

Dental Hygiene Admission Criteria

This is a selective and competitive admission program. Admission to the college doesn't guarantee admission to the clinical component of the program. You will be admitted as a pre-dental hygiene student and work with your advisor to apply to the clinical/core component of the program.

Minimum Criteria to Apply: See the point system

Advising: Prior to submission of a clinical program application, you must meet with a dental hygiene advisor (health career counselor).

For appointments:

Gettysburg - (717) 337-3855 x 3001
Harrisburg - (717) 780-1124
Lancaster – Joy Tien (717) 358-2988

Lebanon - Debra Schneider (717) 270-4222
York - Heather Burns (717) 718-0328 x 3513

Shadowing: Work experience as a dental assistant or 40 hours of observation time required.
Shadowing form attached.

Application: In order to obtain an application packet, you **MUST** have attended a mandatory advising session each year of application. **On-line application available January 15-February 15 only.**

Application Deadline: February 15

Class Selection Date: April 1

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO STARTING THE CLINICAL PORTION OF THE PROGRAM (after acceptance)

Additional information and required forms will be provided to you upon acceptance into clinicals. Failure to provide all the necessary documentation before the established deadline could lead to denial of admission into the clinical program. The following must be completed (at your own expense) after you have been selected for, but prior to starting the clinical portion of the program:

Physical Examination and Required Immunizations

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must submit a health examination form completed by a physician/nurse practitioner/physician's assistant with immunization history including verification through blood work. No student will be admitted with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline.

Background Checks

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check and State Police Criminal Record Check. No student will be admitted with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance.

Drug and Alcohol Screens

All students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a drug and alcohol screen annually at the laboratory specified by the program on or before the stated deadline. This lab is used to protect the integrity of the results being reported. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying result or failure to meet the specified deadline.

Current Certification in Health Professional Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

Any candidate not meeting these criteria will be denied admission into the program.

**HACC
Dental Hygiene Program
Point System - Fall 2011**

Students will be considered for admission into the dental hygiene program who have:

- High school diploma or GED or equivalent foreign education as verified by a HACC-approved credential evaluation service
- 2.5 overall GPA
- ACT with a score of 21 or
SAT with a combined score of 1010 (SAT I) or 1515 (SAT Reasoning Test) or
Completion of 26 nonclinical program credits beyond the developmental level, including two of the sciences (Biology 121, Biology 122, Biology 221) with a C or better
- High school biology (academic or honors) or Biology 111 with a "C" or better
- High school chemistry (academic or honors) or Chemistry 100 with a "C" or better within the past 7 years
- Documented proficiency, C or better, in Math through the 051 level
- Completed English 101 with a C or better
- Completion of two of the sciences (Biology 121, Biology 122, Biology 221) with a C or better by February 15th of the year you are applying for fall admission
- One year work experience as a clinical dental assistant or 40 hours of observation time (shadowing) and completion of Dental Hygiene 100 (those with front desk only dental assistant experience must complete DH 100 with a C or better)
- Met with a health career counselor
- Attended a mandatory application session held during the fall of each application year

All dental hygiene applicants will be ranked on the following criteria:

Points	Criterion
4 or 7	BIOL 121 Completed at HACC = 7, Transferred in = 4
4 or 7	BIOL 122 Completed at HACC = 7, Transferred in = 4
4 or 7	BIOL 221 Completed at HACC = 7, Transferred in = 4
.5 or 1	ENGL 101 Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	ENGL 102 Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	Core A Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	PE/Wellness Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	SPCH 101 Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	Free Elective Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	SOCI 201 Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	PSYC 101 Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5
.5 or 1	NUTR 104 Completed at HACC = 1, Transferred in = .5

4 to 40	Science GPA* (Minimum grade of C required in each course) 3.8-4.00 = 40 2.8-2.99 = 20 3.6-3.79 = 36 2.6-2.79 = 16 3.4-3.59 = 32 2.4-2.59 = 12 3.2-3.39 = 28 2.2-2.39 = 8 3.0-3.19 = 24 2.0-2.19 = 4
2 to 20	Cumulative non-science GPA* (include only ENGL 101, 102, NUTR 104, SOCI 201, PSYC 101, SPCH 101, Core A, PE/Wellness, Free Elective) 3.8-4.00 = 20 2.8-2.99 = 10 3.6-3.79 = 18 2.6-2.79 = 8 3.4-3.59 = 16 2.4-2.59 = 6 3.2-3.39 = 14 2.2-2.39 = 4 3.0-3.19 = 12 2.0-2.19 = 2
* GPA calculated using actual grade earned at HACC or from transfer institution.	
5	Certified Dental Assistant (DANB - submit current copy) = 5
10	Completed an ADA accredited dental assistant program with overall GPA of 3.0 and subsequent one year full-time (32 hrs/wk) experience working as a dental assistant = 10
10	Ranked applicant from previous year(s) (max 10 points awarded)
10	No history of D's or F's in any course required for program within the past 7 years (Transfer courses included)
Total Score (125 MAX)	

