

# School of Health Sciences DENTAL HYGIENE Program Packet

The Application Process Must Be Completed By  
MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> Of Each Application Year.



School of Health Sciences, MP458  
909 S. Boston Ave.  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119-2095  
918-595-7022

[dentalhygiene@tulsacc.edu](mailto:dentalhygiene@tulsacc.edu)

School of Health Sciences Senior Academic Advisors  
Greg Anderson, 918-595-8990, [gregory.anderson3@tulsacc.edu](mailto:gregory.anderson3@tulsacc.edu), Metro Campus  
Yolanda Goff, 918-595-7707, [yolanda.goff@tulsacc.edu](mailto:yolanda.goff@tulsacc.edu), Southeast Campus



## DENTAL EXPERIENCE VERIFICATION FORM

Due Date: March 1

Applicant First and Last Name:

Applicant TCC CWID#:

Have you submitted multiple verification forms? **Yes No**

If yes, what number is this form? \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_ (2 of 3; 1 of 2; etc.)

Please submit no more than 3 verification forms per application year.

Only one verification form is used during the selection process. The selection committee will use the verification form that favors the applicant best.

**Applicant Instructions:** Points are awarded based on your level of dental experience. In order to receive points, each applicant is required to provide proof of experience or hours of observation. Points range from 0-5 and are only awarded in **one** category. Please make additional copies of this form, if needed. As our application requirements/processes change from time-to-time, please review this form for updates each year you apply. It is not necessary to submit a new verification(s) each year you apply unless the new verification form would affect your point total.

Dear Doctor, Hygienist, or Dental Assisting Program Director, please complete the following information to verify the experience of the applicant listed for his/her admission file. Please ensure that you sign on the appropriate line and mail this form to the address given below for the applicant to receive credit.

Dental Experience or Observation	
Put an X in the box below that <b>best</b> corresponds to the amount of experience or observation the applicant received in your office/program <b>within the past 5 years:</b>	Experience or Observation
	➤ Chairside dental assisting/front office for at least one year
	➤ Chairside dental assisting/front office less than one year
	➤ Dental Assisting Program with Internship
	➤ Observations with RDH 40+ hours
	➤ None (or less than 40 hours)
Dates of experience/observation - <b>Start date:</b> _____ <b>End date:</b> _____	
Signature of Employing DDS: _____	
Signature of Hygienist Observed: _____	
Signature of Dental Assisting Program Director: _____	
Printed Name of Signature Above: _____	
Dental Office/Program Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Phone: _____	
Date: _____	

**Please mail this form directly to:** Tulsa Community College  
 School of Health Sciences, MP 458  
 Attention: Daniele Dennison  
 909 S. Boston Ave.

Tulsa, OK 74119-2095

***This form is not valid if returned by the applicant. It must be mailed by the office/school completing the form. Please mail back in an office/school envelope. We reserve the right to call and verify this information. Thank you for your assistance.***

## TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

#### **Estimated Cost of Program**

The following costs are only an **estimation** and do not take into consideration any increases in tuition/fees (refer to the TCC website for more accurate tuition and fee information – <http://www.tulsacc.edu/student-services/costs-and-payments>), supply/instrument costs or changes in the fees associated with examinations. These costs do not reflect tuition and fees for prerequisite courses or living expenses and other individual financial obligations. It is highly recommended that you have a financial plan in place before you are accepted into the Program. Please note, students must purchase mandatory instrument kit items through the TCC Metro Campus store; outside purchases of instrument kit items will not be allowed unless noted otherwise.

Item		Cost \$
<b>First and/or Second Year Items</b>		
Immunization/titers		*
Medical, dental, and vision examinations		*
American Heart Association Basic Life Support Provider (CPR)		*65.00
Independent purchase supplies		*600.00
Other travel expenses for service learning/assignments/etc.		*
Total First and/or Second Year Items		*665.00+
<b>First Year Items</b>		
Summer	Tuition and fees	*250.00
	Textbooks	*150.00
Fall	Tuition and fees	*2200.00
	Textbooks	*900.00
	Instrument Kit	2200.00
	Scrubs and lab coat	*300.00
	Student ADHA Membership	65.00
	Non-mandatory magnification eyewear and light (loupes)	*1500.00
Spring	Tuition and fees	*2300.00
	Textbooks	*500.00
	Instrument Kit	3200.00
	Travel expenses for Oklahoma Mission of Mercy and Day at the Capitol (lodging, transportation, food, etc.)	*200.00
	Non-mandatory Blue Boa dental suction	*65.00
	Non-mandatory Sidekick Sharpening Kit	*250.00
Total First Year Items		*14080.00+

