



**HALIFAX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM
ADMISSIONS PROCEDURES FOR FALL 2012
QUALIFICATION DEADLINE – FEBRUARY 1, 2012**

What is a Dental Hygienist?

A dental hygienist is a licensed preventative oral care professional that provides educational, clinical, and therapeutic services to the public. In order to become prepared to perform these services, the dental hygienist requires an extensive educational background. Most people first meet the dental hygienist in a private dental office where the hygienist performs many critical services that detect, prevent, and treat diseases of the mouth. Career paths for the dental hygienist include positions in clinical dentistry, administration, education, research, consumer advocacy, hospital dentistry, and public health.

What are the Responsibilities of a Licensed Dental Hygienist?

Dental Hygiene graduates from our program will be able to:

- Perform infection control procedures.
- Perform general and oral health assessments.
- Provide nutritional counseling and self-care programs to prevent disease.
- Examine head, neck, and oral regions for disease.
- Take and process radiographs and perform other diagnostic tests.
- Complete oral prophylaxis and other preventative services.
- Administer medications prescribed by a licensed dentist.
- Provide oral hygiene care instruction.
- Place and remove temporary fillings and periodontal dressings.
- Remove sutures.

What is the mission of the Dental Hygiene Program at Halifax Community College?

The mission of the Dental Hygiene Program is to facilitate the development of professional, ethical, and competent dental hygienists that exhibit the following:

- An awareness of their present and future roles and responsibilities within the profession and the community served.
- The knowledge and clinical skills necessary to provide comprehensive care to patients/clients.
- A commitment to lifelong learning and professional development.

The dental hygiene curriculum provides the dental hygiene student with the knowledge and skills to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate dental hygiene care for the individual and the community. The curriculum also trains the dental hygiene student to collaborate with the dentist, the patient, and other health professionals to provide comprehensive patient care. Graduates will receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree and will be eligible to take National and State/Regional Dental Hygiene Board Examinations.

MINIMUM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. **Submit a completed Halifax Community College Application** (on website: www.halifaxcc.edu) with transcripts from high schools and/or other colleges or universities that you have attended. On the application, indicate your chosen Program of Study by putting a check in the box beside Dental Hygiene A45260. Only official transcripts will be accepted by HCC in a sealed envelope. Transcripts for courses taken at HCC do not have to be requested.

2. **Take the ASSET placement test** or equivalent exam (COMPASS, ACCUPLACER). Placement test scores are valid for 2 years from date of testing (if continuously enrolled) and must be valid at point of entry (first day of class). Students without credit for college courses should call the Testing Coordinator at (252)536-7254 to schedule an appointment for testing.

Minimum ASSET Scores Required for the Dental Hygiene Program:

<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Minimum Score</u>	<u>Course Required If Minimum Score Not Met</u>
1. Writing and Reading	ASSET score 41 or take	ENG095/A
2. Numerical skills:	ASSET score 41 or take	MAT060
3. Elementary Algebra:	ASSET score 41 or take	MAT070

If placement tests have been taken at another community college, it is the student's responsibility to ensure their scores are submitted to Halifax Community College by the February 1 deadline.

3. **Have coursework evaluated** for transfer into the HCC Dental Hygiene Program. It is advantageous (but not required) to take General Education courses that are part of the Dental Hygiene Course Sequence prior to enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Program. The General Education courses marked with * listed below must have been taken no earlier than 5 years prior to enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Program.

General Education Courses:

*BIO 168	Anatomy and Physiology I	ENG 111	Expository Writing
*BIO 169	Anatomy and Physiology II	ENG 114	Professional Research/Reporting
*BIO 175	Microbiology	HUM	Humanities/Fine Arts electives
*CHM 130	Gen., Organic, & Biochemistry	CIS 113	Computer Basics
SOC 240	Social Psychology	ACA 118	College Study Skills

The possible transfer or substitution of General Education Courses must be evaluated by the Registrar's Office. Call (252) 536-7227 for information regarding transcript evaluation and credit transfer.

4. **Submit scores for the TEAS test.** This test is given only to those who meet all entry requirements and qualify by February 1, 2012; the test is given after the February 1 deadline. Applicants will be notified of testing date following deadline. Applicants must meet the minimum overall 62% score requirement on the TEAS Version V. There is a TEAS study guide in the campus bookstore. It is highly recommended you review the material prior to taking the test. The test takes approximately four hours to complete and consists of Reading, Math, Science, and English. All students are charged a \$35.00 fee to take the exam. Test scores are valid for two years and must be valid at point of entry (first day of class). Student may take the TEAS test once per calendar year. If a student tests more than once, only the FIRST score will be used for admissions.

5. **Evidence of an overall GPA of 2.5** at time of entry.

