

Dental Hygiene



*This is the Dental Hygiene
section of the
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Twin Cities campus.*

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Dental Hygiene

General Information

The School of Dentistry's mission is to educate dental and dental hygiene professionals; discover new knowledge, technology, and skills; and apply those discoveries to the dental and dental hygiene professions and the communities that they serve.

The School of Dentistry celebrated its centennial in 1988. In its long history, the school has developed an international reputation for education, research, and service. The School of Dentistry's professional program in dental hygiene, established in 1919, has an illustrious record of accomplishment and innovation and is one of the country's premiere programs. It is fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and is the only dental hygiene program in Minnesota that grants a baccalaureate degree and is affiliated with a school of dentistry.

Dental hygienists are preventive oral health professionals who have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program in an institution of higher education and are licensed by states to practice dental hygiene. They provide educational, clinical, research, administrative, consumer advocacy, change agent, and therapeutic services supporting total health through the promotion of optimal oral health.

Dental hygienists practice in settings such as private dental offices and clinics; federal, state, and local health departments or associated institutions; hospitals and long-term care facilities; school districts or departments of education; educational programs for dental, dental hygiene, and dental assisting students; private business or industry; correctional facilities; private and public centers for pediatric, geriatric, and other groups or individuals with special needs; and health maintenance organizations.

The dental hygiene curriculum seeks to train students in a variety of dental hygiene roles and health care settings.

The program emphasizes a strong commitment to community outreach and service, and to intellectual development and critical thinking. Graduates complete a baccalaureate degree that blends a solid dental hygiene education with the biological, behavioral, and social sciences, and the liberal arts.

The Division of Dental Hygiene also offers a baccalaureate degree completion program for graduates of accredited associate degree programs in dental hygiene who wish to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Admission

The Division of Dental Hygiene sets its standards and requirements for admission. A strong interest in the natural sciences, and the social and behavioral sciences is required. The division recommends that applicants have a genuine interest in human services and promoting public health and welfare.

The dental hygiene curriculum consists of the preprofessional program in CLA or its equivalent at another regionally accredited institution and the professional program in the School of Dentistry, Division of Dental Hygiene.

Admission to the preprofessional program requires the student to meet the admissions criteria of individual colleges within the University and is subject to CLA's academic regulations or their equivalent at another institution. Admission to the preprofessional program does not guarantee admission to the professional program.

Admission to the professional program is competitive and occurs once a year for fall semester entry. Applications are accepted from December 1 of the desired year of entry until February 1. Applications received after the deadline are considered for the alternate list only.

Requirements for application include: high school graduate; ACT, PSAT, or SAT scores; transcripts of all high school and college courses; minimum 2.00 GPA (cumulative, preprofessional, and science coursework); and evidence of plans for completion of specified preprofessional coursework before proposed entry. Documentation indicating completion of all required preprofessional courses must be submitted to the Division of Dental Hygiene by August 15 of year of proposed entry.

Applicants must complete the University of Minnesota's high school preparation requirements prior to entry into the professional program. See Freshman Admission in the General Information section of this catalog.

The University's liberal education requirements must be completed prior to graduation from the program. If not completed prior to entry into the program, these requirements must be completed during summers while enrolled in the program.

Students enrolled at the University apply by submitting an *Application for Change of College* form to the University's Office of Admissions. Students attending other regionally accredited colleges and universities apply by submitting the *Application for Undergraduate Admission* at <<http://admissions.tc.umn.edu>> on the Web or from the Office of Admissions. Application forms and change of college forms are available from the Office of Admissions, University of Minnesota, 240 Williamson Hall, 231 Pillsbury Drive S. E., Minneapolis, MN 55455, or call 612-625-2008.

The Division of Dental Hygiene requires all applicants who are not native speakers of English to submit written evidence of either a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score or a Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) score. A TOEFL score of at least 550 (213 on the computer-based exam) or a MELAB score of at least 80 is required. The TOEFL/MELAB must be administered within two years before the date of application to the Division of Dental Hygiene.

To register for the TOEFL, contact the agency that handles TOEFL registration in your country or write to the Educational Testing Service (Box 899, Princeton, NJ 08541) at least 10 weeks before any scheduled test date. If you live in the Twin Cities area, you may register for the MELAB with the Minnesota English Center, 320 16th Avenue S.E., University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

One hundred percent of the 2001 dental hygiene graduates found employment as dental hygienists within two weeks of graduation.

