

DENTAL HYGIENE

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AWARDS OFFERED: Associate in Applied Science Degree

Wallace State Community College offers this course of study leading to an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene. Individuals who have received a Certificate or A.A.S. in Dental Assisting from an accredited program may receive advanced standing for previously completed courses including DHY 103 (Radiology) and DHY 102 (Dental Materials). The DHY Program requires a minimum of five semesters for completion.

As a practicing member of the dental health team, the dental hygienist acts as an educator and motivator in maintenance of oral health and the prevention of dental disease. There are many professional roles, which the dental hygienist may assume: participation in community health programs, dental office managerial roles, and participation in research activities. Since many dentists employ one or two dental hygienists, employment opportunities in this field are wide. Hygienists are in demand in general dental practices, as well as in specialty practices such as periodontics or pediatric dentistry. Hygienists may also be employed to provide dental hygiene services for patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and public health clinics.

The program in dental hygiene is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of approval without reporting requirements. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United State Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. Students who successfully complete the National Board Exam are qualified to take any State or Regional licensing examination.

PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Applicants Must:

1. Meet all the general admission requirements of WSCC.
2. Submit an application to the Admissions Office declaring Dental Hygiene as major. Applications will be accepted until June 15. Applications received after June 15 will be considered on a space available basis.
3. Submit a Dental Hygiene Program Application to the DHY Program Director.
4. Attain an ACT score of 18 or higher and submit score to the Admissions Office.
5. Possess a 2.3 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

1. The Dental Hygiene program admits annually each fall semester with a maximum of 30 students.
2. Students must complete all requirements for admission to be considered for selection.
3. The selection process involves the applicant's GPA for the general required courses, ACT score, and the number of general education hours that the student has completed when the program begins.
4. Applicants who have completed a Dental Assisting Program from an accredited institution will receive a bonus of 3 points added to their application score.
5. Students must respond in writing or e-mail confirming their intent to enroll within 7 days after receipt of their acceptance letters. A student who fails to respond will result in forfeiture of their place in the class. A signed consent to drug testing must accompany the acceptance confirmation.
6. Students accepted must attend a mandatory orientation session. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of their place in the class.
7. Upon acceptance into the program students must submit a physical examination form (current within one year), which includes documentation of immunizations along with evidence of having begun the Hepatitis B vaccinations.

Continued

DENTAL HYGIENE *continued*

GENERAL REQUIRED COURSES (34 Credit Hours)

ENG 101	English Composition	3	SPH 107	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3
CHM 104	Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry	4	BIO 201, 202*	Human Anatomy & Physiology I & II	8
BIO 220	General Microbiology	4	MTH 116	Mathematical Applications	3
PSY 200	General Psychology	3	SOC 200	Introduction to Sociology	3
HUM	Humanities or Fine Arts Elective	3			

* BIO 103 is a prerequisite class to these courses.

MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES (45Credit Hours)

ORI 101	Orientation to College	1	DHY 100	Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene	2
DHY 101	Dental Hygiene Theory I	3	DHY 102	Dental Materials	2
DHY 103	Dental Radiology	3	DHY 111	Clinical Dental Hygiene I	2
DHY 112	Dental Hygiene Theory II	2	DHY 113	Dental Anatomy, Histology & Embryology	2
DHY 114	Anatomy, Embryology & Histology of the Head & Neck	2			
DHY 115	Nutrition for Dental Hygiene	2	DHY 116	Periodontology	3
DHY 202	Clinical Dental Hygiene II	3	DHY 203	Dental Hygiene Theory III	2
DHY 204	General and Oral Pathology	2	DHY 213	Clinical Dental Hygiene III	3
DHY 214	Dental Hygiene Theory IV	2	DHY 215	Pharmacology/Medical Emergencies	2
DHY 216	Community Dental Health	2	DHY 224	Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	3
DHY 225	Dental Hygiene Theory V	2			

TOTAL HOURS 79

Students must attain a "C" in general and major required courses. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program. A student who withdraws or is dismissed from the program may re-apply for admission one time only. While enrolled in the program, students are required to have accident and liability insurance, available through the College. Students are also required to maintain current CPR certification while enrolled in the program. Only CPR courses that certify health care providers will be accepted.

health sciences