

DENTAL HYGIENE

The Dental Hygiene Program leads to an Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree for students who successfully complete the course of study. Students are prepared to become registered dental hygienists and pass intensive theory National Board and Clinical State Board examinations. Passing both examinations are required for licensure and employment. The Dental Hygiene Program offers a two and three year course of study which includes summer sessions. The extended Three-Year Program is targeted for the student who is academically compromised by familial and financial obligations.

Approaches to the educational and professional development of the students stem from the goal to graduate competent clinicians who can positively affect their community and the dental hygiene profession through personal, academic, intellectual and professional achievements.

Students provide preventive dental health care at the on-site dental hygiene patient care facility for patients under direct guidance and supervision of licensed professional dental hygienists and dentists. The community has access to free dental hygiene care and oral health maintenance. Graduates are eligible to transfer to senior colleges.

All eligible students are encouraged to apply for the various academic and health profession scholarships available and to join both the local and national Student American Dental Hygienist Association (SADHA). Awards for achievement include: The Stevenson Award (New York State Dental Hygiene Association), The President's Award (Dental Hygiene Association of the State of New York-DHASNY), The Clinical Proficiency Award (Dental Hygienist Association of the City of New York -DHACNY), and The Golden Scaler Award (Hu-Friedy). Dental hygienists find employment in private dental practices, public and private health agencies, hospitals, industrial clinics, and government agencies, the U.S. Armed Services, Peace Corps, World Health Organizations, and dental hygiene schools.

Program Mission Statement

The Dental Hygiene Program's mission is to work effectively in providing approaches to the educational professional development of the students that stem from the goal to graduate competent clinicians who can positively affect their community and the dental hygiene profession through personal, academic, intellectual and professional achievements. Our mission includes the promotion of health and the well-being of the public by providing clinical dental hygiene care and community service at the on-site Dental Hygiene Patient Care Facility. The Dental Hygiene Program's mission is consistent with the College's mission in that it strives to provide educational opportunities leading to socioeconomic mobility for students from diverse ethnic, racial, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds, particularly Hispanics and African Americans.

Goals of the Dental Hygiene Unit

- Promote student success for program completion and the passing of the dental hygiene licensing examinations.
- Provide opportunities for the student to be a competent contributor to the community and the dental hygiene profession.
- Provide quality comprehensive dental hygiene patient care and education to patients.
- Foster principles of evidence based decision-making and life-long learning.

Competencies of the Dental hygiene Program

Competency 1: Professional/Ethics

Student will successfully apply a professional code of ethics, values, skills and knowledge integral to all aspects of the profession.

Objectives:

1. Apply a professional code of ethics in all endeavors.
2. Adhere to state and federal laws, recommendations and regulations in the provision of dental hygiene care.
3. Be exposed to quality assurance mechanisms for health services.
4. Respect the goals, values, beliefs and preferences of the patient/client while promoting optimal oral and general health.
5. Student will evaluate and utilize methods to ensure the health and safety of the patient/client and the dental hygienist in the delivery of dental hygiene.

Competency 2: Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Community Involvement

Student must be able to initiate and assume responsibility for health promotion and disease prevention activities for diverse populations in a variety of settings.

Objectives

1. Assess the oral health needs of the community and the quality and availability of resources and services.
2. Promote the values of oral and general health and wellness to the public and organizations within and outside the profession.
3. Identify individual and population risk factor and develop strategies that promote health related quality of life.
4. Evaluate factors that can be used to promote patient/client adherence to disease prevention and/or health maintenance strategies to include reimbursement mechanisms and their impact on the patient's/client's access to oral health care.
5. Communicate effectively with individuals and groups from diverse population both verbally and in writing.
6. Evaluate the outcomes of community-based programs and plan for future activities.

Competency 3: Dental Hygiene Process of Care

The dental hygienist provides educational, preventive and therapeutic services in support of oral health and employs principles from the biomedical, clinical and psychological sciences to diverse populations such as the medically compromised, mentally or physically challenged or socially or culturally disadvantaged.

Objectives: Assessment

- 1.1 Student will systematically collect, analyze and record data on the general, oral and psychosocial health status of a variety of patients/clients using methods consistent with medico legal principles.

The above objective includes the student's ability to:

- a. Obtain, review and update a complete medical, family, social and dental history.
- b. Identify patients/clients at risk for medical emergency and manage the patient/client care in a manner that prevents an emergency.
- c. Recognize predisposing etiological risk factors that will cause harm to patient or to operator and for which treatment modification must be made.
- d. Perform a comprehensive examination using clinical, radiographic, periodontal, dental charting, and other data collection procedures to assess the patient's/client needs.
- e. Select, obtain and interpret diagnostic information recognizing its advantage and limitations.

