

DENTAL HYGIENE

ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

The Dental Hygiene Program provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate dental hygiene care for the patient. During the initial stages of learning, students interact in simulation and radiology labs to practice skills on dental manikins in order to master skills related to patient treatment.

An 18-chair state-of-the-art dental clinic provides students the ability to practice the following skills: practice infection control, prepare the operatory, take patient medical histories, expose radiographs, note abnormalities, plan care, teach oral hygiene, clean teeth, apply preventive agents, complete patient chart entries, and perform other duties related to oral hygiene care.

Graduates of this program may be eligible to take the national and state/regional boards for licensure which are required to practice dental hygiene. Employment opportunities include dental offices, community clinics, schools, public health agencies, industry, and professional education.

This program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611, 1-800-621-8099, Ext. 2705.



POSSIBLE JOB TITLES:

- Registered Dental Hygienist
- Dental Assistant II
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist

MEDIAN SALARY:

\$76,220 annually (Dental Hygienist);
\$40,080 annually (Dental Assistant)

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS CLUSTER WEBSITE:

bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/home.htm

POTENTIAL JOB PLACEMENTS:

- Local Dental Offices
- Community Dental Centers
- University Dental Clinics
- Education
- Sales

SKILLS/APTITUDES NEEDED FOR PROGRAM:

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving Skills
- Communication Skills
- Interpersonal Skills



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DEGREE(S)

Associate in Applied Science in Dental Hygiene (A45260; Dental Center - Day) – five semesters (summer included)

DIPLOMA(S)

None

CERTIFICATE(S)

None; Short-term: Medical Math

TRANSFER OPTIONS

Yes – University of North Carolina System (not direct transfer) (Contact the program lead below to discuss transfer options further.)

ADDITIONAL COSTS OF PROGRAM

Dental Hygiene Instruments, Scrubs, Clinic Shoes, Dental Typodont, Safety Goggles, Stethoscope, Blood Pressure Cuff

STATE LICENSURE/EXAMS/INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

National Board Dental Hygiene Exam, North Carolina Clinical Exam (ADEX), and North Carolina Infection Control and Jurisprudence Exam - Registered Dental Hygienist

ADDITIONAL ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Minimum Admissions Criteria required to be considered for this program.

CONTACTS

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