

**2026 Dental Hygiene Program Admission Packet**

# Program Summary and Accreditation

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Dental Hygiene Program at Dallas College. You have chosen to apply for a growing field of dental professionals committed to improving the lives of patients through oral health services and education.

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences offers a 68-credit hour curriculum leading to an Associate of Applied Sciences Degree in Dental Hygiene. After all course requirements are met, the dental hygiene student is eligible to sit for the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) and a regional clinical board. Upon graduation and successful completion of both examinations, the dental hygiene student is then eligible to apply for licensure through their individual state board to become a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH).

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Dental Hygiene at Dallas College is accredited by the [Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)](https://coda.ada.org/). Address: 211 East Chicago Ave. Chicago, IL 60611, Telephone: 800-232-6108.

Please read and review the information in this packet carefully. As a candidate for the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program, it is your responsibility to ensure all needed documentation is completed and submitted by the required deadlines.

The application submission opens **November 1, 2025** and the deadline for the Fall 2026 class is **February 27, 2026**. However, applications should be submitted as soon as possible. No applications are considered or reviewed if submitted after the due date. Enrollment is limited and admission is competitive with only 20 open positions annually. Admission to Dallas College does not imply or guarantee admission to the Dental Hygiene Program. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The admissions packet is designed to answer your questions regarding Dental Hygiene admission. Please read the packet in its entirety, you are encouraged to contact a Success Coach at SuccessCoach@DallasCollege.edu or call (972) – 669-6400 for assistance.

***Specific program requirements and program selection and acceptance criteria are subject to change at any time and without notice. It is the applicant’s responsibility to keep informed of current program requirements.***

**Equal Educational Opportunity**

 Educational opportunities are offered by Dallas College without regard to race, color,

religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

[Program Summary and Accreditation 1](#_Toc166738045)

1. Dental Hygiene Career Description…………………………………………………………..3

[B. General Admission Requirements to the College](#_Toc166738047) 3

[Initial Advisement……………………………………………………………………………… 3](#_Toc166738048)

[Official Transcripts…………………………………………..…………………………………](#_Toc166738049) 3

[Official Transcript Submission…………………………………..………………… 4](#_Toc166738050)

[C. Previous Coursework Evaluation Toward Dental Hygiene……………………………….](#_Toc166738052) 4

[Five-Year Time Limit for Select Courses……………………………….………………… 4](#_Toc166738053)

[Credit by Examination, CLEP and Advanced Placement Credit………………………..…4](#_Toc166738054)

[Coursework from Institutions Outside of the United States………………………….….… 4](#_Toc166738055)

D. Course Transferability………………………………………………………………………... 4

[E. Prerequisite Courses…………………………………………………………………………. 5](#_Toc166738056)

F. Digital Records SurPath………………………………………………………………….… 5

G Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH)..……………………………………………… 5

[H. Criminal Background Check and TSBDE Criminal History Evaluation………………… 6](#_Toc166738063)

I. Drug Screening…………………………………………………………………………………6

J. Notification of Acceptance …………………………………………………………………… 6

K. Mandatory Dental Hygiene Orientation …………………………………………………… 7

[L. Curriculum Overview 7](#_Toc166738067)

[M. Selection Process 8](#_Toc166738068)

[N. Estimated Expenses for the Dental Hygiene Program](#_Toc166738069) 9

[O. Notification of Acceptance 10](#_Toc166738070)

P. Required Information for the Candidate [Dental Hygiene Orientation…………………….10](#_Toc166738071)

I. Dental Hygiene Communicable Disease (Bloodborne and Infectious Disease Policy. 10

II. Program Mission and Goals……………………………………………………………… 10

 [III. Scope of Practice 1](#_Toc166738075)2

 IV. Employment Opportunities……………………………………………………………… 13

 V. Dental Hygiene Essential Skills and Abilities…………………………………………….14

Q. Forms Required for Application to the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program………. 16

Dental Hygiene Program Application Form………………………………………………….16

Students’ Responsibility Form…………………………………………………………….... 17

Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program Professional Reference Form…………………18

Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program Professional Reference Form………………. 20

Dental or Dental Assistant Point Consideration Form…………………………………… 22

Dental Assisting Employment Verification Form…………………………………………. 23

Physical Exam Form………………………………………………………………………… 24

Frequently Asked Questions………………………………………………………………… 26



# A. Dental Hygiene Career Description

A dental hygienist is a licensed oral health professional who works within the dental team to provide preventive dental care and promote oral health. Their primary focus is on preventing oral disease as well as educating patients on maintaining good oral hygiene. A broad-based education in biological sciences and general education studies as well as dental sciences and clinical techniques prepare the graduate for work in private practice and community settings. As part of the dental health team, the dental hygienist may be employed in private dental offices, dental product sales, public schools, or other institutions under the supervision of a licensed dentist. Alternative practice settings include hospitals, clinics, federal agencies, local and state health departments, and opportunities as an advanced dental hygiene practitioner. The dental hygienist is in demand nationally, statewide, and locally, and opportunities are available on a full-time and part-time basis for employment. A successful dental hygienist has excellent interpersonal skills, attention to detail, and a strong commitment to patient care. A hygienist must also be proficient in providing current dental hygiene care by staying abreast on the latest dental hygiene practices.

# B. General Admission Requirements to the College

Applicants to the Dental Hygiene program must meet all [college admission requirements](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/default.aspx) as outlined in the official college catalog.

## Initial Advisement

Students who are beginning college for the first time will follow the [Steps to Enrollment](https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/application/pages/default.aspx) which will guide them from applying the college system to placement testing, selecting a degree plan, contacting a Success Coach, and enrolling in basic courses. <https://www.dallascollege.edu/admissions/pages/new-credit-students.aspx>

A student who has not completed college coursework should request a general Associate of Science Degree plan from [Success Coaching](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/centers.aspx) as a starting point toward future application to a health sciences program.

Applicants must have earned either a high school diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) in addition to complying with Texas Success Initiative (TSI) requirements before they will be eligible to apply to the dental hygiene program. Students should consult a Success Coach to determine their TSI status prior to application to a Health Sciences program.

## Official Transcripts

Prior to applying for the Dental Hygiene program, potential applicants must have submitted ***official transcripts from ALL high schools, college/universities the applicant has attended whether the coursework is or is not relevant to the program application***. Transcripts from Dallas College (formerly Dallas County Community College District) campuses are not required.

The transcripts must be current with the **print date no earlier than three years** prior to the applicant’s anticipated admission to the program unless the student has not had a break in enrollment with Dallas College since the transcripts were originally submitted. If the official transcripts have not been submitted, the individual’s application will be voided.