6. **Attend an Information Session. This meeting is required.**

7. **Submit one of the following documents** which will be supplied after application to Program

- A Dental Assisting Experience Documentation Form
- Dental Office Observation Form
- A Certificate of Current Enrollment in an ADA Accredited Dental Assisting Program Form
- Documentation of prior enrollment in an ADA Accredited Dental Hygiene Program

Application Checklist

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all requirements are met by February 1, 2012. Check off each step as the requirement is met and keep this form for your records.

Have you completed and sent the following to the HCC Admissions Office?

- Halifax Community College Application
 Copy of signed Social Security Card
 Official transcripts from post-secondary institutions (colleges and universities)
 Official transcript from high school(s) or official GED scores
 Scores for the ASSET placement test or course completion
 Scores for the TEAS test (minimum Adjusted Individual Total Score 62%)
 One of the following:
 1. Dental Office Observation Form
 2. Dental Assisting Experience Documentation Form
 3. Certificate of Current Enrollment in an ADA Accredited Dental Assisting Program Information Session (Date attended _____)
 Allied Health Program Application (to be received at Information Session)

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM SEMESTER CURRICULUM GUIDE

Entry Requirements (must be completed by February 1, 2012)

ENG095/A _____ (All placement scores are valid for 2 years from date of testing (if
 MAT060 _____ continuously enrolled; must be valid at point of entry [first day of
 class]) MAT070 _____
 Information Session _____
 Observation/Work Experience _____

General Education Courses	Credit	Taken/Grade
ACA118 College Study Skills	2	_____
SOC240 Social Psychology	3	_____
Humanities/Fine Arts	3	_____
ENG111 Expository Writing	3	_____
ENG114 Professional Research and Reporting	3	_____
CIS113 Computer Basics	1	_____
*BIO168 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	_____
*BIO169 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	_____
*BIO175 General Microbiology	3	_____
*CHM 130 General, Organic, & Bio Chemistry	3	_____

Dental Hygiene Core Courses (must be in dental program)

Semester	Course	Credit Hours
First Year Fall Semester	DEN 110 Orofacial Anatomy	3
↓	DEN 111 Infection/Hazard Control	2
↓	DEN 112 Dental Radiography	3
↓	DEN 120 Dental Hygiene Preclinic Lecture	2
↓	DEN 121 Dental Hygiene Preclinic Lab	2
First Year Spring Semester	DEN 123 Nutrition/Dental Health	2
↓	DEN 125 Dental Office Emergencies	1
↓	DEN 130 Dental Hygiene Theory I	2
↓	DEN 131 Dental Hygiene Clinic I	3
↓	DEN 222 General and Oral Pathology	2
Summer Semester	DEN 140 Dental Hygiene Theory II	1
↓	DEN 141 Dental Hygiene Clinic II	2
Second Year Fall Semester	DEN 124 Periodontology	2
↓	DEN 220 Dental Hygiene Theory III	2
↓	DEN 221 Dental Hygiene Clinic III	4
↓	DEN 223 Dental Pharmacology	2
↓	DEN 224 Materials and Procedures	2
Second Year Spring Semester	DEN 230 Dental Hygiene Theory IV	1
↓	DEN 230 Dental Hygiene Theory IV	4
↓	DEN 232 Community Dental Health	3
↓	DEN 233 Professional Development	2

*Classes taken prior to acceptance into the program must have been completed within five (5) years prior to acceptance.

When Do I Apply?

Admission to the dental hygiene program is limited to eighteen (18) students each August. **Applications will be accepted through February 1st preceding the desired fall entry date.** By February 1st you must have submitted all required documents to the Admissions Office, including all test scores. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all requirements are met by the established deadline. Deadlines, guidelines, and policies apply equally to all students. HCC retains the right to extend the application deadline in order to enroll 18 qualified applicants.

Halifax Community College does not maintain a waiting list. Applicants to the Dental Hygiene Program must reapply each year.

How Are Students Selected for the Dental Hygiene Program?

The Dental Hygiene Program will use a point system for admission. Preference will be given to students with the highest point scores based on selection criteria.

Dental Hygiene Information Sessions

- Attendance at one session is required by all applicants. The room is located in room B126 of the Allied Health Sciences Building.
- All sessions will last approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours.
- All sessions will begin on time. Please do not arrive late.
- Adult (only) family members are welcome, please do not bring children.
- No appointment is necessary.
- Apply to program at Information Session

DATE	TIME	PLACE
Wednesday September 14, 2011	6:00 p.m.	B-126
Wednesday November 16, 2011	6:00 p.m.	B-126
Wednesday January 18, 2012	6:00 p.m.	B-126
Wednesday January 25, 2012	6:00 p.m.	B-126

There will be NO makeup Information Sessions.

Prospective students for the Allied Health Programs should contact Tami Argo at 252-536-7270 or email argot@halifaxcc.edu for information about the Associate Degree Nursing, Licensed Practical Nurse, Dental Hygiene, Medical Laboratory Technology and Phlebotomy programs. Mrs. Argo's office is located in Room 312 in the 300 Building.