



2022-2023
Oxnard College
Dental Hygiene
Associate Degree Program

Dental Department
(805) 678-5823



General Information

A dental hygienist is a licensed dental professional who is part of the dental care team. They perform services such as oral examination, oral prophylaxis (scaling, root planning, soft tissue curettage and polishing the teeth). They expose and process dental x-rays, administer local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation for pain control. They also apply preventive medications such as topical fluorides and dental sealants along with instructing patients in oral disease control and nutrition.

Successful Dental Hygiene Program students are eligible to take the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (written) in their second year. Upon completion of the two-year degree program, graduates qualify to take the California Registered Dental Hygienist exam (clinical) through the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) or the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) and must take the California Law & Ethics exam (written) to gain licensure.

The Dental Hygiene facility is located on the Oxnard College main campus (4000 South Rose Avenue, Oxnard, CA 93033). The Dental Hygiene phone number is (805) 678-5823 The Dental Program Coordinator is Susan McDonald M.Ed., RDH. For educational planning and general information regarding application to the program, contact the General Counseling Office or attend an Information session (Sign up here: <https://linktr.ee/occareercenter>). If you are close to applying, and have completed the majority of your prerequisite coursework, please contact Dr. Shannon Trefts at strefts@vcccd.edu or call (805) 678-5248.

Goals

The Oxnard College Dental Hygiene Program strives to:

1. Develop dental hygienists who will provide dental hygiene services of the highest caliber.
2. Develop an ethical and professional pattern of behavior and service.
3. Obtain and synthesize information in a critical and scientific manner.
4. Develop dental hygiene graduates who will pursue life-long growth and development through participation in professional organizations, research, and continuing education.
5. Introduce students to a variety of community health care delivery settings for the provision of oral health care.

Career Opportunities

Dental hygienists usually work in private dental offices or clinics. In addition, there are opportunities for employment in alternative settings such as hospitals, community health programs, public health institutions, and education.

Transfer Opportunities

Students who complete the Associate's Degree in Dental Hygiene may wish to transfer and continue their education in pursuit of a Bachelor's Degree. While there are currently no articulated transfer guarantee pathways within Dental Hygiene, numerous opportunities exist for students to pursue continued education. The transfer process is unique to a students' plan and pathway, thus, it is important to see a counselor and the University Transfer Center to create a plan and for help with transfer applications. Additional transfer resources can be found below:

UC Transfer Admissions Guarantee (TAG)

<https://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/admission-requirements/transfer-requirements/uc-transfer-programs/transfer-admission-guarantee-tag.html>

Associates Degree for Transfer (ADT)- The Degree with a Guarantee

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/transfer-center/associate-degree-transfer>

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene

West Los Angeles College: <http://www.wlac.edu/Dental/Bachelor-Dental-Hygiene.aspx>

Foothill College: <https://www.foothill.edu/dentalhygiene/index.html>

Assist (Major Preparation Requirements for the Public Four-Year Universities)

<https://assist.org/>

About the Program

The Dental Hygiene Program admits 20 students every Fall semester. After the initial 20 are drawn, the remaining applicants are placed on an alternate list to fill any available spaces should an admitted student decline a place in the program. Students not selected must reapply each year. This is an intense program requiring a full-time commitment (including evening and weekend classes and activities). IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT ALL OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO ACCEPTANCE INTO THE HYGIENE PROGRAM.

All dental hygiene didactic instruction is taught at Oxnard College. Practical clinical experience is gained through a combination of patient experience at our on-site dental hygiene clinic and at off-site rotations. In addition, students will be required to observe at specialty practice offices (i.e., Periodontal, Endodontic, Orthodontic, etc.) or other facilities located off-campus. Students will also participate in a variety of enrichment activities such as community health fairs, meetings with dental/dental hygiene societies and associations, conventions of professional dental associations, etc.

Preparation & Prerequisites

High school courses in algebra, biology and chemistry are recommended to prepare the applicant for the prerequisite college classes. Students should plan to complete general education requirements such as health, fine arts, humanities, and physical education, history or political science, communication/analytical thinking, and math prior to program entry to be eligible for an Associate of Science degree in Dental Hygiene upon completion of the program.

The courses listed below are not necessarily entry-level. Courses to prepare students to succeed in these prerequisites are offered at Oxnard College. Consult an OC academic counselor for details.