## Official Transcript Submission

Transcripts sent by the applicant in pdf or other formats are not accepted.

Official transcripts must be sent electronically from the applicant’s previous colleges to studenttranscripts@dallascollege.edu.

Transcripts may also be mailed from a college in a sealed envelope to Dallas College, Attn: Admissions Processing, 3737 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150.

# C. Previous Coursework Evaluation Toward Dental Hygiene

Official transcripts are fully evaluated by the Dallas College Transcript Evaluation Center after a student has been enrolled for at least one regular semester. However, students can request an Educational Plan, an evaluation of their previous coursework toward a Health Sciences program. The [Educational Plan](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=U1R-1i9z3EqUpEiI8tl9XR-JTZXG4gtGtI5xwkPieuFUOFdER1BQS1k5TU02R09FQTU0WFVDTEJQWSQlQCN0PWcu) is a preliminary, unofficial degree plan for advisement purposes and only reflects specific courses toward a health sciences program. Educational Plans are optional and are not required for application to a health sciences program. They are usually completed within 4-8 weeks. An Educational Plan should be requested at least one semester prior to a program application filing deadline if possible.

The School of Health Sciences and the Health Occupations Admissions Office reserve the right to accept or reject any coursework completed at other colleges presented for transfer evaluation toward Health Science programs.

## Five-Year Time Limit for Select Courses

**Science-based courses** (BIOL, CHEM) must be completed within **five years** of the anticipated program start date. The Dental Hygiene program does not consider waivers for the 5-year time limit.

## Credit by Examination, CLEP and Advanced Placement Credit

Credit through CLEP, High School Advanced Placement (AP) Exams and Credit by Examination may be awarded for a limited number of courses toward Health Sciences programs including MATH 1314, PSYC 2301, and PSYC 2314. CLEP credit is not awarded for ENGL 1301. Advanced Placement (“AP”) credit for ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 is acceptable if the credit appears on a college transcript as ENGL 1301, PSYC 2301, and MATH 1314 equivalency. A letter grade is not awarded for “AP” credit.

**Note:** **An applicant may present credit by exam, CLEP, or “AP” credit for one of the prerequisite courses. Credit will be acknowledged but not calculated with the grade point average.**

## Coursework from Institutions Outside of the United States

Some credits may be restricted or disallowed from colleges or universities outside the United States.[International Coursework Evaluation](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-health-resources.aspx) is a multi-step process which may take several weeks. **The student must be enrolled in credit classes at a Dallas College campus before the evaluation process can be initiated.**

D. Course Transferability

Courses from Dallas College can be transferable to other institutions, including four-year universities. Dallas College has [Transfer Partnerships](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/transfer-students/pages/transfer-from-dcccd.aspx) with many universities to ensure that credits are applicable.  However, the transferability of courses depends on the institution, the course content, and the student's grades.

The Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program has an agreement with Texas Womans’ University to offer [two pathways for degree advancement](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/dental-hygiene/pages/career-info.aspx#:~:text=Dallas%20College%20has%20partnered%20with,dental%20hygiene%20in%20two%20years.): 1) Dual enrollment and 2) Degree Completion. Additional information is available from your Success Coach (Pathway Specialist).

# E. Prerequisite Courses\*

Applicants must complete the prerequisite courses listed below with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher to apply to the Dental Hygiene program. Applicants must also complete all courses with a minimum grade of “C.” All prerequisite science courses must have been completed within 5 years prior to your anticipated program start date. The prerequisite GPA is considered in the point award ranking process.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prerequisite Courses | Lec Hrs | Lab Hrs | Cr Hrs |
| BIOL-2401\* Anatomy/Physiology I | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2402 Anatomy/Physiology II  | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2420 or 2421 Microbiology  | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| CHEM-1405, 1406, or 1411 Intro to Chem or Gen Chem | 3 | 3 | 4 |

\* BIOL 1406 is the prerequisite course for BIOL 2401 and must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last three years or present a satisfactory score on the CLEP Biology exam.

\*UPDATE to Prerequisite Course work:  General non-science classes are not considers for application GPA calculations. They will be included with “cumulative GPA for all College courses” for point ranking, \*(see M. Selection Process)

# F. Digital Records SurPath

The School of Health Sciences uses a medical record management company (SurPath), to verify health-related documentation, provide criminal background checks, and perform periodic drug screenings. Some immunizations require multiple doses on a specific timeline over several months. Therefore, potential applicants should initiate/review their immunizations and titers at least **six to seven months** prior to the application deadline.

Use this link to set up your SurPath account: [SurPath Registration](https://dallascollege.surpath.com/). Select register to set up your account and use the Cohort 11 *Dental Hygiene – Applicant* when prompted.

It may take up to **two weeks** for SurPath to view the documents for compliance and complete the background check. Do not delay. *All required documents must be noted as* ***COMPLIANT*** *by SurPath by the application date of January 31, 2026*. Applicants are encouraged to check the status of your submitted documents often and correct any errors noted prior to the application due date.

Carefully read and follow the requirements [of the Immunization, CPR, and Physical Exam Requirements for the School of Health Sciences Programs](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx). Details on which immunizations are needed, what records are acceptable, what CPR card is required, what titers are acceptable, and other important information is provided. An annual tuberculosis (TB) screening and influenza vaccination are required each year.

Note: The CPR card and proof of health insurance *are not required* by the application deadline date. If the student is accepted into the program, documentation of the CPR card and health insurance must be documented as compliant in SurPath by *August 1, 2026.*

Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program follows the [Texas Administrative Code Title 25 Part 1, Chapter 97, subchapter B 97.64](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac%24ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=25&pt=1&ch=97&rl=64) for required vaccinations for students enrolled in health related and veterinary courses in institutions of higher learning. Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program also follows [OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard 29 e-CFR 1910.1030](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1030) in their workplace exposure control plan which includes information regarding the [Hepatitis B vaccine](https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/bbfact05.pdf).

G. Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH)

The Dental Hygiene program utilizes the [ATDH](https://www.ada.org/education/testing/exams/admission-test-for-dental-hygiene-atdh), a nationally administered standardized admission test for individuals applying to the dental hygiene program.  The ATDH consists of six sections:  Reading Comprehension, Language Usage, Quantitative Reasoning, Perceptual Ability, Biology, and General Chemistry.