\*Second Year Items located on next page\*

**\*Cost is specific to each student and/or varies due to the nature of the associated cost.\***

Second Year Items		
Non-mandatory Summer Nicaragua	Tuition and fees	*250.00
	JustHope fees	950.00
	Airfare	*800.00
	Other travel expenses ( <i>passport, supplies, etc.</i> )	*
Fall	Tuition and fees	*1800.00
	Textbooks	*500.00
	Instrument Kit	380.00
	Travel expenses for ODHA Annual Session ( <i>lodging, transportation, food, etc.</i> )	*100.00
	Student ADHA Membership	65.00
Spring	Tuition and fees	*1400.00
	Textbooks	*300.00
	Travel expenses for Oklahoma Mission of Mercy and Day at the Capitol ( <i>lodging, transportation, food, etc.</i> )	*200.00
	Non-mandatory National Board Dental Hygiene Examination review course ( <i>registration fee, lodging, transportation, and food</i> )	*1000.00
	Dental Hygiene Pin	*50.00
	National Board Dental Hygiene Examination fee (per attempt)	400.00
	Oklahoma Jurisprudence Examination fee/Oklahoma License fee	100.00
	Physical examination as required by the State for licensure	*
	Graduation expenses ( <i>cap, gown, announcements, etc.</i> )	*
	Western Regional Examination Board fee (per attempt) ( <i>does not include the cost of hotel, patient meals, physical examination, passport-type photo, etc.</i> )	800.00 (Retake 650.00)
Total Second Year Items		*9095.00+
<b>Total Estimated Cost of Program</b>		<b>~24000.00+</b>

\*Cost is specific to each student and/or varies due to the nature of the associated cost.\*

## INTRODUCTION

Tulsa Community College's School of Health Sciences Programs are designed to prepare students to enter exciting and rewarding health care fields. All courses have been developed with the assistance of the dental and dental hygiene communities.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Dental Hygiene is an School of Health Sciences program which emphasizes the prevention of oral health disease. The program prepares the individual to be a dental hygienist. The primary functions of the dental hygienist are the assessment of patients' overall health, formulating evidence-based patient centered treatment care plans, and performing the clinical procedures outlined in the individual treatment care plans. Additional roles of the dental hygienist include participation in community health programs, conducting research, sales and education. Students will perform procedures which include but are not limited to: exposing radiographs; applying cavity-preventing agents; providing oral health education; administering local anesthetics, nitrous oxide and antimicrobial agents; performing oral prophylaxis, periodontal therapy, and risk assessments. The graduate will receive an Associate Degree in Applied Science and will be eligible to take national, regional, and state licensing examinations.

## ACCREDITATION

The Tulsa Community College Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

*American Dental Association  
Commission on Dental Accreditation  
211 East Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611  
1-800-621-8099*

## PROGRAM GOALS

The Tulsa Community College Dental Hygiene Program is based upon the concept that quality education through a balanced variety of learning experiences will enhance an individual's potential to achieve personal satisfaction and contribute to society. Toward this end, the purpose of this Program is to provide students with opportunities to acquire the skills necessary to function successfully as a dental hygienist. The Dental Hygiene Program curriculum is therefore designed to enable the graduate to:

1. Develop the scientific basis, understanding, methodology and technical skills necessary for recognition and treatment of disease of the oral cavity and related structures within the recognized and legal scope of dental hygiene practice.
2. Develop a philosophy, commitment and methodologies for maintenance of general and oral health and for prevention of disease.
3. Provide preparation for effective service as a member of a dental health professional team.
4. Develop an attitude and ability of self-assessment, critical evaluation and inquiry as well as application of evidence-based knowledge.
5. Advance the profession through service activities, affiliation with professional organizations and continued education.
6. Prepare the graduate for entry into the profession, for employment in a dental office or alternative practice setting and for service as an ethical and productive dental hygienist.
7. Exhibit minimal competence upon graduation as defined in the TCC Dental Hygiene Competencies Document.

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Dental Hygiene Program at Tulsa Community College selects up to fourteen (14) new students during the spring semester to begin in the summer semester (**June**) of each year. Once admitted into the program, the student must follow the remainder of the prescribed curriculum. The specialized courses are not offered out of sequence. They are offered primarily in the day time, on a full-time basis, and will take a total of FIVE (5) semesters to complete. Some nights and weekends may be required. Meeting the minimum criteria for admission does not guarantee admission to the program. Students not admitted must **reapply each year** to be considered for another class. Students chosen as alternates are not guaranteed a position in the next class.

