide the student a broad educational experience. The student is thus prepared to render preventive oral health services and dental health education. Students receive clinical experience at the STCC Dental Hygiene Clinic. Students are responsible to complete clinical services on a minimum number of patients. Patient recruitment is the responsibility of the student. Assistance will be provided by the College. The purchase of an instrument kit is mandatory for each dental hygiene student.

Bloodborne Pathogen Policy: Dental Hygiene students provide services in the oral cavity where they come in contact with blood & saliva. Although diseases may be encountered, research indicates that risks are negligible when optimal infection control is practiced.

Minimum Prerequisites

- High School Chemistry with Lab with a "C" or better
- High School Algebra 2 with a "C" or better or placement in college level math
- High School Biology & Lab with "C" or better
- SATs (preferred, not required)

If a student has not taken the above classes or earned less than a "C", the below STCC classes are recommended:

High School Algebra 2: ALGB 097
High School Chemistry: CHEM 101
High School Biology: BIOL 102

Notes about Prerequisites:

- Students should take prerequisites as early as they can...they should not leave them until the summer before they wish to enter the program
- If you are not attending STCC during the semester before you wish to enroll in the program, but you are enrolled at another college, you should submit midterm grades reports by March 15th. If the college you are attending does not have midterm grades, please submit letters from individual professors, indicating your progress in their course.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all transcripts are updated upon completion of courses and all non-STCC college academic records are included with their application at time of filing.

Technical Standards

Although these standards are not used in the admissions process, a Dental Hygiene student should know that they must be able to meet the following minimum technical standards in the field.

1. Vision/hearing normal or device corrected
2. Stand in place for long periods of time
3. Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis, or other chronic skin disorders with open lesions

4. Operate dental radiology equipment, which could require pushing, pulling or moving
5. Lift up to 10 pounds
6. Demonstrate fine motor skills involving hand/eye coordination
7. Communicate orally and in writing to give instructions to patients and other health personnel
8. Effective interpersonal relation skills
9. Non-allergic responses to dental materials and agents
10. Professional Rescuer CPR (Red Cross) or Healthcare Provider CPR (American Heart Association) and standard first aid must be completed before the beginning of the second semester in the program

Curriculum

Semester 1		
ENGL-100	ENGLISH COMPOSITION 1	3
BIOL-132	ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY 1	4
BIOL-140	BIOCHEMISTRY (note 4)	3
DHYG-103	ORAL ANATOMY 1	2
DHYG-101	CLINICAL PRACTICE 1	4
DHYG-104	DENTAL RADIOLOGY	3
Total:		19
Semester 2		
BIOL-121	MICROBIOLOGY	4
BIOL-232	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 2	4
DHYG-200	NUTRITION AND ORAL HEALTH	2
DHYG-201	ORAL PATHOLOGY	2
DHYG-202	CLINICAL PRACTICE 2	5
DHYG-203	ORAL ANATOMY 2	2
Total:		19
Semester 3		
PSYC-100	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
DHYG-300	PERIODONTOLOGY	2
DHYG-301	DENTAL MATERIALS	3
DHYG-302	PHARMACOLOGY	2
DHYG-303	CLINICAL PRACTICE 3	6
Total:		16
Semester 4		
ENGL-203	FOUNDATIONS OF ORAL COMMUNICATION (formerly SPCH-203 Fundamentals of Speech)	3
SOCL-100	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
DHYG-400	COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH	3
DHYG-401	CLINICAL PRACTICE 4	6
DHYG-402	APPLIED DENTAL AUXILLARY SKILLS	2
Total:		17

Notes:

1. All courses must be taken prior to or during the semester as listed above.
2. All science courses over five years old must be repeated or challenged. Arrangements to challenge are made through the Biological Sciences department chairperson.
3. Courses that are shaded are courses that students can take without being enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program. Priority is given to those students who complete these courses with B's or better.
4. Biochemistry can be substituted by College Chemistry 1, unless College Chemistry has been taken for pre-requisite purposes. If College Chemistry 1 has been taken for pre-requisite purposes Biochemistry can be substituted by College Chemistry 2.