* Test scores are valid for **two years** from the date of testing.
* Scores will be sent directly to Dallas College from the ATDH, which may require 3-4 weeks for reporting results to Dallas College.  Applicants are encouraged to take the ATDH well in advance of the dental hygiene program admission cycle.
* A candidate may re-take the ATDH.   Candidates should read the ATDH retesting policy for additional information.  If you choose to re-test, the score from the most recent exam will be considered the official score.
* Applicant are encouraged to carefully read the information on the ATDH site including the [ATDH Candidate Guide and download the practice test.](https://www.ada.org/education/testing/exams/admission-test-for-dental-hygiene-atdh)

## H. Criminal Background Check and TSBDE Criminal History Evaluation

A criminal background check is initiated through SurPath. Results of the criminal background check are made available to the Dental Hygiene Academic Chair for review. All background check results become the property of the Dallas College School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

An applicant planning to enroll in the dental hygiene program and pursue licensure as a dental hygienist and who has reason to believe that he or she may be ineligible for licensure due to a conviction or deferred adjudication for a felony or a misdemeanor offense must apply for a criminal history evaluation from the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. Information for this process is available on the [Texas State Board of Dental Examiners](http://tsbde.texas.gov/licensing/criminal-history-evaluation/) (TSBDE) website. The letter provided by the Texas State Dental Board must be submitted as part of the application process. Failure to provide a letter from TSBDE will result in the removal of the student from the incoming class and an alternate will be moved into their place.

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences reserves the right to remove a student from participation in the dental hygiene program based on their criminal background check if the applicant did not honestly disclose their history and did not apply for, and submit, a criminal history evaluation from the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners.

## I. Drug Screening

A mandatory drug screening will be required after acceptance to the dental hygiene program at a random date. The cost of the drug screening will be paid by the student through their SurPath account. All drug screening results become the property of the Dallas College School of Health Sciences and will not be released to the student or any other third party.

The Dallas College School of Health Sciences reserves the right to remove a student from participation in the Dental Hygiene Program based on a drug screening outcome.

# J. Notification of Acceptance

Using the point award process, a ranked list of applicants is generated. The program spaces are filled with provisional qualified applicants according to their points on the ranked list. The Program will offer provisional acceptance to **20 students** and select **5 alternates** each academic year. Once the applicants Surpath documents are confirmed and verified, the applicant’s status will convert to full acceptance.

Individuals who receive provisional acceptance are required to return a confirmation form within **10 days** to verify their space in the class. Failure to return the confirmation form by the specified date or failure to attend the scheduled preregistration/orientation seminar for the accepted class will result in forfeiture of their space in that class. Notification emails of acceptance, non-acceptance, or disqualification are sent on the same day.

Application materials are not “held over” to the next application filing period. Students who are not selected for admission to the program or students who decline their acceptance may reapply again during the next filing period to be considered for a future admission opportunity.

## K. Mandatory Dental Hygiene Orientation

Students who are accepted to the program will be required to attend an all-day **mandatory in-person** Dental Hygiene orientation that includes ordering the fall semester supplies. The orientation will be scheduled **the first week of May** **2026** and students will be notified once the class is confirmed. The student must have the ability to cover **at least $5,000** of the equipment supplies fees on this day.

# L. Curriculum Overview - Dental Hygiene

|  |
| --- |
| Prerequisites |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| BIOL-2401 | Anatomy & Physiology I  | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2402 | Anatomy & Physiology II | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| BIOL-2420/2421 | Gen. Microbiology/Microbiology Science Majors | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| CHEM-1405/1406/1411 | Intro to Chemistry/Gen. Chemistry | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Subtotal |  | 12 | 13 | 16 |
| Semester 1 |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab Hours | Credit Hours |
| DHYG-1301 | Orofacial Anatomy, Histology, Embryology  | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| DHYG-1304 | Dental Radiology | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| DHYG-1431  | Preclinical Dental Hygiene | 2 | 8 | 4 |
| DHYG-1127 | Preventive Dental Hygiene Care | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Subtotal  |  | 7 | 16 | 11 |
| Semester 2 |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab/Clinical Hours | Credit Hours |
| DHYG-1207 | General and Dental Nutrition | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| DHYG-1235 | Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| DHYG-1261 | Clinical Dental Hygiene | 0 | 12 | 2 |
| DHYG-2201 | Dental Hygiene Care I | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| ENGL-1301 | Composition I  | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| SPCH-1311/1315/1321 | Intro to Speech/Public Speaking/Business Communication | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal |  | 12 | 15 | 14 |
| Semester 3 |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab/Clinical Hours | Credit Hours |
| DHYG-1219 | Dental Materials | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| DHYG-1170 | Local Anesthesia for Dental Hygienists | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Subtotal | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| Semester 4 |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab/Clinical Hours | Credit Hours |
| DHYG-1239 | General and Oral Pathology | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| DHYG-1311 | Periodontology | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| DHYG-1315 | Community Dentistry | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| DHYG-2362 | Clinical Dental Hygiene | 0 | 16 | 3 |
| DHYG-2231 | Dental Hygiene Care II | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Subtotal | 9 | 22 | 13 |
| Semester 5 |
| Course | Title | Lecture Hours | Lab/Clinical Hours | Credit Hours |
| DHYG-1191 | Contemporary Issues in Dental Hygiene | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| DHYG-2153 | Dental Hygiene Practice | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| DHYG-2363 | Clinical Dental Hygiene | 0 | 16 | 3 |
| PSYC-2319\* | Social Psychology  | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Humanities/Fine Arts Elective | [AAS Core Options for Humanities/Fine Arts](https://catalog.dallascollege.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=2&poid=692) | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Subtotal | 8 | 18 | 11 |
| Total  | 50 | 88 | 68 |
| (Total contact hours 2208) |  |  |  |

\*\*A combination of PSYC 2301 Intro to Psychology and SOCI 1301 Intro to Sociology with a minimum grade of “C” in each can be substituted for PSYC 2319.