**PREREQUISITE COURSES & DH CURRICULUM PATTERN**

Interested applicants must meet with a School of Health Science academic advisor for pre-application check list. BIOL 1314 and CHEM 1134 prerequisite course work for the Dental hygiene program must be completed and posted to your official TCC transcript the semester before the application deadline; the other prerequisite coursework must be completed before the end of the spring term in which the application is reviewed. No substitution of any course will be accepted unless approved through the School of Health Sciences.

BIOL 1314 - Human Anatomy & Physiology  
BIOL 1324 - Basic Microbiology  
CHEM 1134 - General, Organic, & Biological Chemistry

ENGL 1113 - Composition I  
HIST 1483 - U.S. History 1492 to 1865 **or**  
HIST 1493 - U.S. History 1865 to Present  
POLS 1113 - American Federal Government

**NOTE:**

**Higher level course of the same subject matter may be substituted for the required prerequisites. For example: BIOL 2134 Human Anatomy and BIOL 2154 Human Physiology may be substituted for BIOL 1314 Human Anatomy and Physiology.**

**\*\*DENTAL HYGIENE CURRICULUM PATTERN\*\***

**\*Any courses not designated by a “DHYG” may be taken prior to entrance into the dental hygiene program**

**FIRST YEAR - SUMMER SEMESTER**

DHYG 1302 - Oral Embryology and Histology  
COMM 1113 - Public Speaking\*

**FIRST YEAR - FALL SEMESTER**

DHYG 1012 - Dental and Oral Anatomy  
DHYG 1022 - Head and Neck Anatomy  
DHYG 1363 - Dental Hygiene Theory I  
DHYG 1384 - Clinical Dental Hygiene I  
DHYG 1412 - Dental Radiography Foundation  
DHYG 1421 - Dental Radiography Techniques

**FIRST YEAR - SPRING SEMESTER**

DHYG 1333 - Pathology, Etiology, and Immunology  
DHYG 1353 - Periodontology  
DHYG 1373 - Dental Hygiene Theory II  
DHYG 1394 - Clinical Dental Hygiene II  
DHYG 1512 - Dental Pain Management (8 week course)  
DHYG 1532 - Dental Hygiene Pharmacology

**SECOND YEAR - FALL SEMESTER**

PSYC 1113 - Introduction to Psychology\*  
DHYG 2312 - Community Dental Health I  
DHYG 2343 - Dental Materials, Techniques and Supportive Services  
DHYG 2385 - Clinical Dental Hygiene III  
DHYG 2362 - Dental Hygiene Theory III

**SECOND YEAR - SPRING SEMESTER**

SOCI 1113 - Introduction to Sociology\*  
DHYG 2022 - Special Needs/Geriatrics  
DHYG 2321 - Community Dental Health II  
DHYG 2382 - Ethics, Law and Dental Practice Management  
DHYG 2395 - Clinical Dental Hygiene IV

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (No Exceptions)**

The following application process must be completed by MARCH 1<sup>st</sup> of each application year.

1. All applicants must have a TCC College Wide ID number to apply to dental hygiene.
  - If you have **never** applied to TCC, go online and submit an application to Tulsa Community College at the college's website ([www.tulsacc.edu](http://www.tulsacc.edu)).
  - If you are or have been enrolled at Tulsa Community College, no TCC application is needed.
  - If you need help locating your CWID# you may call 918-595-2000 for assistance.
  - Any name change, address and/or telephone change must be updated with the Registrar's Office.
2. Send Official High School Transcript or GED Scores to the Registrar's Office.
  - Registrar's fax # is 918-595-7347 and Email is [metro.registrar@tulsacc.edu](mailto:metro.registrar@tulsacc.edu).
  - You may hand deliver official transcripts to any TCC registrar office as long as they are in a sealed envelope.
  - You may mail official transcripts to:  
Tulsa Community College  
c/o Metro Registration  
909 S. Boston Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74119
3. Send Official College transcript(s) to the Registrar's Office. Official Transcript(s) are needed from EACH/ALL college(s) attended. Failure to submit all transcripts is grounds for dismissal from the dental hygiene program, if accepted.
  - Registrar's fax # is 918-595-7347 and Email is [metro.registrar@tulsacc.edu](mailto:metro.registrar@tulsacc.edu).
  - You may hand deliver official transcripts to any TCC registrar office as long as they are in a sealed envelope.
  - You may mail official transcripts to:  
Tulsa Community College  
c/o Metro Registration  
909 S. Boston Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74119
4. Send Official ACT Scores to the Metro Registrar's Office. Each applicant applying to the Dental Hygiene Program must have ACT scores to be considered for the program, regardless of age or educational background. The ACT scores are part of the selection process. You may take the national test or the TCC residual test.
  - You may find information for the national test at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). If you do take the national test, please use school code 009763 for Tulsa Community College to receive your test results.
  - If you have already taken the national test, you may printout your scores and submit them to any TCC registrar office so your records can be updated. If you have questions for the registrar office or would like to verify that they have received your test scores, you can email them at [metro.registrar@tulsacc.edu](mailto:metro.registrar@tulsacc.edu).
  - If you would like to take the TCC residual test, you must contact the Northeast Campus at 918-595-7534 to schedule a test date. If you take the residual test, it will only be valid for Tulsa Community College.