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS	UNITS or HOURS
CAOT R803 Computer Literacy (noncredit course – no course fee)	24 hours
SPANISH Course RECOMMENDED if no basic verbal skills in Spanish	3-5 units
BIOL R101 General Biology or BIOL R101H	3
BIOL R101 L General Biology Lab	1
<i>BIOL R101 & R101L are prerequisites for Anatomy at OC</i>	
<i>Online labs in all prerequisites only accepted thru December 31, 2021</i>	

COMPLETE ALL GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES	
PRIOR TO ENTRY INTO THE PROGRAM/ G.E. Area	
American Institutions (U.S. History/Political Science)	B-1
Fine/Performing Arts (ART, MUS, THTR)	C-1
Health Education (HED)	E-1
Physical Education/Kinesiology	E-2
Ethnic Studies	F

OXNARD COLLEGE PROGRAM PREREQUISITES*	UNITS	Ventura College¹	Moorpark College¹	Alan Hancock College¹	Santa Barbara City College¹	CSUCI¹
ANAT R101 General Human Anatomy (Lab included)	4	ANAT V01	ANAT M01	BIOL 124	BMS 107	BIO 210
PHSO R101 Human Physiology (Lab included)	5	PHSO V01	PHSO M01	BIOL 125	BMS 108	BIO 211
CHEM R110 Elementary Chemistry	5	CHEM V20+L	CHEM M12	CHEM 120	CHEM 101	CHEM 105
CHEM R112 Elem. Organic & Biochemistry	5	CHEM V21+L	CHEM M13	CHEM 140 Or 150	CHEM 104	CHEM 110
DH R001 Pre-Dental Hygiene (@ OC, Prior to Entry)	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MATH R005 or R015 Beg & Int Algebra	6	MATH V35, V03	MATH M03	MATH 331	MATH 107	N/A
MICR R100 Principles of Microbiology	3	MICR V01	MICR M01	BIOL 128	BMS 127 or BMS 157	BIO 217
MICR R100L Principles of Microbiology Lab	2					
ENGL R101 College Composition or ENGL R101H Honors: College Composition	4	ENGL V01A	ENGL M01A	ENGL 101	ENGL 110 or ENGL 110H	ENGL 105
PSY R101 General Psychology or PSY R101H Honors: General Psychology	3	PSY V01	PSY M01	PSY 101	PSY 100 or PSY 100H	PSY 100
SOC R101 Intro. to Sociology or SOC R101H Honors: Intro. to Sociology	3	SOC V01	SOC M01	SOC 101	SOC 101 or SOC 101H	SOC 100
COMM R101 Intro. to Oral Communication	3	COMM V01	COMM M01	SPCH 101	COMM 131 or COMM 131H	COMM 101
*ANTH R102/H Cultural Anthropology or an Ethnic Studies Class, (SEE O.C.CATALOG)	3					

GRAND TOTAL

51

^{a1}**EQUIVALENT COURSES ARE PROVIDED FOR REFERENCE BUT THEY ARE NOT A REPLACEMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING WITH AN OXNARD COLLEGE COUNSELOR PRIOR TO TAKING THE PREREQUISITE COURSES AND APPLICATION TO THE PROGRAM. COURSE NUMBERS & CONTENT CANNOT BE GARANTEED AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.**

***ALL SCIENCE PREREQUISITIES MUST HAVE LABS & COMBINED SCIENCE COURSES ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

Application & Selection : Applications are available online at oxnardcollege.edu/departments/academic/dental-hygiene or by sending a self-addressed, pre-stamped envelope to the Dental Hygiene office (a regular sized envelope is adequate) and the application period is from January 1st – March 1st of the spring semester prior to fall entry.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS MUST HAVE:

1. Completed all prerequisites by the end of the Fall Semester prior to program entry *
2. Minimum cumulative college GPA of 3.0 (All colleges ever attended must be reported)
3. 3.0 or better GPA** in all college science prerequisites (includes ANAT, CHEM, MICR, & PHSO+LABS)
(Science wet labs are being accepted if completed through Distance Learning online through 12/2021)
4. Completed all science prerequisites within a five-year period prior to application
5. High School Diploma, GED, or equivalent
6. Current CPR card (Basic Life Support CPR & AED Training for Healthcare Professionals) with in person skills portion

***One Science prerequisite course may be in progress at the time of application (lecture and corresponding lab will be considered one science prerequisite)**

***As GPA calculations and course equivalencies can vary between institutions, please be sure to confirm your eligibility with an Oxnard College counselor prior to application*