Objective: Diagnosis

- 1.2 Student will use critical decision making skills to reach conclusions about the patient's/client's dental hygiene needs based on all available assessment data.

The above objectives include the student's ability to:

- a. Use assessment findings, etiologic factors and clinical data in determining a dental hygiene diagnosis to include consultations as indicated.
- b. Identify patient/client needs and significant findings that impact the delivery of dental hygiene services.

Objective: Planning

- 1.3 Student will collaborate with patient/client and or/other health professionals, to formulate a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan that is patient/client-centered and based on current scientific evidence.

The above objective includes the student's ability to:

- a. Prioritize the care plan based on the health status and the actual and potential problems of the individual to facilitate optimal oral health.
- b. Establish a planned sequence of care (educational, clinical and evaluation) based on dental hygiene diagnosis; identified oral conditions; potential problems; etiological and risk factors; and available treatment modalities.
- c. Establish a collaborative relationship with the patient/client in the planned care to include etiology, prognosis and treatment alternatives.
- d. Make referrals to other health care professionals.
- e. Obtain the patient's client's informed consent based on a thorough case presentation.

Objective: Implementation

- 1.4 Student will provide specialized treatment that includes preventive and therapeutic services designed to achieve and maintain oral health goals formulated in collaboration with patient/client.

The above objective includes the student's ability to:

- a. Perform dental hygiene intervention to eliminate and/or control local etiological factors to prevent and control caries, periodontal disease and other oral conditions.
- b. Control pain and anxiety during treatment through the use of accepted clinical and behavioral techniques.
- c. Provide life support measures to manage medical emergencies in the patient/ client care environment.

Objective: Evaluation

- 1.5 Student will evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented clinical, preventive and educational services and modify as needed.

The above objectives include the student's ability to:

- a. Determine the outcomes of dental hygiene intervention using indices, instruments, examination techniques and patient/client self-report.
- b. Evaluate the patient's/client's satisfaction with the oral health care received and the patient's client's satisfaction with the oral health care received and the oral health status achieved.
- c. Provide subsequent treatment or referrals based on evaluation findings.
- d. Develop and maintain a health maintenance program.

Competency 4: Professional Growth and Development

Student values the importance of professional growth and commits to life-long learning.

Objectives: Professional Growth and Development

1. Identify alternate career options within health-care, industry, education and evaluate the feasibility of pursuing dental hygiene opportunities.
2. Continuously perform self-assessment for lifelong learning and professional growth.
3. Advance the profession through services activities and affiliations with professional organizations.
4. Successfully apply an appreciation of their role as health professional at the local, state and national levels.
5. Promote an awareness of mechanisms to influence individuals and/or organizations for the provision of oral health care.

Criteria for Progression into the Clinical Phase of the Dental Hygiene Program

All students progressing into the clinical phase of the Dental Hygiene Program must pass CUNY assessments skills tests in math, reading, and writing. Students in need of any remediation (as determined by the placement test) must

complete the required remediation before progressing into the clinical phase of the dental hygiene sequence of courses. The Dental Hygiene Program has a limited number of spaces available. Admission into the program is determined by a competitive GPA score. Students who have declared dental hygiene as their major are only eligible to enter the clinical phase of the dental hygiene program depending on overall GPA (Grade Point Average) and completion of specific general education requirements. A cumulative G.P.A of 2.5 or better in the sciences is required to be eligible for consideration into the program. Each year student selection is based upon a pool of applicants applying who have met the dental hygiene program criteria for admission. Selection is based on the strongest Science GPA scores; length of time at the college; highest grades in each required Biology and Chemistry; and successful completion of English 110 and its prerequisites. Any prospective student is only allowed to repeat a course once. Students not selected in any particular year, may reapply for the following year. Entrance into the program is also dependent upon space availability, and is not guaranteed.

Technical Standards for Admission and Retention

Candidates seeking enrollment in the Dental Hygiene program at Hostos Community College must meet the safety and technical standards in the following areas of Motor, Hearing, Vision, Tactile, Environmental Adaptability, and Affective Skills.

The Dental Hygiene program requires the accumulation of scientific knowledge accompanied by the simultaneous acquisition of skill and professional attitudes. Every applicant who seeks admission into the Dental Hygiene program is expected to possess those intellectual, ethical, physical, and emotional capabilities required to undertake the full curriculum and to achieve the levels of competence required by the faculty.

Once enrolled in the Dental Hygiene program, students must be able to consistently, quickly, and accurately integrate all information received, perform in a reasonably independent manner, and must have the ability to learn, integrate, analyze and synthesize data.

