



Dental Hygiene

(Update 8/25/2014)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: The *Dental Hygiene Program* application must be **COMPLETED by March 15th** of the year in which admission to the program is being sought.

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 (CODA). The graduate is eligible for licensing examination in each of the fifty states. Most prerequisite credits and credits earned in the Dental Hygiene Program are transferrable toward a Baccalaureate degree. 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 accredits the Dental Hygiene Program. 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 and off-campus enrichment sites located in Hampden County. Students are responsible to complete clinical services on a minimum number of clients. Client recruitment is the responsibility of the student though the College will provide some assistance. Each dental hygiene student is required to purchase of a program issued first and second year instrument kit.

- **Bloodborne Pathogen Policy:** Dental Hygiene students provide services in the oral cavity, which involves an inherent potential for an occupational exposure to blood, saliva, or other potentially infectious materials. Although diseases may be encountered, research indicates that risks are negligible when optimal infection control is practiced.

Information Sessions: Applicants are encouraged but not required to attend an information session. For session dates, times and locations please see:

<http://www.stcc.edu/admissions/events.asp>

Minimum Prerequisites

- *High School Algebra 2* with a "C or better or placement in college level math
- *High School Biology & Lab* with "C" or better
- CHEM-101 (Survey of Chemistry)** – or its equivalent 4-credit course at other collegiate institutions
-- *Effective fall 2013 admitting cycle*
- SATs (preferred, not required)

If a student has not taken the above *high school classes or earned less than a "C" (73), the below STCC courses are highly recommended:

High School Algebra 2: ALGB-097

High School Biology: BIOL-102

Notes about Prerequisites:

- Students should take prerequisites as early as possible. Prerequisites should not be left until the summer before they wish to enter the program. Admission to the program is based on completed courses and midterm grades of courses in progress during the

current spring semester.

- A student not attending STCC but taking prerequisite courses at another college during the program application semester **must submit midterm grade reports to the Admissions Office by March 15th**. If the college being attended does not generate midterm grades, a letter from each individual course professor must be submitted to the Admissions Office by March 15th. The letter must be on the official college letterhead. An email from the individual course professor will be accepted if it is received directly from the professor's college email address. **ALL these correspondences must also be cc'd to the Dental Hygiene Program Coordinator.**
- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all **OFFICIAL** transcripts are updated upon completion of courses **AND** all non-STCC college academic records are included with their application at the 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.

- Vision/hearing normal or device corrected.
- Stand in place for long periods of time.
- Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis, or other chronic skin disorders with open lesions.
- Operate dental radiology equipment, which could require pushing, pulling or moving.
- Lift up to 10 pounds.
- Demonstrate fine motor skills involving hand/eye coordination.
- Communicate orally and in writing to give instructions to clients and other health personnel.
- Effective interpersonal relation skills.
- Non-allergic responses to dental materials and agents.
- Professional Rescuer CPR (Red Cross), Healthcare Provider CPR (American Heart Association)
- HIPAA awareness training **AND** Standard First Aid must be completed before the beginning of the second semester in the program.

DENTAL HYGIENE CURRICULUM

SEMESTER 1		
ENG-101	ENGLISH COMPOSITION 1	3
<u>BIOL-132</u>	ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY 1	4
<u>BIOL-140</u>	BIOCHEMISTRY (note 4)	3
<u>DHYG-101</u>	CLINICAL PRACTICE 1	4
<u>DHYG-103</u>	ORAL ANATOMY 1	2
<u>DHYG-104</u>	DENTAL RADIOLOGY	3
Total:		19
SEMESTER 2		

<u>BIOL-121</u>	MICROBIOLOGY	4
<u>BIOL-232</u>	ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 2	4
<u>DHYG-200</u>	NUTRITION AND ORAL HEALTH	2
<u>DHYG-201</u>	ORAL PATHOLOGY	2
<u>DHYG-202</u>	CLINICAL PRACTICE 2	5
<u>DHYG-203</u>	ORAL ANATOMY 2	2
Total:		19
SEMESTER 3		
<u>PSY-101</u>	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
<u>DHYG-300</u>	PERIODONTOLOGY	2
<u>DHYG-301</u>	DENTAL MATERIALS	3
<u>DHYG-302</u>	PHARMACOLOGY	2
<u>DHYG-303</u>	CLINICAL PRACTICE 3	6
Total:		16
SEMESTER 4		
<u>ENG-105</u>	FUNDAMENTALS OF ORAL COMMUNICATION	3
<u>SOC-101</u>	INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY	3
<u>DHYG-400</u>	COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH	3
<u>DHYG-401</u>	CLINICAL PRACTICE 4	6
<u>DHYG-402</u>	APPLIED DENTAL AUXILLARY SKILLS	2
Total:		17

Notes:

1. All courses must be taken prior to or during the semester as listed above.
2. Courses that are shaded are courses that student should take before being enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program. Priority is given to the student who complete these courses with B's or better.
3. **All science courses over five years old must be repeated, challenged or CLEPed.** Arrangements to challenge are made through the Biological Sciences department chairperson.
4. **General Chemistry 1 (CHEM-103)** or its collegiate equivalent at other institutions **MAY** be substituted for **BIOCHEMISTRY**.