Upon verification of program selection criteria, all qualified candidates will be included in a selection pool. A prioritized lottery selection process is utilized to select entering students and alternates. Students who take 32 units of prerequisites, with 15 units in science prerequisites at Oxnard College, are in the first pool. Candidates who take 32 units of prerequisites, with 15 units in science prerequisites at any of the VCCCD colleges or SBCC, are included in the second pool along with the first pool candidates. The remaining applicants are in the final pool along with the 1st and 2nd pool candidates. Only 20 students are admitted each year. All names drawn after the initial 20 are placed on an alternate list. The alternate list is used to fill any available spaces in the program should any applicants decline a place in the program. However, there is no wait list. Students not selected must reapply each year.

ASSOCIATED COSTS

Normal student expenses (textbooks, in-state tuition, college fees, etc.) for the program are estimated to be about \$6,000. In addition to the normal student expenses, the dental hygiene program requires approximately \$11,000 during the two years. These additional costs are associated with instruments, equipment, uniforms, supplies, licensure examination fees, professional dues and course expenses. Students who anticipate a financial need should contact the College’s Financial Aid Office at (805) 678-5828.

The VCCCD has adopted the state-mandated enrollment fee. Please check for the current fees on www.oxnardcollege.edu. All fees are subject to change without notice.

Required Dental Hygiene Courses

Once accepted into the Dental Hygiene Program, a student must follow this two-year course sequence for a total of **55 1/2** dental hygiene units (subject to change without notice). (DH R015 & DH R024 have additional materials fees)

First Semester		Units	Second Semester		Units
DH 10	Oral Biology	3	DH 20	Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide	2
DH 11	Oral Radiology	3	DH 21	General and Oral Pathology	4
DH 12	Head and Neck Anatomy	2 1/2	DH 22	Pharmacology	2
DH 13	Dental Health Education Seminar	1	DH 23	Clinical Practice I	3
DH 14	Introduction to Dental Hygiene Practice	3	DH 24	Clinic I Seminar	3
DH 15	Introduction to Pre-Clinic/Clinic	2	DH 25	Periodontics I	2
First Semester Total: 14 1/2			Second Semester Total: 16		
Third Semester		Units	Fourth Semester		Units
DH 30	Special Patients/Geriatrics	1	DH 40	Advanced Clinical Topics	2
DH 31	Nutrition in Dentistry	1	DH 41	Practice Management	1
DH 32	Dental Materials	2	DH 42	Clinic III Seminar	2
DH 33	Clinic II Seminar	2	DH 43	Clinical Practice III	4
DH 34	Clinical Practice II	4	DH 44	Community Oral Health	1
DH 35	Periodontics II	2	DH 45	Ethics and Jurisprudence	1
DH 36	Community Oral Health I	2			
Third Semester Total: 14			Fourth Semester Total: 11		

Accreditation

Oxnard College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

General College Information (805) 678-5800

Oxnard College is a locally controlled, public comprehensive two-year college, part of the California state system of higher education. As such, and in keeping with the policies of both the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees and the State Legislature, the college exists to serve members of the community who are high school graduates or who are over the age of 18 and capable.

Financial Services (805) 678-5828

The student who is hesitant about attending college because the financial expenses involved in obtaining a college education may prove to be too much of a personal or family burden will find a welcome campus friend in the office of the Student Financial Services. The Office of Student Financial Services provides students with a complete array of financial support services that are designed to help cover some of the expenses involved in obtaining a college education. Financial support can include grants, work study, job placement, and scholarships. However, it does not include subsidized loan programs. Eligible applicants will be expected to adhere to standards of normal academic progress to receive the full benefits of these programs.

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/financial-aid-office>

General Counseling 805 678-5816

Provides information on the program and requirements with review of transcripts. Can also assist in creating an education plan.

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/counseling>

Career Center (805) 678-5900

Students are provided the resources and guidance necessary to make informed career and major choices through assessments, counseling, workshops, and opportunities for practical learning experiences. Our Job Placement Specialist assists students with resume support, full-time and part-time employment opportunities aligned with individual skills and program of study.

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/career-center>

Transfer Center (805) 678-5837

The Transfer Center is designed to aid students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university. The Transfer Center provides current information, reference materials, college catalogs, applications, and support services necessary for planning and achieving a smooth transition between institutions. Transfer Center activities are scheduled and distributed monthly through the "Transfer Center Calendar."

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/transfer-center>