- You may submit multiple scores or take the ACT residual test multiple times. Our office will use the set of scores that will benefit your application best.
5. Submit Dental Hygiene application online at [www.tulsacc.edu/healthscienceapply](http://www.tulsacc.edu/healthscienceapply).
- Once an application is received, you will be notified by your TCC Email regarding your status in the selection process.
  - All dental hygiene applicants must meet with one of the School of Health Science academic advisors for a pre-application check list.
    - School of Health Science Senior Academic Advisors are:  
Greg Anderson, 918-595-8990, [gregory.anderson3@tulsacc.edu](mailto:gregory.anderson3@tulsacc.edu), Metro Campus  
Yolanda Goff, 918-595-7707, [yolanda.goff@tulsacc.edu](mailto:yolanda.goff@tulsacc.edu), Southeast Campus
  - All TCC students receive a designated college email address (example: [jane.doe@tulsacc.edu](mailto:jane.doe@tulsacc.edu)). You may access the college email at <http://www.tulsacc.edu> or by calling 918-595-2000. **It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify that all application materials have been received by the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.** The dental hygiene email is [dentalhygiene@tulsacc.edu](mailto:dentalhygiene@tulsacc.edu).
6. Submit Dental Experience Verification Form(s).
- See page 2 of this packet for official form.
  - You must submit at least one form for your application to be considered complete.
  - You may submit multiple forms; however, our office will use only **one** form to complete your application.
  - If multiple forms are submitted, our office will use the form that best benefits your application.
7. **DO NOT** submit letters of recommendation, as these are not considered in the selection process.

## STUDENT SELECTION

The Dental Hygiene Program is a rigorous, demanding two-year program. Acceptance into the Program is competitive and requires the commitment and ability to successfully complete the two years. The average overall science G.P.A of accepted students is approximately  $\geq 3.5$  and the average composite and science ACT scores is  $\geq 22$ . This varies each year and is dependent on the applicant pool. Each applicant receives points based on their academic performance in each of the following categories:

Cumulative Grade Point Average  
(Retention GPA will be considered)  
Science GPA\*  
ACT Composite Score  
ACT Science Score

\*Higher level course of the same subject matter may be substituted for the required prerequisites. For example: BIOL 2134 Human Anatomy and BIOL 2154 Human Physiology may be substituted for BIOL 1314 Human Anatomy and Physiology.

Additional points towards selection are also given based on the following categories:

Dental Experience/Observation (verified)  
GPA  $\geq 3.0$  for 35 or more college credits  
BS/BA degree or advanced degree  
Science GPA (See above)

Based on the points received from all the above categories, applicants are ranked and typically the top 28 applicants are invited to a group orientation and group interview with the dental hygiene faculty.



**INTERVIEW PROCESS**

A general information orientation, written assignment, and interview delineate the remaining steps in the selection process. Once all qualified applicants have completed the interview process, the applicants' scores are ranked from highest to lowest according to accrued points. Applicants who have applied for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> time consecutively, and were interviewed each time, will receive additional points. Class positions are assigned in order of rank.

**TRANSFER APPLICANTS**

Students who are in or have previously been in a dental hygiene program in another institution must fulfill all admission requirements. Transfer students must not have earned a "D" or "F" in any required dental hygiene course of any accredited dental hygiene program. The transfer student must meet with the Program Director and/or other program faculty prior to consideration. A letter of recommendation from the Program Director of the previous program may also be required.

**CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK**

A comprehensive criminal background check will be performed on all Health Sciences students prior to their initial clinical rotation as required by TCC Clinical Affiliation Agreements, for the primary purpose of safeguarding the well-being of patients, and to ascertain the students' eligibility to maintain program enrollment and to participate in clinical rotation experiences.

Background Investigation Procedure:

- Criminal Background Check Procedure
  - Residency History Check
  - Social Security Number Search
  - County Criminal Records Search
  - National Criminal Database Search
  - National Wants and Warrants Search
  - National Sexual Offender Database Search
  - Healthcare Fraud and Abuse (FACIS III)
  - International Screening

This process is part of the student's orientation to the Dental Hygiene Program and will be scheduled by the School of Health Sciences. For detail information regarding Criminal Background Check, visit [www.tulsacc.edu/programs-courses/academic-schools/health-sciences](http://www.tulsacc.edu/programs-courses/academic-schools/health-sciences).

**DRUG SCREENING**

A drug screening will be performed on all students of TCC Health Sciences programs prior to their initial clinical rotation, as a requirement of clinical affiliate agreements to ascertain students' eligibility for continuing program enrollment.

This process is part of the student's orientation to the Dental Hygiene Program and will be scheduled by the School of Health Sciences. For detail information regarding Drug Screening requirements, visit [www.tulsacc.edu/programs-courses/academic-schools/health-sciences](http://www.tulsacc.edu/programs-courses/academic-schools/health-sciences).

**IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

All Health Sciences students will be required to provide documentation of the following immunizations once accepted into the dental hygiene program:

- Hepatitis B
- Influenza (annually)
- Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR)
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap)
- Varicella
- Tuberculin PPD Mantoux Skin Test (annually)

**CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION CERTIFICATION (CPR)**

All Health Sciences students will be required to be certified in CPR through the **American Heart Association (AHA)** as a **Basic Life Support (BLS)** Provider and provide current verification at all times.

**DEGREE/LICENSURE IN OKLAHOMA**

The graduate will receive an Associate Degree in Applied Science and is eligible to take national, regional, and state licensing examinations. After passing these examinations, the graduate may practice dental hygiene under the supervision of a licensed dentist.

Individuals who have:

- been addicted to narcotics or alcohol
- received treatment for the habitual use of narcotics or alcohol
- been convicted for a narcotics-related offense
- ever been reprimanded, disciplined, disqualified or suspended from the practice of dentistry or another health-related field
- ever been a patient in a sanitarium or institution for the treatment of mental illness
- been arrested/convicted of any felony offense, including a deferred sentence may not be eligible for dental hygiene licensure in the state of Oklahoma. If any of these circumstances exist, it is advised that the prospective student discuss this with the Oklahoma Board of Dentistry, prior to making application to the program.

*Oklahoma Board of Dentistry  
2920 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite B  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
(405) 522-4844*

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

A dental hygienist is a preventive oral health professional licensed to provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services to the public. A dental hygienist's primary duties are to care for patients using an individualized oral health care plans. Each state outlines those procedures that can be legally performed by a licensed registered dental hygienist. Listed below are examples of services that registered dental hygienists may be able to perform:

- Health history assessment
- Dental hygiene exam & charting of intra-oral and extra-oral conditions which include periodontal charting, dental charting, and classifying occlusion
- Dental hygiene assessment and treatment planning
- Remove hard and soft deposits (calculus, biofilm/plaque, stain) from tooth surfaces
- Periodontal scaling and root planing
- Risk assessments (perio, caries, and oral cancer)
- Administration of local anesthesia for pain control
- Administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen sedation for anxiety and pain control
- Apply tooth-decay preventive agents (fluoride, sealants) to the teeth
- Dental hygiene nutritional and dietary evaluation
- Placement of subgingival prescription drugs for prevention and treatment of periodontal disease
- Expose, process and interpret dental x-rays
- Place and remove temporary fillings and periodontal dressings

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The employment outlook is good, especially in rural communities. The median salary for a Registered Dental Hygienist in the Tulsa area is approximately \$275.00 +/- a day. Salaries vary with geographic location and the clinical practice setting.

The dental hygienist has a variety of career options. Depending upon state laws and supervision requirements, dental hygienists can work in:

- private/corporate practice (dental office)
- community health programs
- school systems; military bases
- hospitals; long term care facilities
- forensics; correctional facilities
- insurance companies; HMO's
- foreign countries
- professional associations
- veterinary dentistry
- dental hygiene and dental school programs
- dental supply and product companies
- universities and other research centers
- government agencies like the U.S. Public Health Service, the Indian Health Service and the Veteran's Affairs