

DENTAL HYGIENE – ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE, CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Top Code: 1240.00

This two-year curriculum prepares a student to provide educational, clinical, and therapeutic services supporting oral health. Studies include the biological basis of the health of the teeth and oral cavity, as well as procedures used to prevent decay and to maintain dental health. Employment opportunities include working as a licensed dental hygienist in dental offices, public clinics, schools, industry, research, and community health. Participation of all off-campus assigned sites are required for program completion. Students must provide their own transportation to some off-campus clinical sites. Some off campus sites require homeland security screening and verification of legal status.

The program is approved by the Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC) and is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Upon successful completion of the Dental Hygiene National Board examination and the dental hygiene curriculum, the student receives a Certificate of Achievement, an Associate in Science Degree, and is eligible to take any applicable regional or state board examination(s) to obtain licensure as a Dental Hygienist. Applicants for Dental Hygiene licensure are required to submit official fingerprints. The law provides for denial of licensure for crimes or acts which are related to dental hygiene, qualifications and/or duties.

Requirements for selection and acceptance into the Dental Hygiene program

1. Graduation from High School or the equivalent
 - a. Minimum grade of C in:
 - ENGL 001A
 - PSYC 001
 - SPCH 001
 - SOC 001
 - MATH 003 or STAT 050
 - Humanities
 - U.S. History (one course) and Political Science or AMER 125
 - Physical Activity (2 units)
2. Minimum grade of C in these science courses (It is recommended that they be taken within the last five years):
 - MICR 002
 - NUTR 011
 - ANAT 025
 - PYSO 001
 - or PYSO 002AB
 - CHEM 001A and CHEM 001B
 - or CHEM 002A and CHEM 002B
3. Overall GPA of 3.0 for all prerequisite college work.
4. Completed application for selection and acceptance into the program.

5. Dental Hygiene students must have the ability to communicate effectively.
6. After acceptance into the program, submit a completed health data form evidencing physical and emotional health, including required immunizations/chest x-ray or Mantoux test.
7. Current CPR/Basic Life Support (BLS) card that must be maintained while in the program.

Recommended preparation

High school courses in biology or physiology, algebra and chemistry with a laboratory. It is strongly recommended that general education requirements for the Associate in Science Degree be satisfied prior to enrolling in the program. Degree requirements must be met to be eligible to sit for license exams.

Acceptance to the program is competitive. Selection is based upon a combination of academic work completed, and grades earned. Other criteria such as work experience may also be are also considered. Please see Pasadena City College Dental Hygiene Information Brochure for current application instructions and selection criteria.

Program Outcomes

1. Acquire the theoretical knowledge that will allow students to provide comprehensive dental health care to their clients/patients.
2. Apply the dental hygiene process of care to provide competent dental hygiene care as specified by the Dental Practice Act.

Requirements for the Certificate of Achievement

Code	Title	Units
ANAT 115	HEAD AND NECK ANATOMY, HISTOLOGY AND EMBRYOLOGY	3
DH 101A	FUNDAMENTALS OF DENTAL HYGIENE	5
DH 101B	FUNDAMENTALS OF DENTAL HYGIENE THEORY AND PRACTICE	5
DH 104A	CLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE THEORY AND PRACTICE: PAIN CONTROL	2
DH 104B	CLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE THEORY AND PRACTICE	7
DH 104C	ADVANCED CLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE THEORY AND PRACTICE	7
DH 105	PATHOLOGY	3
DH 107	INTRODUCTION TO ORAL HEALTH RESEARCH	2
DH 108	PHARMACOLOGY	2
DH 109	DENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION AND DIVERSITY	2
DH 111	CURRENT ISSUES IN DENTAL HYGIENE	2
DH 113A	PERIODONTICS	2
DH 113B	ADVANCED PERIODONTICS	1
DH 116	DENTAL MATERIALS	2.5
DH 117	DENTAL MORPHOLOGY AND OCCLUSION	2
DH 119A	COMMUNITY DENTAL HEALTH	2
DH 121	CLINICAL PRACTICE IN ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS	1
DH 121	CLINICAL PRACTICE IN ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS	1
DH 122	MEDICAL EVALUATION OF DENTAL HYGIENE PATIENTS	2

DH 141	ORAL RADIOLOGY	3
DH 200A	DIRECTED STUDIES IN CLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE	1
DH 200B	ADVANCED TECHNIQUES IN CLINICAL DENTAL HYGIENE	1
DH 201	DENTAL HYGIENE SKILLS ENHANCEMENT LAB	1
Total Units		59.5

Recommended Electives

Code	Title	Units
DH 120	INDEPENDENT STUDY	1
DH 200C	CLINICAL BOARD PREPARATION	1

Visit the Program Mapper (<https://pasadena-city.programmapper.ws/academics/interest-clusters/8353468c-9ac9-4b4b-a310-843b126d204c/programs/908f165e-88ae-a1cc-9419-cfd2c6751731/>) for a suggested sequence of courses.

General Education Requirements for the Associate in Science Degree

- General Information (<https://curriculum.pasadena.edu/academic-programs-leading-degree-certificate/>)
- PCC Local Gen Ed (<https://curriculum.pasadena.edu/academic-programs-leading-degree-certificate/#pcclocaltext>)
- CSU Breadth (<https://curriculum.pasadena.edu/academic-programs-leading-degree-certificate/#csubreadthtext>)
- IGETC (<https://curriculum.pasadena.edu/academic-programs-leading-degree-certificate/#igetctext>)