

# ⇒ DENTAL HYGIENE



From assessing an individual's or group's oral health needs and providing consultation to other health care professionals to the development of a comprehensive treatment plan and the delivery of services, dental hygienists play a key role in ensuring the overall well being of a community. Those particularly well suited for a career in the field of dental hygiene are often good communicators, skillful with their hands and have a strong desire to work with people. If this sounds like you, there's no better place to get your education than Wichita State.



[WICHITA.EDU/DH](http://wichita.edu/dh)

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Dental hygiene is routinely listed as one of today's top-ten career fields, offering opportunities in a wide range of settings including private dental offices, public health agencies, research facilities and educational institutions. And, thanks to growing evidence linking good oral health to good overall health, the United States Department of Labor projects that the need for licensed dental hygienists will grow by 9 percent between 2023 and 2033 — faster than the average for all other occupations.

## DENTAL HYGIENE AT WICHITA STATE

Wichita State is the only school in the state of Kansas to offer bachelor's degrees in dental hygiene and provides two programs for students to choose from: an entry-level Bachelor of Science program (fully accredited through the Commission on Dental Education of the American Dental Association) and a degree completion program for graduates of accredited associate's degree programs.

**THE ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM** lasts five semesters and is designed to produce dental hygienists who are both proficient and well prepared to take national, regional and state examinations.

To be admitted to the program, students must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in, or admitted to WSU
- Have completed, or have plans to complete, the prerequisite requirements the spring semester before beginning the fall program
- Have an overall grade point average of at least 2.750 in all courses completed and no grade lower than a grade that generates 2.000 credit points per credit hour in any of the specified required courses
- Have submitted application materials by the established deadline

**THE DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM** is available to registered dental hygienists who are looking to expand their role into such areas as community dental hygiene and education.

Those eligible for the program must have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program and have a current license to practice. See [wichita.edu/dh](http://wichita.edu/dh) for curriculum information.



## HANDS-ON LEARNING

In addition to taking classes, entry-level dental hygiene students at Wichita State have the opportunity to gain experience-based learning in the WSU Delta Dental of Kansas Foundation Dental Hygiene clinic—the state's largest dental hygiene clinic for student education, which provides services to nearly 5,000 area residents each year. Beyond the on-campus clinic, Shockers have virtually unlimited opportunities to gain additional real-world experience thanks to WSU's location in Kansas' largest city and its status as the health care capital of the state.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

In addition to resources available through the WSU Office of Financial Aid, there are numerous scholarships available specifically for dental hygiene students. To find out more, and how you can apply, visit [wichita.edu/chpscholarships](http://wichita.edu/chpscholarships) and [wichita.edu/financialaid](http://wichita.edu/financialaid).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the dental hygiene program at Wichita State, call (316) 978-3304 or email [dental.hygiene@wichita.edu](mailto:dental.hygiene@wichita.edu). You can also visit the department online at [wichita.edu/dh](http://wichita.edu/dh).



**WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE OF  
HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

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## ENTRY-LEVEL PREREQUISITE COURSES

### HOURS

College English I	3
College English II	3
College Algebra	3
Public Speaking	3
Intro to Chemistry	5
Intro to Microbiology	4
Human Anatomy and Physiology	5
Intro to Sociology	3
General Psychology	3
Principles of Dietetics and Nutrition	3
Clinical Pharmacology	3
Medical Terminology	2 or 3

## PROFESSIONAL CURRICULUM

### HOURS

Preclinical Dental Hygiene	5
Clinical Radiology	4
Dental Hygiene Concepts I	3
Clinical Dental Hygiene I	3
General and Oral Pathology	3
Oral Anatomy, Histology, & Embryology	3
Dental Materials	3
Clinical Dental Hygiene II	2
Dental Hygiene Concepts II	3
Dental Hygiene Concepts III	3
Ethics and Jurisprudence	3
Community Oral Health Mgmt I	3
Community Oral Health Mgmt II	3
Introduction to Periodontics	3
Pain Management	2
Clinical Dental Hygiene III	4
Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	4
Evidence Based Practice	2
Head and Neck Anatomy	2

- Students must meet all Wichita State University general education and graduation requirements per the university catalog for the baccalaureate degree.