The dental hygiene program is the only program in Minnesota that grants a baccalaureate degree and is affiliated with a school of dentistry.

55455, or call 612-624-1503. To register for the MELAB outside the Twin Cities area, contact the English Language Institute, Testing and Certification Division, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, or call 313-764-2416.

Students admitted to the Division of Dental Hygiene and who require accommodation for a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services at 612-626-7379 before the beginning of the semester of entry into the program.

Degrees

The School of Dentistry Division of Dental Hygiene offers two program tracks leading to a bachelor of science degree in dental hygiene.

The B.S. degree program track is designed for entry-level students; the B.S. degree-completion program track is tailored to students who have completed an associate degree program in dental hygiene at a regionally accredited institution and who want to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Policies

Students who have been admitted to the program must submit documentation of immunizations required by the University and are strongly encouraged to have completed a physical assessment examination. Students must provide evidence of completion of a Hepatitis B vaccination during the first semester in the program.

The American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation requires that all students be able to perform basic life support procedures, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and manage other medical emergencies. In compliance with this standard, students are required to take an American Heart Association Basic Life Support Training Course provided by the University of Minnesota Life Support Program and scheduled during the sophomore and senior year orientation sessions.

Applicants to the program need to be aware of the following Minnesota Dental Practice Act HIV and HbV Prevention Policy that affects applicants/students who are HIV and/or HbV positive. The Practice Act stipulates that:

- A licensed dental hygienist who is diagnosed as infected with HIV and/or HbV must report that information to the Commissioner of Health promptly and as soon as medically necessary for disease control purposes, but no later than 30 days after learning of the diagnosis or 30 days after becoming licensed in the state.

- The Minnesota Board of Dentistry may refuse to grant a license or may impose disciplinary or restrictive action against an HIV/HbV infected dental hygienist who fails to comply with any of the requirements of the Board or with any monitoring or reporting requirement.
- After receiving a report that a regulated person is infected with HIV and/or HbV, the Board of Dentistry or the Commissioner of health shall establish a monitoring plan for the infected dental hygienist. This plan may address the scope of practice of the individual, required submission of reports and other provisions that the Board deems reasonable.

Students in the professional program are subject to the regulations established by the Division of Dental Hygiene and must maintain satisfactory academic process.

Satisfactory performance is considered to be not only a passing level in scientific and clinical skills together with theoretical knowledge, but also ethical integrity and honesty.

Students not achieving satisfactory progress may be placed on scholastic probation upon recommendation of the Student Scholastic Standing Committee. Students' work is considered unsatisfactory when they earn less than a C- grade average (1.67 grade points for each credit) for any course in a given year or semester. If students achieve an unsatisfactory grade in a course, remedial work in the course may be provided, if possible; if not, students must repeat the course the next time it is offered. Unsatisfactory grades in two or more courses are sufficient basis for dismissal.

Dental hygiene students must undergo a criminal background study (Criminal Background Study Under State Law, Minnesota Vulnerable Adult Act, as amended 1995 and 1996), in order to have direct contact with patients and residents in hospitals, extended care facilities, and other health care facilities licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health. Failure to pass this background study is grounds for dismissal from the program.

Graduation Requirements

The bachelor's degree will be recommended for students who have been formally admitted to the entry-level or the degree-completion program, who earn a minimum GPA of 2.00, and have completed all of the required work and the total number of credits specified for the curriculum.

Students with a minimum GPA of 3.75 in upper division courses are granted their degree "with distinction." Students with a minimum GPA of 3.90 in upper division courses are granted their degree "with high distinction."

Licensure and Placement

Graduates are eligible for licensure after successfully completing a written National Board Dental Hygiene Examination and a clinical examination, both of which are given on the University's Minneapolis campus. The licensed dental hygienist practices in accordance with the requirements of individual state dental practice acts. In many states, a dental hygienist must participate in continuing education courses for license renewal.

The School of Dentistry provides placement assistance to dental hygiene graduates through the Minnesota Dental Placement Service at 612-626-0171.

Advising

The Division of Dental Hygiene offers advising services to students currently enrolled or interested in dental hygiene. Group advising sessions are held the first Tuesday of each month, on an appointment basis. To schedule an appointment with a dental hygiene academic adviser, call 612-625-9121 or write 9-436



Malcolm Moos Health Sciences Tower,
515 Delaware Street S. E., Minneapolis, MN 55455; fax
612-625-1605, or e-mail thomp034@umn.edu.