All students admitted into the Dental Hygiene Program are expected to demonstrate the attributes and meet the expectations listed below. These Technical Standards are required for admission and also must be maintained for the duration of the program. In the event that a student is unable to fulfill these technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodations, then the student may be asked to leave the program.

Motor

The delivery of dental hygiene treatment requires the student to perform gross and fine motor control and possess physical stamina and strength. The student must have full manual dexterity including the function of both arms, both wrist, both hands and all fingers. Additionally, the student must be able to ensure the safety of the patient at all times. Examples of motor skills include the following but are not limited to:

- Perform CPR
- Reach, manipulate, and operate equipment, instruments and supplies i.e. grasping, fingering, pinching, pushing, pulling, holding, extending and rotation.
- Movement and control of foot for the operation of low speed handpieces, ultrasonic devices and air polishers.
- React and respond quickly to emergency situations.
- Assist and transfer patients in an event of a fire or disaster.
- Tolerate long periods of sitting while maintaining upright posture in a clinical setting.
- Get to lecture, lab and clinical locations, and move within rooms, as needed for changing groups, partners and work stations, and perform assigned clinical tasks.

Hearing

The candidate should have correctable hearing in at least one ear and be able to develop reasonable skills of percussion and auscultation. Examples of hearing skills include but are not limited to:

- Auditory ability to monitor vital signs.
- Effectively respond to verbal request from patients and team members.
- Ability to monitor alarms and emergency signals.

Vision

The candidate should have visual ability sufficient for observation, assessment, and performance of safe dental care. Examples of vision include but are not limited to:

- Observe client responses
- Discriminates color changes, shape, texture and consistency (interceptor and pro preceptor)
- Able to determine parts of the dental instrument, as they are adapted to the oral cavity.
- Accurately reads measurement on client-related equipment.
- Able to read charts, records, small print, handwritten notations and instrument markings.
- Accurately observe a patient both at a distance and close at hand.

Tactile

Tactile ability must be sufficient for physical assessment and performance of dental hygiene procedures. Examples of tactile ability include but are not limited to:

- Performs palpation of pulses and sense changes in patient's muscle tone, soft tissues and skin quality.
- Perform functions of intra and extra oral examination, dental and periodontal examination and any related preventive and therapeutic interventions i.e. exploring, calculus detection, tooth defects.

Environmental Adaptability

The dental hygiene candidate must be able to tolerate environmental stressors to protect both themselves and patient. Examples of environmental adaptability include the following but are limited to:

- Carry out OSHA infection control procedures without infecting, contaminating equipment, self, patient, faculty and staff.
- Tolerate and able to use personal protective devices i.e. face mask/shield, safety eyewear, gloves, and laboratory coat.
- Work with chemicals and detergents.
- Tolerate exposure to odors.
- Work in close proximity to others.
- Work with infectious agents and blood-borne pathogens.

Affective Skills

- Interact with peers, patients, staff and faculty in an emotionally stable, professional and ethical manner.
- Demonstrate ethical, professional demeanor from patient intake, treatment, re-assessments and maintenance.
- Demonstrate appropriate affective behaviors and mental attitudes in order not to jeopardize the emotional, physical, mental and behavioral safety of other individuals in the academic and clinical setting.
- Sustain the mental and emotional rigors of a demanding educational program that includes academic and clinical components that occur within set time constraints, and often concurrently and under stressful conditions.
- Adapt to changing environments, display flexibility, and learn to function with the ambiguities inherent in the clinical problems of patients.

Transfer Students

In-house students seeking transfer of major into the dental hygiene program must request an appointment with the dental hygiene Program Coordinator during the bi-annual advisement period. Students wishing to transfer must make an appointment with the admissions office to have their general education courses evaluated. Dental Hygiene courses taken at other colleges are not transferrable. Student seeking admission into the clinical phase must be matriculated at Hostos Community College. Decisions will be based on space availability and academic profile.

Admission into the college does not automatically guarantee acceptance into the Dental Hygiene program. Transfer students must be formally admitted into the Clinical Phase of the Dental Hygiene Program upon acceptance into the college. Both transfer and in-house students must have their transcripts evaluated by a Dental Hygiene Faculty Advisor.

Program Readmission and Withdrawal Policy

Students who withdraw from any DEN course(s) or request an official leave of absence are not guaranteed readmission into the program. The Program Coordinator must approve all readmission. Readmission will not be approved after one year. Students readmitted into the program must adhere to the same entrance requirements as new applicants.

Retention Policy - Scholastic Requirements

Students may be suspended or dismissed from the Dental Hygiene Program for failure to meet academic standards of performance and/or failure to adhere to standards of professional conduct.

