Dental Hygiene Program

Dental Hygienists are typically employed in general dental practices or specialty practices. Dental hygienists also can apply their skills and knowledge in other career activities including public health, corporate dental representative, dental office management, and dental hygiene education depending on the level of education and experience they have achieved.

Admission/Selection Requirements*

Applicants will be admitted to the program following a selection process. The following requirements must be met by March 1 to be considered for selection. Applicants that apply after the March 1 deadline can complete the selection requirements and be placed on a waiting list. Late applicants may be selected based on points if openings become available until the first day of class fall semester.

1. Complete the NDSCS Admission process and submit an official high school transcript and all official college transcripts to Enrollment Services.
2. Applicants without a United States high school transcript (four years), will be required to complete English language proficiency exam(s) and meet the program to schedule the assessment if this applies.
3. Complete the Supplemental Program Application for Dental Hygiene.
4. Submit an official college transcript(s) with a minimum of twelve college semester credits and a GPA of 2.50 or higher.
5. Review career link and submit the Dental Hygiene Career Review form.
6. Complete the selection assessment examination and meet the program benchmark score of 55. The exam can be taken once. Check with program for current assessment(s) required.
7. Complete pre-requisite courses by January 1: Anatomy and Physiology I (BIOL 220 and 220L) and College Composition I (ENGL 110). Complete pre-requisite course by May 15: Anatomy and Physiology II (BIOL 221 and 221L) and Intro to Organic and Biochemistry (CHEM 116/116L) with a “C” or higher.
8. Additional admission points will also be awarded for completing classes at NDSCS.
9. Review Essential Functions for Allied Dental Education Students and submit the signed Essential Functions Verification form.

Selection process details, contact information and forms are located in the Dental Hygiene Program Information and Selection Process Booklet available at www.NDSCS.edu/Dental (click on Program Selection Process) or contact the program at AlliedHealthCareers@ndscs.edu.

The program is a limited enrollment program. Applicants will be selected on a point system. Once program capacity is reached, an alternate list will be established based on points. It is recommended that applicants stay in close contact with the program as they complete their selection requirements.

Program Selection Requirements are subject to revision. Please check the department or program website under Program Admissions Requirements for current information.

For accepted students, specific immunizations, criminal background checks, CPR certification (Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider) by American Heart Association (AHA) OR Basic Life Support (BLS) for Healthcare Providers from American Red Cross (ARC) ONLY, and health insurance, are required by the program. Additional requirements could include but not limited to; drug screening/ finger printing, state background checks, and COVID-19 vaccinations dependent on clinical site-specific student prerequisites. *All requirements must remain current while in the program and will be at the students’ expense.

Licensure requirements for dental hygienists include successful completion of the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination and a regional clinical examination, i.e., CRDTS, WREB. Individual states have additional licensure requirements. A criminal background check will be required and a felony conviction may affect state licensure.

Award

Upon program completion of the required courses (“C” or higher), students will be awarded an Associate in Applied Science degree in Dental Hygiene.