The Division of Dental Hygiene provides a student support program to enhance the success of its students. Student performance is monitored and academic assistance is provided through tutoring and consultation. Counseling and advising are available through the division, University Counseling & Consulting Services, and faculty of the student's choosing.

Special Learning Opportunities and Resources

Community Outreach Clinics—Dental hygiene students participate in a number of off-campus Twin Cities and out-state Minnesota week-long community clinics providing dental hygiene care to populations who typically do not have sufficient access to dental care.

Jamaica Dental Mission—This program was initiated in 1986 in response to a report that cited Jamaicans as having one of the highest rates of dental caries and periodontal diseases in the world due to a diet very high in sugar, an unfluoridated water supply, and a severe shortage of dental and dental hygiene professionals.

Each year, selected students raise funds to cover the expense of sending faculty, dental hygiene and dental students, and supplies to the island to educate and treat patients seeking care. A wide range of preventive and restorative care is provided.

While conditions are primitive, this ten-day mission provides students with some unique life and real-world experiences.

Migradent—Each year, about 5,000 children accompany 20,000 seasonal agricultural workers who come to Minnesota during the summer months. The migratory nature of this population makes access to dental services extremely difficult.

In 1996, Migradent '96 was initiated to bring dental care to migrant children in western Minnesota. These children have dental caries rates nearly three times that of mainstream American children. Migradent continues as a summer project for selected dental hygiene and dental students, faculty, and staff providing diagnostic, preventive, and restorative services for several hundred children.

Summer Research Fellowships—The School of Dentistry Summer Research Fellowship Program provides research experiences for exceptional dental hygiene and dental students with an interest in research careers and postgraduate research training.

Sophomore and junior dental hygiene students are invited to apply for research fellowship positions in the spring of each year. If selected, they are assigned to work with a faculty mentor for the summer. During a ten-week period, students collect and analyze data, undertake a structured research project, and prepare a formal report. Research fellows attend a weekly research training seminar where they learn research methods. They also evaluate selected journal articles and review abstracts and oral presentations of former trainees. About 20 students receive stipends each summer.

Continuing Dental Hygiene Education—Students are encouraged to participate in selected continuing education courses during their senior year on a space-available basis. These courses expose seniors to a broad scope of information and technology from a variety of local and national speakers. Students gain by selecting their own educational experiences and interacting with practicing dental hygienists and dentists.

Union Gospel Mission—Two evenings each week, School of Dentistry dental hygiene and dental student and staff volunteers provide dental hygiene and dental care for the lower-income and homeless population in St. Paul's inner city.

International Programs

Dental hygiene encourages students to participate in an international study experience as part of their degree program. See Study Abroad in the General Information section of this catalog.

Scholarships and Awards

Several scholarships and awards are presented annually by division faculty to selected dental hygiene students. For more information, call 612-625-9121.

Student Organizations

School of Dentistry Student Council—Each year dental hygiene and dental students elect the School of Dentistry Council of Students, which discusses matters of mutual interest with faculty advisers and promotes many projects and activities.

Student Affairs Committee—This committee is composed of dental hygiene and dental students and faculty members and is responsible for students' concerns such as membership in local and national organizations, ethics, counseling, tutorial assistance, questions on educational programs, financial aid, publications, housing, and alumni relations.

Student American Dental Hygienists' Association—Dental hygiene students participate in the student chapter of the national association, which represents concerns and issues related to the dental hygiene profession. Membership fees entitle students to various journals and special services.

Council for Health Interdisciplinary Participation (CHIP)—Dental hygiene students are encouraged to participate in the activities of the Academic Health Center CHIP.

Directory

(area code 612)

Administrative Offices

Office of the Director

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School of Dentistry Web Page

[<www.dentistry.umn.edu>](http://www.dentistry.umn.edu)

Initiated in 1919,
the dental hygiene
program at the
University of
Minnesota was the
fourth in the
nation.

Dental Hygiene

Degree Program

Dental Hygiene

Department of Preventive Sciences

B.S.

Two program tracks are available, both leading to a B.S. degree in dental hygiene:

- B.S. degree program, for entry-level students
- B.S. degree-completion program, for students who have completed an associate degree program in dental hygiene at a regionally accredited institution and who want to earn a baccalaureate degree

The program blends a solid dental hygiene education with study of the biological, behavioral, and social sciences, and the liberal arts.