M. Selection Process

|  |
| --- |
| Dallas College Dental Hygiene Point Ranking  |
| Earned degree in any subject.  | Graduate degree           4 points Bachelor’s degree         3 points Associate degree           2 points  |
| Cumulative GPA of all college courses.  |  3.5-4.0                   4 points  3.0-3.49                 3 points  2.5-2.99                 2 points  |
| GPA 3.0-4.0 in two or more semesters/terms with full-time student course load (12 hours) within the last 5 years.  |                               4 points  |
| Program Science Prerequisite Courses cumulative GPA  |  3.5-4.0                  5 points  3.0-3.49                3 points  2.5-2.00 2 points |
| Non-Science Support Courses completed with a cumulative GPA (Note:  check with your advisor regarding the potential impact of financial aid)  |      6-12 credit hours  2 points 1-5 credit hours 1 point |
| Dentist or Dental Assistant Experience/Certification Completion of Dental School in a foreign country DANB with a minimum of 1-years dental assisting experience (1200 hours) - submit DANB certificate and work hoursRDA with a minimum of 1-year dental assisting experience (1200 hours) (submit RDA certificate and work hours)Completion of the Dallas Dental Assisting Program |                                 3 points 3 points                                  2 points  1 point |
| ATDH Examination\*:  Scored on each section:   Reading Comprehension  441 - 500 = 4 pointsLanguage Usage  392 – 440 = 3 pointsQuantitative Reasoning  343 – 391 = 2 pointsPerceptual Ability  294 – 342 = 1 pointBiology  General Chemistry  |                           0 – 24 points   |
| Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Membership (submit PTK cared with application materials)  |                                  1 point  |
| Professional Reference Letters (2) (maximum 1 point each reference) |  0-2 points |
|                                                                                            **Total Possible: 49** **Points\*** |

\*Tie Breaking: The ATDH Overall Score; if a second tie-breaker is needed the score on the English Language Skills will be used.

**Example of Point Award Ranking Process**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Applicant  | Earned Degree (max 5 pts)  | Cumulative GPA (max 4 pts)  | GPA in 2 + Courses full-time at least 2 semesters  | Science Perquisite Course GPA (max  | Non-Science Support Courses  | Dental Asst  | ADTH  | PTK  | Reference Letters | Total Pts  |
| #1  | Bachelorette 3 pts  | 3.6 = 4 pts  | 3.4 = 4 pts  | 3.0 = 3 pts  | 9 cdts = 2 pts  | DANB = 3 pts  | Reading = 390 = 2Language= 410 = 3 Quantit = 299 = 1Percept = 350 = 2 Biology= 450 = 4Chem = 420 = 3 | 0  | 2 |  36 |
| #2  | Associate 2 pts  | 3.2 = 3 pts  | 2.5 = 0 pts  | 3.8 = 5 pts  | 3 cdts = 1 pt  | RDA = 2 pt  | Reading = 450 = 4 Language= 385 = 2 Quantit = 320 = 1 Percept = 410 = 3 Biology= 296 = 1Chem = 325 = 1 | 1  | 2 |  29 |
| #3  | Associate 2 pts  | 4.0 =4 pts  | 3.8 = 4 pts.  | 3.6 = 5 pts  | 12 cdts = 2 pts  | 0 exp = 0 pt  | Reading = 445 = 4Language= 394 = 3Quantit = 295 = 1Percept = 385 = 2Biology= 350 = 2Chem = 320 = 1 | 0  | 1 |  31 |

# N. Estimated Expenses for the Dental Hygiene Program

All costs are estimations and subject to change based on market fluctuations. See Dallas College Tuition Cost [weblink](https://www.dallascollege.edu/paying-for-college/cost-tuition/pages/default.aspx) for more information. Dental hygiene students should have accessibility to a computer with a camera.

|  |
| --- |
| Prerequisite (if complete at Dallas College) |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $ 2,772 | $ 4,732 | $ 7,000 |

|  |
| --- |
| Dental Hygiene First Year of Program |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $ 1,817 | $ 3,887 | $ 5,750 |
| Supplies (instruments, uniform, loupes) *\*Variable expense based on market fluctuation* | $ 6,500 | $ 6,500 | $ 6,500 |
| Other fees *(ADHA dues, criminal history check, drug screening)* | $ 220 | $ 220 | $ 220 |
| Subtotal | $ 8,537 | $ 10,607 | $ 12,470 |

|  |
| --- |
| Dental Hygiene Second Year of Program  |
|  | Dallas County Resident | Out of County | Out of State |
| Tuition/Textbooks | $ 1,683 | $ 2,873 | $ 4,250 |
| Supplies (instruments) *\*Variable expense based on market fluctuation* | $ 300 | $ 300 | $ 300 |
| Other fees *(ADHA dues, dental hygiene pin)* | $ 200 | $ 200 | $ 200 |
| National Board Examinations *\*Variable expense based on market fluctuation* | $ 1,715 | $ 1,715 | $ 1,715 |
| Licensing Fees | $ 300 | $ 300 | $ 300 |
| Subtotal | $ 4,198 | $ 5,388 | $ 6,765 |
| PROGRAM TOTAL | **$ 12,735** | **$ 15,995** | **$ 19,235** |

# Additional Dental Hygiene Program Student Requirements

1. The student must maintain compliance with the [Immunization, CPR, and Physical Exam Requirements for the School of Health Sciences Programs](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/pages/ecc-immunization-requirements.aspx) that include for immunizations, CPR, drug screen, healthcare insurance, and annual screenings and immunizations throughout the entire program.
2. The student must maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 in each dental hygiene course and complete all clinical requirements each semester to remain in the program.
	* 1. Required Information for the Candidate
	1. **Dental Hygiene Communicable Disease (Bloodborne and Infectious Diseases) Policy**

In addition to the Dallas College policy, the Dental Hygiene Program has adopted additional clarification of this policy for use in the program in conjunction with the recommendations and regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the American Dental Association (ADA), state regulatory agencies, and all professional journals for the latest research and recommendations.

* The Dental Hygiene Program is non-discriminatory with regards to persons who are seropositive for HIV/AIDS, HBV or other infectious diseases. Having a communicable disease will not exclude a person from admission to the program, employment, patient treatment or access to the college’s services or facilities because of their health status.
* Patients with active infectious diseases will be assigned to the appropriate clinic based on the patient’s medical condition and the experience level of the student.
* Students in the School of Health Sciences are required to have current vaccines.
* No student will be allowed to deliver patient care in any setting until he/she has been instructed in infection control (as per OSHA guidelines) and has demonstrated competency on safety/universal precautions with satisfactory accuracy.
* Students will be expected to care for patients with health deviations including patients with HIV/AIDS, HBV and other blood-borne infectious diseases as part of routine clinical/lab curriculum experiences, following mastery of infection control skills and under faculty supervision.
	1. **Program Mission and Goals**

### Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program Mission

 The mission of the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program is to graduate exceptional dental hygiene oral health professionals who provide high quality, evidence-based patient care to a diverse population in a positive environment that promotes innovation, teamwork, respect, and integrity.

### Dallas College Dental Hygiene Goals

The following dental hygiene program goals reflect the mission of Dallas College and the mission of the Dental Hygiene Program. Reflected in the curriculum, the program objectives support the attainment of the program goals.

Education

Goal #1***:*** Through appropriate didactic and clinical education, the dental hygiene program will prepare graduates with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be competent and qualified dental professionals.