1. A Dental Hygiene student is required to obtain a grade of "C " or better in each course for each semester in the dental hygiene program.
2. Failure of two (2) Dental Hygiene courses results in immediate dismissal from the program.
3. A student may only repeat a Dental Hygiene course once, assuring that the overall GPA is 2.0 and above. A GPA below 2.0 requires immediate dismissal from the program.
4. The retained and returning students will be required to remediate/audit all courses to assure the retention of essential skills.
5. Due to the highly competitive nature of the program repeated failures or withdrawals do not provide the academic profile required for progression into the Clinical Phase of the Dental Hygiene program. Therefore their acceptance for readmission into the programs is not guaranteed.
6. Dental Hygiene students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the professional conduct standard required of health care professionals.

Misconduct includes but is not limited to:

1. Submission of assignments, examinations or other academic work that are not the work of the student.
2. Aiding another person to cheat.
3. Knowingly giving false evidence or false statements, making false accusations against any other person, or making false statements about one's own behavior as it relates to educational or professional matters.
4. Behavior that is disruptive to the learning process and academic environment.
5. Falsifying or misuse of confidential records to include but not limited to: patient records, student grading records and/or any other Dental Hygiene Unit document.
6. Failure to comply with CUNY and Hostos policies on Academic Integrity as written in the Hostos Community College Catalog as well as the Code of Ethics and Professional Behavior defined by the American Dental Hygiene Association and adopted for all students to abide by.
7. Sanctions will be imposed according to college policy on Academic Standards.

Grading System

The basic criteria for grading in the Dental Hygiene Program, in all Dental Hygiene courses are:

A	100-93
B+	92-89
B	88-85
B-	84-81
C+	80-78
C	77-75
D	74-70
F	Grades below 70.

Deficient and Failing Grades Performance of "D"

In any course required in the Dental Hygiene Program is unsatisfactory and not accepted in the program. A grade of "C" is minimal accepted performance for any of the listed dental hygiene program required courses.

Special Requirements for Dental Hygiene Students

To progress into the clinical phase of the program, students must complete the following General Education courses with a grade of “C” or better: BIO 230, BIO 240, CHE 110, CHE 120.

- Prior to progressing into the clinical phase of the program students must successfully complete ENG110
- Prior to progressing into the clinical phase of the program students must successfully complete or be exempt from MAT 20.
- Students must have liability insurance and be certified in C.P.R. before the client treatment phase of the clinical experience.
- Patient care will be suspended upon failure of external toxicology report
- All students must meet the citizenship requirements as stated in Chapter 133 of the 1982 citizenship laws. They must be United States citizens or have an alien registration number. The Division of Professional Licensing has set these stipulations forth. Please visit www.op.nysed.gov for further updates.
- All candidates applying for a dental hygiene license under the New York State Education Department must admit or deny having been convicted of a crime (felony or misdemeanor) in any state or country. In addition, all candidates must admit or deny having been charged with a crime (felony or misdemeanor) in any state or country, if the disposition was other than acquittal or dismissal.

PROGRAM OF STUDY LEADING TO THE ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.) DEGREE IN DENTAL HYGIENE

Liberal Arts & Sciences	29 Credits
Dental Hygiene	41 Credits
Total for Degree	70 Credits

General Education Requirements Credits

BIO 230	..... Anatomy & Physiology I.....	4.0
BIO 240	..... Anatomy & Physiology II.....	4.0
CHE 110	..... Intro to Chemistry I (Lecture and Lab).....	4.0
CHE 120	..... Principles of Organic Chemistry	2.0
ENG 110	..... Expository Writing.....	3.0
ENG 111	..... Literature & Composition	3.0
PSY 101	..... Introduction to Psychology.....	3.0
SOC 101	..... Introduction to Sociology	3.0
VPA 192	..... Fundamentals of Public Speaking..	3.0
Subtotal	.....	29.0

Major Requirements

Dental Hygiene Clinical Phase Credits

DEN 110	..... Oral Anatomy & Physiology (Lecture and Lab).....	2.0
DEN 111	..... Head & Neck Anatomy	1.5
DEN 112	..... Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice I ...	2.0
DEN 120	..... Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice II..	1.5
DEN 121	..... Dental Radiology I: Basic Concepts (Lecture & Lab)	1.0
DEN 122	..... Oral Microbiology (Lecture and Lab).....	1.5
DEN 123	..... Oral Embryology & Histology.....	1.5