Degree Requirements

Students must complete at least 120 credits to graduate.

The two program tracks include two separate sets of major credit requirements, as follows:

- Students in the B.S. degree program for entry-level students must complete at least 85 credits in the major.
- Students in the B.S. degree-completion program must complete at least 30 credits in the major. Students must also complete at least 50 upper division credits. Based on petition and determined by the Dental Hygiene Curriculum Committee, up to 20 credits from the associate degree program may be accepted as upper division credits.

Students in this program must complete at least 30 semester credits in residency at the University of Minnesota.

B.S. Degree Program

Required Courses

Students in the B.S. degree program for entry-level students must complete the following requirements:

- Preprofessional program in CLA or its equivalent at some other regionally accredited institution (32 cr)
Requirements include courses in anatomy, biology, chemistry, composition, nutrition, psychology, sociology, speech, and statistics. Lists of specific courses are available from the School of Dentistry's Division of Dental Hygiene.
- Liberal education requirements for a B.S. degree (20-30 cr)
Students may fulfill some of the University's liberal education requirements with courses in the preprofessional or professional programs.
- Professional program in the School of Dentistry's Division of Dental Hygiene (85 cr), including the following courses:

DH 2111—Dental Anatomy
DH 2121—The Dental Hygiene Care Process: Clinical Application I
DH 2132—Head and Neck Anatomy
DH 2211—Oral Histology and Embryology
DH 2212—Dental Hygienist-Patient Relationship
DH 2221—Periodontology
DH 2222—The Dental Hygiene Care Process: Clinical Application II
DH 2231—Cariology
DH 2235—Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
DH 3111—Biomaterials for the Dental Hygienist
DH 3112—General and Oral Pathology
DH 3123—The Dental Hygiene Care Process: Clinical Application III
DH 3126—Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology: Clinic I
DH 3131—Periodontology I Lecture

DH 3132—Applied Nutrition in Dental Hygiene Care
DH 3133—Pharmacology
DH 3134—Dental Hygiene Care for Special Needs Patients: I
DH 3135—Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology: Theory, Principles and Radiographic Analysis
DH 3221—Local Anesthesia and Pain Management
DH 3224W—The Dental Hygiene Care Process: Clinical Application IV
DH 3227—Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology: Clinic II
DH 3231W—Research Methods in Dental Hygiene
DH 3235—Dental Hygiene Care for Special Needs Patients: II
DH 4125W—The Dental Hygiene Care Process: Clinical Application V
DH 4128—Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology: Clinic III
DH 4131—Epidemiology, Prevention, Dental Public Health, and Community Outreach
DH 4132W—Ethics, Jurisprudence, and Principles of Practice
DH 4137—Patient Management IV (PCG)
DH 4226—The Dental Hygiene Care Process: Clinical Application VI
DH 4229—Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology: Clinic IV
DH 4231—Periodontology III Lecture
DH 4232—Community Outreach
DH 4233—Legislative, Social, Economic, and Practice Factors in Oral Health
DH 4238—Patient Management IV (PCG)
BioC 1001—Elementary Biochemistry
MicB 4001—Microorganisms and Disease
PubH 3001—Personal and Community Health
Phsl 3051—Human Physiology

Electives

DH 2191, 3191, and 4191—Independent Study
DH 4227 and 4228—Advance Dental Hygiene Clinical Experience I and II
DH 4250—Community Outreach

B.S. Degree Completion Program

Students in the B.S. degree-completion program must fulfill the following requirements:

- Associate degree program in dental hygiene at an accredited institution (about 60-74 semester credits)
- University liberal education requirements for a B.S. degree (20-30 cr)
- Electives approved by adviser, as needed to fulfill the 120-credit requirement
- Core dental hygiene curriculum (at least 30 cr), as follows:

DH 3131—Periodontology I Lecture
DH 3231W—Research Methods in Dental Hygiene
DH 4231—Periodontology III Lecture
DH 4292—Educational Philosophy and Program Planning
DH 4293—Directed Study
DH 4294—Directed Research
DH 4295—Information Technology
DH 4296—Special Topics
DH 4297—Topics in Interdisciplinary Health Care
DH 4298—Dental Hygiene Process of Care: Clinical Application
DH 4299—Selected Topics in Patient Education
DH 4300—Field/Practice Externship
Stat 1001—Introduction to the Ideas of Statistics