

Dental Hygiene

Creating healthy smiles.

A dental hygienist is a licensed oral healthcare provider who focuses on preventing and treating oral diseases in order to promote optimal oral health and total wellness. This career path opens a world of professional opportunities including clinical, administrative, public health, government, education, research and international service.

WHY SLCC?

Students receive affordable and comprehensive higher education from faculty who hold a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree. Our small class size promotes individualized attention and peer collaboration. Licensed dental hygienists and dentists supervise the clinical experiences in an innovative on-site dental hygiene clinic. Upon graduation, students may utilize the statewide transfer agreement to attend Utah's four-year colleges for completion of a bachelor's degree.

Graduates earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree and are eligible to take national and regional boards required for licensure.

THE CURRICULUM

The AAS Degree program is a 60-week program consisting of 4 semesters for the duration of 15 weeks per semester. The program requires full-time attendance, Monday through Friday (no classes are held in the summer). Students are under direct supervision of Registered Dental Hygienists and licensed Dentists during the clinical experience. Students are expected to participate in external clinical rotations and community service projects. Students who graduate will accrue a minimum of 88 credits.

The Salt Lake Community College/Division of Allied Health, Jordan Campus, Dental Hygiene program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

CODA is the specialized accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education to accredit programs that provide basic preparation for licensure or certification in dentistry and the related disciplines.

*CODA contact information:
Commission on Dental Accreditation
211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611
Website: ada.org/coda*



Visit the Dental Hygiene website for more information at:
slcc.edu/dentalhygiene

CAREERS & SALARY

**Median Average
Hourly Wage: \$34.50**

jobs.utah.gov

LENGTH OF PROGRAM

Four semesters
53 Program Credits
35 Prerequisite Credits

88 Total Credits

PROGRAM COST

Approximately
\$25,000; including fees.
Regular Tuition
and Fees:

[slcc.edu/student/
financial/tuition-fees.aspx](http://slcc.edu/student/financial/tuition-fees.aspx)

MORE INFORMATION

Division of Allied Health
801-957-6200

Academic Advisor
801-957-6215

slcc.edu/dentalhygiene

**Disclaimer: Although every attempt is made to ensure information on this sheet is correct, information is subject to change. Please consult the website for the latest information.*

ADMISSION PROCESS

- All applicants **must be at least 18** years of age.
- Candidate must be admitted as an SLCC matriculated student.
- Student must be a high school graduate or equivalent.
- Request an **official evaluation** of transcripts and submit to the SLCC Incoming Transcript Office, if applicable.
- For transfer credit, submit **official sealed** transcripts for **all** colleges where prerequisite courses were completed.
- Application information including prerequisites, transcripts and Health Sciences pre-admission exam can be found at: slcc.edu/hs/admissions
- You are required to complete 40 observation hours with a registered Clinical Dental Hygienist in a dental setting. There must be a Supervising RDH at the site to sign and date the form. You cannot be paid for your observation hours or use work time. Health care professional dress is required.

PREREQUISITES

Prerequisite courses can be in progress when submitting an application. Preference is given to students who have completed all prerequisite courses at time of application deadline. This may fill all available seats.

- BIOL 2060/2065 Microbiology Lecture/Lab (4)
- BIOL 2320/2325 Human Anatomy Lecture/Lab (4) **(If you are taking Human Anatomy at SLCC, you must complete BIOL 1610/1615 first with a C grade or better.)**
- BIOL 2420/2425 Human Physiology Lecture/Lab (4)
- CHEM 1110/1115 Elementary Chemistry Lecture/Lab (5)
- ENGL 1010 Intro to Writing (EN) (3)
- MATH 1010 Integrated Algebra (QS) (4), Math 1040 or Higher (QL) (3)
- COMM 1010 Elements of Effective Comm (CM) (3) or COMM 2110 Interpersonal Communication (CM)(3)
- NUTR 1020 Foundations of Nutrition (3)
- SOC 1010 Intro to Sociology (SS) (3)
- PSY 1010 Intro to Psych (SS) (3), or PSY 1100 (SS) (3)

All BIOL and CHEM courses must be completed with a minimum

grade of C+ or better and within the past 5 years. All other prerequisite courses listed must be completed with a minimum grade of C or better.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Admission into the Dental Hygiene program is selective for student retention.
- All students must maintain minimum grades in all required courses.
- One cohort of 24 students is admitted every fall semester.
- The curriculum and course requirements may be academically rigorous.
- There is no advanced placement.
- The nature of a dental hygiene practice requires prolonged sustained seated posture and repetitive arm and wrist movements.
- Accepted students must meet with the Dental Hygiene program advisor. Call 801-957-6215 to schedule an appointment.
- Acceptance or completion of the program does not guarantee licensure as a Dental Hygienist. Upon successful program completion, students are eligible to take required national and regional board exams.
- Students may come in contact with blood-borne pathogens and infectious diseases and all students in the Dental Hygiene program must follow proper OSHA procedures and practice universal precautions.
- Community service is an essential component of the Dental Hygiene program and all students are required to participate.
- Once granted acceptance into the Dental Hygiene program, a non-refundable deposit of \$2,500 for instruments is required to hold the seat.
- Accepted students are required to attend the mandatory new student orientation day.
- Students will be responsible for providing their own transportation to clinical sites.

SEMESTER I (FALL)	SEMESTER II (SPR)	SEMESTER III (FALL)	SEMESTER IV (SPR)
DH 1050 (2) Dental Radiology	DH 1140 (1) Dental Materials	DH 2050 (3) General & Oral Pathology	DH 2220 (3) Community Dental Health
DH 1060 (1) Dental Radiology Lab	DH 1150 (1) Dental Materials Lab	DH 2200 (3) DH Theory III	DH 2600 (3) DH Theory IV
DH 1100 (3) DH Theory I	DH 1400 (3) DH Theory II	DH 2210 (4) Clinical DH III	DH 2610 (5) Clinical DH IV
DH 1110 (2) Clinical DH I	DH 1410 (3) Clinical DH II	DH 2340 (2) Local Anesthesia	DH 2800 (2) Practice Management
DH 1330 (2) Head & Neck Anatomy	DH 1540 (3) Pharmacology	DH 2341 (1) Local Anesthesia Lab	
DH 1340 (1) Dental Anatomy	DH 1640 (2) Comp. Patient/Spcl Needs	DH 2450 (2) Periodontology	
DH 1350 (1) Dental Embryology/Histology			
12 CREDITS	13 CREDITS	15 CREDITS	13 CREDITS