***Objectives:***

The Dental Hygiene Program will:

1. Offer an educational program sufficient in scope and depth to prepare graduates for competent professional practice.
2. Recruit and admit a diverse and qualified applicant pool that has the foundational knowledge to perform well in the program and on state, national, and regional dental hygiene board of examinations and licensing exams.
3. Utilize faculty expertise and current educational methodologies to provide quality and contemporary didactic and clinical dental hygiene education through a competency-based, curriculum.
4. Provide a positive environmental that leads to quality, student-centered learning as well as professional and ethical development.

### Professionalism

Goal #2: Prepare graduates to assume responsibility for ethical dental hygiene care in accordance with professional codes of ethics and state law.

***Objectives:***

1. Assume responsibility to provide dental hygiene treatment according to the current accepted standard of care.
2. Accept and apply a professional code of ethics at all times.
3. Adhere to state and federal laws, recommendations and regulations in the provision of dental hygiene care.
4. Develop a sense of self as a member of a professional community who values lifelong learning.

### Comprehensive Care

Goal #3: Prepare competent, caring hygienists to provide comprehensive dental hygiene services to the local community.

***Objectives:***

1. Control pain and anxiety during treatment through the use of accepted clinical and behavioral techniques.
2. Prevent and manage medical emergencies.
3. Utilize methods to ensure the health and safety of the patient and the dental hygienist in the
4. delivery of dental hygiene care.
5. Provide specialized preventive and therapeutic treatment to assist the patient in achieving and maintaining oral health.

### Evidence-Based Decision Making

Goal #4: Prepare graduates to make evidence-based decisions by acquiring, analyzing and documenting information utilizing current scientific research.

***Objectives:***

1. Assume responsibility for dental hygiene actions and care based on accepted scientific theories

and research.

1. Communicate effectively with individuals and groups.
2. Accurately and completely document patient conditions and care provided.
3. Utilize critical thinking to solve problems.
4. Systematically collect, record, organize and summarize data on the medical, dental and social status of individuals and groups.
5. Analyze individual and group data.
6. Develop a dental hygiene diagnosis or community profile.
7. Collaborate with the patient and other health care professionals.
8. Use current scientific evidence to formulate a patient-centered comprehensive dental hygiene care plan.

### Self-Assessment

Goal #5***:*** Utilize self-assessment in a formative and summative process for continual quality improvement.

***Objectives:***

The Dental Hygiene Program will:

1. Develop dental hygienists who are able to assess the quality of patient services they provide.
2. Utilize formative and summative outcomes assessment for continual quality improvement.

The Dental Hygiene Student will:

1. Include self-assessment in personal and professional growth and in the quality of care provided.
2. Modify care as needed to meet the needs of the individual patient.
3. Assure a high quality of patient care, through the use of various assessment methods and techniques.
4. Utilize evaluation date and treatment outcomes to adapt or modify treatment.

### Health Promotion and Professional Service

Goal #6***:*** Develop dental hygienists who will provide community service and outreach and will value their responsibility to the community.

***Objectives:***

1. Promote the values of, and develop strategies to achieve, optimum health for self and others.
2. Seek to achieve patient and community wellness through collaboration with other agencies and health professionals.
3. Respond to the evolving oral health care needs of a racially and culturally diverse society by demonstrating a sense of commitment to the community.
4. Assess, plan, implement, and evaluate community-based oral health care programs including health promotion and disease prevention activities.
5. Participate in and support service activities and affiliations with organizations that advance the profession.

### Life-Long Learning and Scientific Activity

Goal #7***:*** Dental Hygiene graduates and faculty will value the profession through career growth and development and commitment to life-long learning.

***Objectives:***

Dental Hygiene graduates and faculty will:

1. Assume responsibility for evidence-based decision-making and life-long learning.
2. Participate in professional organizations and advance the profession through leadership and service activities.
3. Advance the science of dental hygiene practice through participation in scholarly and research activities.
	1. **Scope of Practice**

The **scope of practice** for a dental hygienist includes a range of preventive, educational, and therapeutic dental services. The specifics can vary by jurisdiction due to differing state or country regulations. Broadly, the scope of practice includes:

Preventive Care

1. Oral Prophylaxis (Teeth Cleaning): Removing plaque, tartar, and stains from teeth.
2. Periodontal Maintenance: Ongoing care for patients with periodontal disease.
3. Fluoride Treatments: Applying fluoride to strengthen enamel and prevent cavities.
4. Sealants: Placing protective coatings on the teeth to prevent decay.

Therapeutic Care

1. Scaling and Root Planing (Deep Cleaning): Treating gum disease by cleaning below the gum line.
2. Administering Local Infiltration Anesthesia: Dental hygienists can administer infiltration local anesthetics to manage patient comfort during procedures.

Educational Services

1. Patient Education: Teaching patients about oral hygiene practices such as proper brushing and flossing techniques.
2. Dietary Advising: Advising on diet and nutrition to promote oral health.
3. Smoking Cessation Support: Educating on the effects of tobacco use on oral health.

Diagnostic and Screening Duties

1. Dental Charting: Documenting the condition of the teeth and gums.
2. Oral Health Screenings: Checking for signs of oral diseases, including oral cancer.
3. Radiographs (X-Rays): Taking and processing dental x-rays.
	1. [Employment Opportunities – Refer to the Dallas College webpage.](https://www.dallascollege.edu/cd/credit/dental-hygiene/pages/career-info.aspx)

Dental hygienist have a variety of employment opportunities. The most common employment opportunities for dental hygienists in Texas are:

1. Private Dental Practices

This is the most common workplace for dental hygienists in Texas. They typically work under the supervision of a licensed dentist to provide preventive and therapeutic dental care to patients.

* General Dentistry Offices: Perform cleanings, oral health education, and basic periodontal care.
* Specialty Dental Practices:
	+ Periodontics: Focus on gum disease treatment and maintenance.
	+ Pediatrics: Work with children to educate and promote oral health.
	+ Orthodontics: Provide oral hygiene care for patients with braces or other orthodontic devices.

2. Public Health and Community Clinics

Dental hygienists can work in public health programs aimed at improving access to dental care for underserved communities.

* Community Health Centers: Provide preventive dental care to low-income or uninsured individuals.
* School-Based Programs: Work in schools to provide screenings, fluoride treatments, and oral health education for children.
* Mobile Dental Clinics: Travel to different locations, such as rural or underserved areas, to offer dental hygiene services.
* Government Health Agencies: Work with programs like Medicaid or public health initiatives.