DEN 129	Clinic I	3.0
DEN 130	Nutrition	2.0
DEN 131	Dental Radiology 2: Technique & Interpretation (Lecture and Lab).....	2.0
DEN 132	Dental Materials.....	2.0
DEN 210	General & Oral Pathology	1.5
DEN 211	Periodontology.....	1.5
DEN 212	Dental Health Education	1.5
DEN 213	Advanced Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice	1.5
DEN 219	Clinic II.....	4.0
DEN 220	Community Dental Health.....	1.5
DEN 221	Pharmacology	1.5
DEN 222	Dental Specialties.....	1.0
DEN 223	Ethics, Jurisprudence & Practice Management.....	1.5
DEN 224	Senior Seminar	1.5
DEN 229	Clinic III.....	4.0
Subtotal		41.0
Total Credits for Dental Hygiene Major.....		70.0

Clinical Sequence

First Year

Fall Semester Credits

DEN 110	Oral Anatomy & Physiology (Lecture and Lab).....	2.0
DEN 111	Head & Neck Anatomy	1.5
DEN 112	Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice I ..	2.0
Subtotal		5.5

First Year

Spring Semester. Credits

DEN 120	Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice II..	1.5
DEN 121	Dental Radiology I: Basic Concepts (Lecture & Lab)	1.0
DEN 122	Oral Microbiology (Lecture and Lab).....	1.5
DEN 123	Oral Embryology & Histology.....	1.5
DEN 129	Clinic I	3.0
Subtotal		8.5

First Year

Summer Semester..... Credits

DEN 130	Nutrition	2.0
DEN 131	Dental Radiology 2: Technique & Interpretation (Lecture and Lab).....	2.0
DEN 132	Dental Materials.....	2.0
Subtotal.....		6.0

Second Year

Fall Semester Credits

DEN 210	General & Oral Pathology	1.5
DEN 211	Periodontology.....	1.5

DEN 212	Dental Health Education	1.5
DEN 213	Advanced Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice	1.5
DEN 219	Clinic II.....	4.0
Subtotal.....		10.0

Second Year

Spring Semester.Credits

DEN 220	Community Dental Health.....	1.5
DEN 221	Pharmacology	1.5
DEN 222	Dental Specialties.....	1.0

DEN 223	Ethics, Jurisprudence & Practice Management.....	1.5
---------------	---	-----

DEN 224	Senior Seminar	1.5
---------------	----------------------	-----

DEN 229	Clinic III.....	4.0
---------------	-----------------	-----

Subtotal.....		11.0
----------------------	--	-------------

Total Credits.....		70.0
---------------------------	--	-------------

Estimate of Expenses for Prospective Dental Hygiene Students

Enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Program requires a substantial financial investment for a greater return upon completion of the program. For training, students are required to purchase instruments, supplies, lab coats, uniforms, white shoes, books, and liability insurance. Estimates of required expenditures are as follows:

First Semester: All students starting the Dental Hygiene curriculum will need the money to buy all first semester books, equipment, and material by the second week of classes. Therefore, students beginning the program must prepare in advance to pay for these expenses:

First Semester	
Dental Hygiene Supplies.....	\$1,800.00
Books.....	\$450.00
SADHA+ Dues.....	\$70.00
Total.....	\$2,320.00

Second Semester	
Dental Hygiene Supplies.....	\$600.00
Books.....	\$500.00
Total.....	\$1,100.00

Summer Semester	
Laboratory Supplies.....	\$50.00
Books.....	\$270.00
Total	\$320.00

Third Semester	
Dental Hygiene Supplies.....	\$500.00
Books.....	\$455.00
SADHA+ Dues	\$ 70.00
Total.....	\$1,025.00

Fourth Semester	
Dental Hygiene Supplies.....	\$300.00
Books.....	\$415.00

Dental Hygiene Exams Licensing Jurisdictions	
Commission on Dental Competency Assessment Exams*	
Patient Treatment Clinical Examination.....	\$525.00
Computer Simulated Clinical Examination.....	\$450.00
Full Exam Total.....	\$975.00
NBDHE**	\$400.00
Total.....	\$2,090.00
Grand Total	\$6,855.00

Note:

Fees are subject to change on an annual basis

Students applying for financial aid should include these expenses. The grand total of **\$6,855.00** can make a significant financial impact.

+SADHA: Student American Dental Hygienist Association. <http://www.adha.org/students-type>

*CDCA: Commission on Dental Competency assessments. <http://www.cdcaexams.org/dental-hygiene-exams/>

 PTCE-Patient Treatment Clinical Examination

 CSCE- Computer Simulated Clinical Examination

**National Board Dental Hygiene Exam. <http://www.ada.org/en/jcnde/examinations/national-board-dental-hygiene-examination>