

Dental Hygiene

This program is offered at **Ontario** and **Visalia**.

Program Description

The Dental Hygiene program is 67 weeks in length and prepares students to work as a registered dental hygienist. Benefits of this program include comprehensive instruction, small class sizes, and high board pass rates. The program features a fully equipped on-campus dental clinic, allowing students to get hands-on instruction and real-world experience while completing their studies.

The Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, the successful student will be able to:

1. Identify each patient's physical and oral health status by collecting patient data through a process of comprehensive patient assessment procedures
2. Analyze assessment findings and use critical thinking in order to address the patient's dental hygiene treatment needs
3. Establish a dental hygiene care plan that reflects the realistic goals and treatment strategies to facilitate optimal oral health
4. Provide patient-centered treatment and evidence-based care in a manner minimizing risk and optimizing oral health
5. Measure the extent to which goals identified in the dental hygiene care plan are achieved
6. Complete and accurately record all documentation relevant to patient care
7. Adapt to changes in demographics and cultural diversity in dental hygiene practice and health care delivery
8. Interact with the dental community and professional organizations for professional growth and lifelong learning



Admission Requirements

- Completion of the following prerequisite courses at an accredited college or university with a minimum of a "C" grade and an overall GPA of 2.75 or higher:
 - General/Inorganic Chemistry (with lab)
 - General Microbiology (with lab) (CHE4) *
 - Human Physiology (with lab)
 - Speech / Oral Communication
 - Introduction to Sociology
 - Organic/Biochemistry (with lab) (BIOL14)*
 - Human Anatomy (with lab)
 - Writing and Composition
 - Intermediate Algebra or higher (not included in the minimum GPA requirements for entry into the program)
 - General Psychology

*The BIOL14 and/or CHE4 course(s) may be offered to applicants who have successfully completed all other prerequisite courses.

Applicants who have successfully completed the prerequisites will be considered for admission into the program. Using a point-based system, applicants will be ranked on the following criteria: cumulative GPA on prerequisite courses, reading comprehension exam, allied health or related work experience, and a personal interview with Dental Hygiene faculty and/or the Program Director.

Graduation Requirements

- Successful completion of the courses listed below with a grade of "C" or higher
- Achieve minimum requirement of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) component

Credential and Professional Certifications

Graduates earn an Associate of Science Degree and are eligible to take the National Board written examination and a State and/or Regional Board Examination for licensure as a Registered Dental Hygienist (see next page).

State Licensure

Each state has specific clinical examination requirements for licensure as a dental hygienist. The state of California accepts any one of the following clinical examinations: Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) dental hygiene examination, Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) dental hygiene examination, or California RDH clinical examination.

Graduates are eligible to sit for the California RDH clinical examination after they have passed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination. Graduating seniors may take the WREB or CRDTS examination during their final semester, with certification from the campus dean or dental hygiene Program Director.

Graduate Placement

The following job categories are considered in-field placements for graduates of the Dental Hygiene Program. Detailed information for each Standard Occupational Code (SOC) can be found at <http://www.onetonline.org/>.

- Dental Hygienists (29-2021.00)

Course Requirements

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Units
Term 1		
DH 16	Introduction to Clinic	3.0
DH 114	Introduction to Clinic Lab	2.0
DH 10	Oral Biology	3.0
DH 110	Oral Biology Lab	CR
DH 13	Dental Health Education	2.0
DH 11	Oral Radiology	2.0
DH 12	Head and Neck Anatomy	3.0
DH 112	Head and Neck Anatomy Lab	CR
DH 115	Oral Radiology Lab	2.0
DH 18	Periodontics 1	1.0
Term 2		
DH 24	Clinic Seminar 1	1.0
DH 124	Clinic Seminar 1 Lab	1.0
DH 22	Patient Management and Geriatrics	2.0
DH 129	Clinical Practice 1	3.0
DH 21	General and Oral Pathology	4.0
DH 26	Community Oral Health	2.0
DH 27	Local Anesthesia	2.0
DH 120	Local Anesthesia Lab	1.0
DH 28	Periodontics 2	1.0
Term 3		
DH 399*	Dental Hygiene Review Seminar 1	CR
DH 31	Applied Pharmacology	3.0
DH 33	Clinical Seminar 2 - Advanced Clinical Topics	1.0
DH 133	Clinical Seminar 2 Lab - Advanced Clinical Topics	1.0
DH 135	Clinical Practice 2	4.0
DH 32	Dental Materials	2.0
DH 132	Dental Materials Lab	1.0
DH 36	Cultural Diversity and Healthcare	1.0
DH 38	Periodontics 3	2.0
Term 4		
DH 46	Legal and Ethical Responsibilities	2.0
DH 143	Clinical Practice 3	5.0
DH 499*	Dental Hygiene Review	1.0
DH 45**	Nutrition	2.0
DH 42	Clinical Seminar 3	2.0
DH 48	Periodontics 4	2.0
Total		64.0

*Fulfills the CSS 100 graduation requirement.

**Not a degree requirement.

Programmatic Admissions Requirements sjvc.edu website screenshot example

Admissions Requirements

Applicants for SJVC's Dental Hygiene program must have completed the following prerequisite courses:

- General/Inorganic Chemistry (with wet lab)
- Organic/Biochemistry (with wet lab)*
- General Microbiology (with wet lab)*
- Human Physiology (with wet lab)
- Public Speaking or Oral Communication
- Introduction to Sociology
- Human Anatomy (with wet lab)
- Writing and Composition
- General Psychology
- Intermediate Algebra or higher (not included in the minimum GPA requirements for entry into the program)

*The College will offer BIOL14 and CHE4 courses to students who meet all other program prerequisites, contingent on sufficient number of enrollments.

Prerequisites must be completed at an institution accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and students must have a GPA of 2.75 or higher (GPA calculation excludes mathematics). Science courses must have been completed within the past seven years.

Applicants must also meet the [technical standards](#) to be considered for the program. Technical standards provide a reference against which candidates for enrollment to the program are evaluated by the Admissions Committee in the selection of students for the Dental Hygiene program.