3. Educational Institutions

Dental hygienists can work in academic settings, such as dental hygiene schools, teaching the next generation of professionals.

* Teaching Faculty: Teach dental hygiene courses or clinical skills at universities, colleges, or technical schools.
* Program Coordinators: Manage or develop dental hygiene programs.
* Research Assistants: Participate in dental research projects related to oral health and hygiene.

4. Corporate Dentistry

Hygienists may find opportunities in dental service organizations (DSOs) or corporate dental offices.

* Work in group practices where multiple dentists and hygienists operate under a corporate structure.
* May involve advanced technologies and state-of-the-art equipment.

5. Public Health and Government Positions

Hygienists can work in government-funded dental programs, public schools, or military services.

* State Health Departments: Provide preventive care and education in public health programs.
* Veterans Affairs Clinics: Work with veterans to provide dental hygiene services.
* Military Bases: Assist in providing oral care to military personnel and their families.

6. Non-Traditional and Emerging Opportunities

Dental hygienists can explore roles outside of clinical care, including:

* Dental Sales Representatives: Work with companies selling dental hygiene equipment, materials, and technologies.
* Product Research and Development: Test and provide feedback on new oral health products.
* Consulting Services: Help dental practices improve patient care and operational efficiency.
* Healthcare Administration: Manage dental programs or offices.
* Insurance Companies: Serve as dental claims reviewers or consultants.

7. Independent Practice in Specific Settings

While dental hygienists in Texas cannot operate fully independent practices, they may work in certain public health settings without a dentist present, as long as services are provided under general supervision.

* Examples: Schools, nursing homes, community centers, or Head Start programs.

8. Telehealth Opportunities

With the growth of teledentistry, hygienists can assist dentists remotely by:

* Conducting preliminary oral health assessments.
* Educating patients virtually on oral hygiene practices.

9. Continuing Education and Professional Speaking

Some dental hygienists choose to pursue careers as continuing education providers or speakers.

* CE Course Instructors: Create and teach courses for other dental hygienists.
* Public Speaking: Represent professional organizations or advocate for dental health.
	1. **Dental Hygiene Essential Skills and Abilities**

All students in the dental hygiene program must be able to perform these essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations.

Visual Requirements

* Normal or corrected visual acuity sufficient for observation of oral conditions and for patient assessment
* High level of hand-eye coordination necessary for extremely fine motor control
* Ability to visually differentiate the color spectrum for tissue conditions and changes
* Ability to discern subtle changes in radiographic density
* Ability to clearly see the patient's teeth from a 20-inch distance

Auditory Requirements

* Correctable hearing in at least one ear and ability to develop reasonable skills of percussion and auscultation

Motor Skills

* Gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care
* Possession of adequate sensory perception in hands and fingers in order to detect and remove tooth deposits
* Full manual dexterity including the functioning of both arms, both wrists, both hands and all fingers.
* Tactile ability sufficient for the use of small instruments with control sufficient for instrumentation
* Ability to manipulate clinical and laboratory instruments and syringes with sufficient fine motor control to operate in a safe manner to avoid patient injury

Physical Strength and Endurance

* Motor skills sufficient to render clinical dental hygiene treatment
* Physical strength to move themselves (by walker, cane or crutches if necessary) to a position enabling them to provide dental care
* Physical strength to assist a patient in transferring themselves to and from a dental chair
* Physical strength needed to perform CPR for an extended period of time
* Ability to remain continuously on task for several hours while sitting, standing or moving

Communication Skills

* Abilities sufficient for effective interaction with others in spoken and written English
* Ability to accurately transfer gathered data into a patient record
* Ability to read and understand technical and professional materials
* Ability to demonstrate sensitivity, confidentiality and respect when speaking with patients, peers, faculty and staff

Intellectual, Conceptual and Cognitive Skills

* Ability to distinguish normal from abnormal
* Ability to comprehend, reason, integrate, analyze, evaluate and problem solve
* Ability to demonstrate critical thinking skills
* Ability to work independently
* Ability to comprehend three-dimensional relationships

Professional Attitude and Demeanor

* Ability to present professional appearance
* Ability to implement measures to maintain own physical and mental health and emotional stability
* Emotional and mental health necessary to effectively apply knowledge and exercise appropriate judgment
* Ability to demonstrate flexibility and adaptability
* Ability to practice honest and ethical behavior and accountability
* Ability to self-evaluate
* Ability to demonstrate respect for individuals of diverse ethnic backgrounds, religion and/or sexual orientation

If a candidate does not feel able to meet all the essential skills and abilities above, please contact [Dallas College Accessibility Services.](https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/accessibility-services/pages/default.aspx)

* + 1. Forms Required for Application to the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program



**Dental Hygiene Program Application Form**

Fill in each statement in typed format. Sign and date the bottom in handwritten format.

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address (number, street, city, state, zip): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (cell or home, include zip code): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dallas College ID (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

List of all high schools attended in order of most recent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

List of all college’s attended in order of most recent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant’s Signature            Date



**Students’ Responsibility Form**

Review and **initial** each statement indicting you have read and agree to each responsibility and sign at the bottom.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I testify that information included in this packet is truthful and accurate. I acknowledge any information found to be incorrect or dishonest will exclude my eligibility from participating in the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I understand submitting incomplete information in my application packet will disqualify my entire application.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I acknowledge that Dallas College reserves the right to make changes to its application process and that completion of the application does not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between any applicant, student, or faculty member at Dallas College.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I accept the responsibility of informing the admissions office of any change in my status, address, telephone number, or other information that would affect my application status.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I am aware that I will be required to undergo a criminal background check and periodic drug screening once accepted into the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program and that my continuation in the program is conditional based on those results.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  I have thoroughly read the information packet and am informed of the criteria and procedures for selection, goals of the program, curricular content, course transferability, scope of practice, the employment opportunities for dental hygienists and the policies on bloodborne and infectious diseases.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant’s Signature            Date



**Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program Professional Reference Form**

The applicant is requesting a professional reference for application to the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program. We appreciate you taking time to complete the questionnaire.

This form must be completed, signed, and e-mailed directly by the recommender to dhappointments@DallasCollege.edu by February 27, 2026. Please include REFERENCE FORM in the subject line.

