**Overview**

This is a two-year program of classroom instruction and clinical experience which prepares students to perform the educational, clinical, and laboratory responsibilities of a dental hygienist. Skills include direct patient care, patient assessment, dental hygiene care planning, scaling, root planning, radiographs, preventive measures, sealants, local anesthetic administration, nitrous oxide sedation, and customized oral health education for individuals and groups. The program prepares students to take written and clinical licensing exams. The Dental Hygiene curriculum requires two consecutive academic years including summers. Entrance into the Diablo Valley College (DVC) Dental Hygiene Program is highly competitive with enrollment limited to 20 students. The DVC dental hygiene program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education and has also been approved by the Dental Hygiene Board of California.

**Application Procedures**

It is the applicant's responsibility to comply with the following:

- Application acceptance period is **January 1, 2021 through February 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**
- Application packet must be postmarked by the February 26, 2021 deadline
- Application filing procedures must be followed carefully
- If your application is incomplete, it will not be considered: **Please use the Application Checklist at the end of the application**

**Application Packet**

A complete application packet must include all of the following in one envelope; any information received in separate mailings will not be accepted or used in determining eligibility for the program:

1. Dental Hygiene Program Applicant Check List form
2. Completed Dental Hygiene Program Application form, including applicant’s signatures
3. Official, sealed and unopened transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, reflecting final grades. Exception: transcripts are not required for coursework completed at DVC, Contra Costa and Los Medanos Colleges
4. Completed Worksheet for Associate of Science in Dental Hygiene Degree
5. Completed Dental Office Observation form (dated within the last 24 months or Reflection Paper on Dental Hygiene Procedure Videos)

If you would like confirmation that your application has been received please include a self-addressed, stamped postcard.
Previous Applicants

Applications are not carried over from one year to the next. If you wish to be considered as a candidate in each year, you must submit a completed new application packet containing all materials as directed. **Application requirements may change from year to year.** Please refer to the DVC – Dental Hygiene Program website for the most up to date information regarding admission requirements: [https://www.dvc.edu/academics/departments/hygiene/apply.html](https://www.dvc.edu/academics/departments/hygiene/apply.html)

Policies for Admission

Admission to the DVC Dental Hygiene Program is based on the general admission policies for DVC (see the DVC College Catalog for General Admission Policies), guidelines consistent with state and federal law, and guidelines established by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation and the Dental Hygiene Board of California. The program provides equal opportunity in education and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap in accordance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Process for Admission

Class space is limited to 20 students and will be determined by a lottery. Applicants successfully meeting the primary admission requirements will be entered into the lottery. **All** of the following science and general education prerequisites or equivalent courses must be completed by December 2020 with a grade of “C” or higher:

**Science Prerequisites:**
- BIOSCI 139 – Human Anatomy
- BIOSCI 140 – Human Physiology
- BIOSCI 119 - Fundamentals of Microbiology or BIOSCI 146 – Principles of Microbiology
- CHEM 108 – Introductory Chemistry or CHEM 120 – General College Chemistry I or CHEM 121 – General College Chemistry II
- CHEM 109 – Introduction to Organic and Biochemistry or CHEM 227 – General Organic Chemistry II; Equivalent course must include biochemistry
- NUTR 160 – Nutrition Science and Applications

**General Education Prerequisites:**
- COMM 120 – Public Speaking or COMM 130 – Small Group Communication
- ENGL 122 or 122A – First-Year College Composition and Reading
- SOCIO 120 – Introduction to Sociology
- PSYCH 101 – Introduction to Psychology or PSYCH 122 – Psychology in Modern Life
- MATH 119 – Accelerated Algebra II or higher

**International Coursework**

Foreign college transcripts need to be translated/evaluated by a foreign evaluation services that is a NACES member. A list of NACES approved credential evaluators is available at [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org). Evaluation must include a course-by-course report with semester unit equivalencies that distinguish between upper- and lower-division coursework, and include letter grades. If foreign coursework is to be used to satisfy a DH requirement, catalog descriptions will be required to show course equivalencies. English coursework taken at a foreign college will not equate to English 122. The official, evaluated transcript must be included in your application packet.
General Education Requirements

An Associate in Science (AS) degree in Dental Hygiene is required for successful completion of the Dental Hygiene Program. Students must complete the DVC GE degree requirements as outlined in the DVC Catalog before graduation to be eligible for the Dental Hygiene Licensing Examinations held by the Dental Hygiene Board of California. It is recommended that the DVC general education requirements or equivalent courses be taken prior to or concurrently with the dental hygiene requirements.

Please contact Counseling at (925) 969-2140 to schedule an appointment if you have questions regarding coursework transferability and/or equivalency.