Applicant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity do you know the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Educator \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Other, please explain)

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Rating Scale**
5 - Excellent | 4 - Above Average | 3 - Meets Expectations | 2 - Below Average | 1 - Poor

**1. Communication and Teamwork**

* **Criteria:**
	+ Clear, concise, and professional communication skills (verbal and written).
	+ Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with interdisciplinary teams.
	+ Conflict resolution and adaptability in team settings.

| **Score** | **Description (Circle the best response)** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Outstanding communication and teamwork; inspires collaboration. |
| 4 | Strong communication and teamwork; minor areas for improvement. |
| 3 | Adequate communication and teamwork; meets basic standards. |
| 2 | Communication or teamwork issues occasionally observed. |
| 1 | Significant challenges with communication or collaboration. |
|  | Unable to access |

**2. Dependability/Attendance**

* **Criteria:**
	+ History of strong attendance and being on time.
	+ Flexible and dependable during unexpected situations.
	+ Dependability/attendance had a positive impact on the team.
	+ Consistent follow through on commitments or assignments
	+ Self-motivated.

| **Score** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Exceptional dependability/attendance, consistently goes above and beyond. |
| 4 | Strong dependability/attendance; occasionally exceeds expectations. |
| 3 | Satisfactory dependability/attendance; meets standard expectations. |
| 2 | Inconsistent dependability/attendance, or minimal evidence of dependability. |
| 1 | Poor dependability/attendance; lacks urgency to be on time. |
|  | Unable to access.  |
| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | Contin **Continue to the next page.** |
|  | c |

**3. Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving (Circle the best response)**

* **Criteria:**
	+ Ability to assess situations and make sound decisions.
	+ Demonstrated critical thinking and innovation in problem-solving.
	+ Effective handling of complex or unexpected challenges.
	+ Well-organized

| **Score** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Exceptional critical thinking; anticipates and resolves challenges proactively. |
| 4 | Strong problem-solving skills; effective in most situations. |
| 3 | Satisfactory decision-making and problem-solving abilities. |
| 2 | Limited critical thinking; struggles with complex challenges. |
| 1 | Poor problem-solving skills; makes frequent errors in judgment. |
|  | Unable to access. |

**4. Commitment to Professionalism and Ethics**

* **Criteria:**
	+ Adherence to ethical standards and professional behavior.
	+ Demonstrates integrity, accountability, and reliability.
	+ Self-motivated
	+ Consistently displays neatness and grooming

| **Score** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Exemplifies professionalism and ethics; a role model for others. |
| 4 | Strong ethical standards and professionalism; room for growth. |
| 3 | Meets professional and ethical expectations consistently. |
| 2 | Inconsistent professionalism or ethical adherence. |
| 1 | Lacks professionalism or has demonstrated unethical behavior. |
|  | Unable to access |

Would you hire, rehire, or recommend this person for a healthcare position? Yes No Maybe

Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else you think we should know about the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Business/Company Institution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I attest that I am an educator or employer of the applicant and am not a family member or friend.



**Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program Professional Reference Form**

The applicant is requesting a professional reference for application to the Dallas College Dental Hygiene Program. We appreciate you taking time to complete the questionnaire.

This form must be completed, signed and e-mailed by the recommender to dhappointments@DallasCollege.edu by **February 27,** 2026. Please include REFERENCE FORM in the subject line.

Your reference

Applicant’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity do you know the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Educator \_\_\_\_\_\_ (Other, please explain)

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Rating Scale**
5 - Excellent | 4 - Above Average | 3 - Meets Expectations | 2 - Below Average | 1 - Poor

**1. Communication and Teamwork**

* **Criteria:**
	+ Clear, concise, and professional communication skills (verbal and written).
	+ Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with interdisciplinary teams.
	+ Conflict resolution and adaptability in team settings.

| **Score** | **Description (Circle the best response)** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Outstanding communication and teamwork; inspires collaboration. |
| 4 | Strong communication and teamwork; minor areas for improvement. |
| 3 | Adequate communication and teamwork; meets basic standards. |
| 2 | Communication or teamwork issues occasionally observed. |
| 1 | Significant challenges with communication or collaboration. |
|  | Unable to access |

**2. Dependability/Attendance**

* **Criteria:**
	+ History of strong attendance and being on time.
	+ Flexible and dependable during unexpected situations.
	+ Dependability/attendance had a positive impact on the team.
	+ Consistent follow through on commitments or assignments
	+ Self-motivated.

| **Score** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Exceptional dependability/attendance, consistently goes above and beyond. |
| 4 | Strong dependability/attendance; occasionally exceeds expectations. |
| 3 | Satisfactory dependability/attendance; meets standard expectations. |
| 2 | Inconsistent dependability/attendance, or minimal evidence of dependability. |
| 1 | Poor dependability/attendance; lacks urgency to be on time. |
|  | Unable to access.  |
| \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | Contin **Continue to the next page** |
|  | c |

**3. Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving (Circle the best response)**

* **Criteria:**
	+ Ability to assess situations and make sound decisions.
	+ Demonstrated critical thinking and innovation in problem-solving.
	+ Effective handling of complex or unexpected challenges.
	+ Well-organized

| **Score** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Exceptional critical thinking; anticipates and resolves challenges proactively. |
| 4 | Strong problem-solving skills; effective in most situations. |
| 3 | Satisfactory decision-making and problem-solving abilities. |
| 2 | Limited critical thinking; struggles with complex challenges. |
| 1 | Poor problem-solving skills; makes frequent errors in judgment. |
|  | Unable to access. |

**4. Commitment to Professionalism and Ethics**

* **Criteria:**
	+ Adherence to ethical standards and professional behavior.
	+ Demonstrates integrity, accountability, and reliability.
	+ Self-motivated
	+ Consistently displays neatness and grooming

| **Score** | **Description** |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | Exemplifies professionalism and ethics; a role model for others. |
| 4 | Strong ethical standards and professionalism; room for growth. |
| 3 | Meets professional and ethical expectations consistently. |
| 2 | Inconsistent professionalism or ethical adherence. |
| 1 | Lacks professionalism or has demonstrated unethical behavior. |
|  | Unable to access |

Would you hire, rehire, or recommend this person for a healthcare position? Yes No Maybe

Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else you think we should know about the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Business/Company Institution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I attest that I am an educator or employer of the applicant and am not a family member or friend.

## School of Health Sciences Dallas College

## **Dental and Dental Assistant Point Considerations Form (if applicable)**

**This form must be submitted with your application packet for consideration for admission points.**

**¨ I have completed dental school in a foreign country.**

¨ You must attach a copy of your College Transcript or License.

**¨ I have Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) Certification with over 1200 or more hours of current dental assistant experience within the past 24 months.**

¨ You must attach a copy of your DANB CDA certificate.

¨ You must attach the employer verification form demonstrate your 1200 hours.

**¨ I am a Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) with 1200 or more hours of current dental assistant experience within the past 24 months.**

 ¨ You must provide your RDA # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and State of issue: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

¨ You must use the employer verification form to demonstrate your 1200 hours.

**¨ I completed the Dallas College Dental Assistant Program on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (date).

¨ You must attach a copy of your Continuing Education completion certificate.

 ¨ Provide your Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) RDA # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.



**DENTAL ASSISTANT EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATON**

**The work hours in a dental office must equal to a minimum of 1200 hours of current experience within the last 24 months. Use additional forms if necessary.**

**Declaration of certifying dentist:**

Name of Certifying Licensed Dentist:

Street Address of Dental Office:

City/State/Zip:

Office Phone: Alt. Phone:

I declare that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was employed by me as a dental

assistant, working \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hours per week from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 MM/DD/YYYY MM/DD/YYYY

**I declare under penalty of perjury that the above information is true and correct.**

Signature of Certifying Dentist Date

State in Which Dentist is Licensed \_\_\_­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dentist License #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## School of Health Sciences Dallas College

## Physical Examination Form

**PHYSICAL EXAM FORM**

**You must use this physical exam form. The form must be completed by a physician or nurse practitioner.**

**Applicant Full Name** **Date of Birth**

**Email Address** **Student ID #**

**Height** **Weight**  **Temp** **Blood** **Pressure** **Sex**

**Vision** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Glasses** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Contact** **Lenses** R \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**History: Include any significant information regarding previous medical and surgical conditions and use of alcohol and/or drugs.**

**General Appearance:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Normal | Check each item in appropriate column | Abnormal | Describe every abnormality in detail (attach additional sheet if necessary). |
|  | Eyes-ears-nose-throat |  |  |
|  | Mouth-teeth-neck |  |  |
|  | Thyroid |  |  |
|  | Heart and Vascular |  |  |
|  | Lungs |  |  |
|  | Abdomen and Viscera |  |  |
|  | Hernia |  |  |
|  | Scars |  |  |
|  | Back, vertebrae |  |  |
|  | Extremities |  |  |
|  | Skin |  |  |
|  | Neurological |  |  |

**Physician Recommendation**

Based upon your physical examination, is the applicant free of any restrictions in his/her ability Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

to turn and/or move heavy objects? If “no,” please describe:

If the applicant able to see and hear adequately to practice as a health care professional? Yes No

If “no,” please explain:

Is the applicant free of any pathological conditions either physical or mental that would interfere Yes No

With the practice of a health care profession? If “no,” please describe:

**PHYSICIAN OR NURSE PRACTITIONER SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED FOR THIS FORM TO BE ACCEPTED:**

Signature of Physician or Nurse Practitioner Date

Printed Name of Physician or Nurse Practitioner

Phone Number ( )

Address of Physician or Nurse Practitioner: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PHYSICAL EXAM FORM – Page 2**

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DOB:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, TX \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (C) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Health Questionnaire: (To be completed by applicant):**

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have any physical limitations that would affect your ability to lift, turn or transfer patients?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have any limitations in use of your senses, such as in sight or

 hearing, which would limit your ability to practice a health profession?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_ No: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have any other condition that might interfere with your ability to

 practice in the health professions?

If you answered ‘Yes’ to any of the above, please explain your limitations in detail:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

List any medications you take on a regular basis or on a frequent basis during the past twelve months:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

History: Include any significant information regarding previous medical, surgical, psychiatric conditions and use of alcohol and/or drugs.:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

* 1. Can I still apply if I do not have all the immunizations complete and verified by SurPath by the applicant deadline date?

An applicant that has not met all immunization requirements will not be considered. The successful candidate should begin as soon as possible to complete all immunizations.

* 1. I downloaded all my immunizations documents in SurPath but some are not in compliance? What do I do?

Read the Notes section by the immunization or category and see if there is a reason given for not being in compliance. Re-read the [School of Health Sciences Immunization](https://www.dallascollege.edu/schools/health-sciences/immunizations/) requirements to determine what area of compliance you are not meeting and make the necessary corrections prior to the applicant deadline date.

* 1. Can I complete an exception waiver for immunizations?

There is no exemption for students enrolled in a health-related program. See the [SECTION 97.64 of the Texas Administrative Code (elaws.us)](http://txrules.elaws.us/rule/title25_chapter97_sec.97.64#:~:text=HEALTH%20SERVICES%2C%20Texas%20Administrative%20Code%20SECTION%2097.64.%20Required,and%20Veterinary%20Courses%20in%20Institutions%20of%20Higher%20Education) for more information.

* 1. What is the schedule?

The schedule changes each semester; however, you should plan on attending class Monday – Thursday from 7:30 to 5:30. Friday classes may also be held. For every hour you are in class, you should spend an additional 1-2 hours studying. For most semesters, the student contact load is 384 – 496 contact hours per semester. With adequate time to study, the student will be expected to devote at least twice this amount of time to the dental hygiene program.

* 1. Can I work and go to school?

The dental hygiene curriculum is very demanding, and you are in classes most of the day. You will need time to study, prepare for class, recruit and schedule patients, and participate in student activities. The main reason students are not successful in the program is due to insufficient time spent on dental hygiene education. The interested applicant should consider financial aid, loans, work-study opportunities, and/or scholarships. You are preparing for a very rewarding health care career, and you need to fully invest in your education.

* 1. My dentist or friend said they can lend me supplies and clinical equipment. Can I use these items and not purchase the required clinical kit and supplies?

In the clinic setting students are required to all have the same equipment and supplies. Learning on used instruments or poorly working or outdated equipment is not in the best interest of the student. The dental supply vendor provides supplies at cost or slightly above cost to assist students in purchasing the required items.

* 1. I submitted all my immunization records, is that all I need to do?

No. You need to check that all your immunizations have been verified by SurPath. You also need to submit all other documentation with your application to include Physical Exam, Two Reference Forms, etc.

* 1. If I am selected, what will happen if I cannot attend the in-person mandatory orientation session?

The orientation is mandatory. You will be given your list of supplies to order, directions on how to order, a tour of facilities, a chance to meet other students, and ask any questions you may have.

* 1. How will the Dental Hygiene Program get my ATDH results?

ATDH results will be electronically sent to the program ONLY if you designated Dallas College to get a copy of the results during the ATDH registration. ATDH scores will be released to the College within 3-4 weeks and are accepted for two years.

 Have Additional Questions? Contact the individuals below for assistance:

 Pathway Specialist

 ASKSOHS@DallasCollege.edu

Success Coach

Call 972-669-6400, email SuccessCoach@DallasCollege.edu

or visit <https://www.dallascollege.edu/resources/success-coaching/pages/default.aspx>