Primary Admission Requirements for DVC Dental Hygiene Program Applicants

1. Completed each dental hygiene program science prerequisites within the past 7 years with a grade of "C" or higher. (Please see "Worksheet for AS Degree in Dental Hygiene for more information)
2. Have a minimum GPA of 3.00 overall in Science, English, and Communication prerequisites and a minimum of 2.50 GPA overall in all college-degree applicable courses.
3. Complete the required dental office observation hours or watch the dental hygiene procedure videos and write a reflective paper.
4. Submit a completed DVC Dental Hygiene Program application packet.

Student Selection

All applicants will be notified by email of their provisional acceptance, rank on alternate list, or non-acceptance into the program by mid-April 2021. Provisionally accepted students are required to attend the orientation which will be held April 23-24 and May 7-8. If the student does not attend all course meetings or successfully pass the orientation, the position in the class will be awarded to an alternate. If the provisionally accepted student declines their acceptance into the program, the position in the class will be awarded to an alternate. The alternate list is only valid for the current application cycle.

Admission Requirements for DVC Dental Hygiene Program Provisional Accepted Students

1. Provisionally accepted students must enroll in and attend DENHY 101 – Dental Hygiene Orientation in the Spring 2021 semester. Admission is contingent upon completion of this course with a grade of 75% or higher to formally be accepted into the 2021-2022 Dental Hygiene class. If the student does not pass the orientation, the position in the class will be awarded to an alternate.
2. Prior to August 15th, students who have successfully passed DENHY 101 will be required to show: (1) proof of CPR/BLS issued by the American Heart Association or Red Cross (Must be for Healthcare Providers) (2) required immunizations/titers; (3) proof of a negative TB test; (4) results of a recent physical examination/screening; (5) results of a certified background check; and (6) results of a certified drug test. Reporting documents will be distributed during the DENHY 101 – Dental Hygiene Orientation course.
National and State Licensing Requirements

All states require that dental hygienists be licensed. In addition to successfully completing the course of study in an accredited dental hygiene program, passing the written National Dental Hygiene Board Examination, and passing a regional practical exam, the California Dental Practice Act requires that candidates for licensure be of good moral character and be citizens of the United States or lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States. Fingerprinting is required and checked by the Department of Justice and/or the Federal Bureau of Investigation prior to state licensure. Prospective students are advised that if they are not lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States upon program completion, have felony or misdemeanor convictions or have a history of substance abuse or infectious disease that this may preclude subsequent licensure as a dental hygienist in California. Additionally, students must have a social security number or an individual tax identification number in order to apply for licensure in the State of California. Applicants should contact the Dental Hygiene Board of California for more information at www.dhbc.ca.gov

Program Cost Estimate

DVC Dental Hygiene Program current cost estimate for 2021-2022 is between $15,000-18,000, subject to change annually. For financial assistance, contact the DVC Financial Aid office at (925) 969-2009 or visit https://www.dvc.edu/student-services/financial-aid/

Additional Information

No guarantee can be made that an applicant will be accepted into the dental hygiene program. Making false statements on the application, issues with the certified background check or drug test are cause for entrance denial or dismissal from the program. If an applicant is not admitted into the dental hygiene program, DVC offers other programs that may be of interest. Please contact a DVC counselor for more information at (925) 969-2140.
Dental Hygiene Application

Filing Period: **January 1 – February 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>DVC 7 digit ID Number or Social Security Number</th>
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<th>Mailing Address</th>
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<th>State</th>
<th>Zip Code</th>
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<th>Work Telephone</th>
<th>Cell Telephone</th>
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Email Address

Are you a citizen of the United States?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Are you lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States upon program completion and licensure?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Are you an international student on an F-1 Visa?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Have you attended DVC before?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  If "Yes", what year(s) did you attend

Have you attended another DH program?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  If "Yes", where and when did you attend, and what was the reason for leaving

Please list the name, starting and ending dates, and any degrees or certificates, for all colleges, technical and vocational schools attended. Also include colleges in which courses were attempted although they may not have been completed. Please list the most current dates 1st.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of College</th>
<th>City and State</th>
<th>Dates Attended</th>
<th>Name and date of degree awarded; or state &quot;degree in progress&quot;; or &quot;no degree&quot;</th>
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**Applicant’s Certification**

I hereby certify that I have personally read and completed the above application. I understand the application criteria and procedures for the Dental Hygiene Program. I accept complete responsibility for submitting all required official documents. All information provided is true and accurate.

Signature of Applicant  
Date of Application
# Worksheet for Associate of Science (AS) Degree in Dental Hygiene

**Filing Period:** January 1 – February 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

**Directions:** This form is to be completed by the applicant. Enter the course number, course title, college where the course was taken, the date (semester) the course was completed. Substitutions for General Education Courses must be approved by Admissions and Records and are kept on file.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DVC Category/Course</th>
<th>Equivalent Course #</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>College Where Course Was Taken</th>
<th>Date Completed</th>
<th>Course Grade</th>
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<td><strong>Prerequisites - Sciences</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOSC 139 Anatomy</td>
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<td>BIOSC 140 Physiology</td>
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<td>BIOSC 119 or BIOSC 146 Microbiology</td>
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<td>CHEM 108 or CHEM 120 or CHEM 121 Chemistry</td>
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<td>CHEM 109 or CHEM 227 Organic/Biochemistry</td>
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<td>NUTRI 160 Nutrition</td>
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<td><strong>Prerequisites – General Education</strong></td>
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<td>ENGL 122</td>
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<td>MATH 119 or higher</td>
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<td>COMM 120 or COMM 130</td>
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<td>SOCIO 120</td>
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<td>PSYCH 101 or PSYCH 122</td>
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**Applicant's Certification**

I hereby certify that I have personally read and completed the above worksheet. All information provided can be verified by transcripts. I accept complete responsibility for submitting all required official documents.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________
# Dental Office Observation Form

**Filing Period:** January 1 – February 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.  
The Dental Office Observation Form must be dated between 02/17/2019 – 02/26/21

To the Dental Professional:

The Diablo Valley College Dental Hygiene Program requires our prospective dental hygiene students to observe the following dental related procedures to gain an understanding of dental and dental hygiene practices. We appreciate your time in allowing students to observe you in your workplace. Our goal is that our applicants will be better informed regarding their chosen career path. This form must be completed and signed by the dentist/hygienist regardless of employment experience of the prospective applicant. **Two observations are required. Each observation requires a minimum of 3 hours and maximum of 8 hours.**

Applicant’s Name: ____________________________

**Observation of a Registered Dental Hygienist, not a Dentist**, performing an entire recall prophylaxis and/or supportive periodontal therapy (maintenance) including observation of infection control procedures. The infection control procedures must include: operatory preparation and post-appointment protocol, cleaning and sterilizing instruments.

**All information below is required.** Incomplete observation forms will disqualify your consideration for acceptance into the Dental Hygiene Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RDH License No. <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
<th>RDH Signature <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Total Hours</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dentist License No. <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
<th>Dentist Signature <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Office Telephone Number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Office Address

**Observation of a Registered Dental Hygienist or a Periodontist, not a general Dentist**, performing quadrant(s) of periodontal therapy with local anesthesia on a patient with at least moderate chronic periodontitis.

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<tr>
<th>RDH or Periodontist License No. <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
<th>RDH or Periodontist Signature <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Total Hours</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dentist License No. <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
<th>Dentist Signature <em>(REQUIRED)</em></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Dentist License No. and Signature not required if student observed a Periodontist)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Office Telephone Number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Office Address

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Attach Dentist’s Business Card Here

Attach Dentist’s or Periodontist’s Business Card Here

REQUIRED
**Reflection on Dental Hygiene Procedures**

We understand the difficulty some applicants are having gaining permission to observe in a dental office due to restrictions caused by COVID19. We are allowing the option to write a Reflective Paper on dental hygiene procedures. If you choose this option you will need to complete the following.

**Watch:**
- [How Teeth are Cleaned at the Dentist](#)
- [Dental Health-Scaling Teeth](#)
- [Dental Hygiene Local Anesthesia 2011](#)

**Write:**

A reflective paper -
- Compare How Teeth are Cleaned at the Dentist to Dental Health-Scaling Teeth
- Discussed what surprised you, if anything, about what you saw in any of the three videos
- Your feelings about performing the procedures presented in the videos as a dental hygienist

Your paper should be typed, double spaced, 12pt font, and 150-200 words.
Directions: To be completed by applicant and included in application packet. Please use the check boxes below to ensure that you have included everything in your application packet and that it is complete. Only those pages of the application packet specified need to be included. We strongly recommend you mail your completed application packet via certified mail, return receipt requested. Using certified mail will give you the ability to track delivery of your application packet. Please do not contact the Dental Hygiene Program or the Dental Hygiene Program Coordinator to ask about the status of your application. All applications are processed and reviewed by Admissions and Records.

Completed application packet is due by February 26, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Please mail to:

Diablo Valley College
Office of Admissions and Records/Dental Hygiene Application
321 Golf Club Road
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Applicant Name: ________________________________________________________

(Last Name) (First Name)

Other Name(s) Used:_____________________________________________________

☐ Dental Hygiene Program Applicant Check List
☐ Dental Hygiene Application including applicant’s signature
☐ Worksheet for AS in Dental Hygiene including applicant’s signature
☐ Official, sealed, and unopened transcripts from all colleges and universities attended reflecting final grades
  • All transcripts must be included in the application packet even if the transcripts were sent prior to DVC
  • Exception: Transcripts are not required for coursework completed at DVC, Contra Costa or Los Medanos Colleges
☐ Dental Office Observation Form dated between 02/17/19 – 02/26/2021 or Reflection on Dental Hygiene Procedures
☐ Optional: Include a stamped, self-addressed postcard for verification that your application has been received by DVC - Admissions and Records
  • Postcard confirms receipt of application only
  • It does not confirm eligibility for, or acceptance into, the dental hygiene program
  • It does not indicate that the application has been submitted correctly
  • Incomplete applications will not be considered
  • No notification will be given for incomplete applications