TRANSFER STUDENTS

- In addition to all stated criteria for HACC pre-dental hygiene students (see above), a minimum transfer GPA of 2.5 will be required if the student has transferred in the general education credits.
- For any transfer student who, at the time of selection, has only transfer credits available for review, the actual GPA from the transcript is used.

Courses for current (Spring – at time of application) semester are not included in point calculation.

For the purposes of course criteria in the admission process, any AP credit awarded for English 101, Psychology 101, and Sociology 201 will be treated as HACC credits.

In event of a tie, overall HACC GPA will be used.

The accepted time limit for science courses (HACC or transfer) for use in health career program requirements is 7 years.

1/05 rev 6/22/10

Approved 11/28/06 LMM, JLB, RRY

HACC does not discriminate in employment, student admissions, and student services on the basis of race, color, religion, age, political affiliation or belief, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, place of birth, General Education Development Certification (GED), marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other legally protected classification.



Dental Hygiene Essential Qualifications

This document defines the nonacademic criteria for consideration, selection, and progression through the dental hygiene program of Harrisburg Area Community College. The Department of Dental Hygiene believes that an applicant for admission to the dental hygiene program must be aware of the abilities and characteristics necessary to complete the dental hygiene program requirements and to function as a dental hygienist. Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with disabilities provided they do not compromise the academic and performance standards of the program.

The Associate of Arts degree in Dental Hygiene is awarded to those that successfully complete and prove competence in all program requirements. The student must demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and behaviors deemed essential for the practice of dental hygiene. The following technical standards describe the essential skills a student must possess in the areas of intellect, sensory function, fine and gross motor function, behavior and communication skills to be successful.

In order to assume the responsibilities and perform the duties of a dental hygienist, individuals must be able to satisfactorily possess/ accomplish the following:

Knowledge: Demonstrate the ability to learn, integrate, analyze, and synthesize data. This requires that the student can interpret, problem solve, and demonstrate critical thinking, self-evaluation, and life-long learning. Comprehension of three-dimensional and spatial relationships is necessary. Consistent, accurate and quick integration of information is required especially in an emergency situation.

Psychomotor: Functional use of all senses is required, particularly a keen sense of touch and awareness of self in relationship to his/her surroundings. Students must be able to observe demonstrations at a distance and close at hand. Performance of procedures in the classroom, lab, and clinic area is required. The student must be able to see fine detail, focus at several distances, and discern variations in color, shape, and texture in order to differentiate abnormal from normal. Students should be able to utilize tactile sensations to perceive and interpret information associated with clinical procedures. Visual acuity and intellectual ability are necessary to acquire information from documents such as charts, radiographs, computer images, and other modes of delivery. Students need to be able to discern sounds associated with taking blood pressure and the operation of equipment.

Sufficient fine and gross motor function is required to perform a variety of clinical procedures essential to providing dental hygiene care for clients. Examples of motor skills include manipulation of small objects and materials, palpation, percussion, and other maneuvers. Fine motor ability is a critical and necessary skill. Gross motor ability is required in order to perform functions such as basic life support and CPR, transfer and position of clients as well as clinician position around the dental chair. Students must be able to operate both foot and hand controls simultaneously.

Affective: Students must possess the emotional health required for full utilization of his/her intellectual abilities, exercise good judgment, and prompt completion of all responsibilities associated with care of clients. The development of mature, sensitive, professional relationships with clients is essential. Professionalism, compassion, integrity, empathy, and respect are all personal qualities that are necessary for the dental hygienist. Students must be able to endure physically taxing workloads and function effectively under stress. A student must be able to accept constructive criticism and respond appropriately by modifying behavior.

Communication skills: Candidates must be able to communicate in English orally and in writing with clients, colleagues, faculty, and guests using correct grammar, punctuation and spelling. Verbal communication must be clear and easily understood. Candidates also must be able to read and comprehend written material in English.

Hearing: Sufficient hearing ability to interpret messages not solely based on visual cues, to interpret conversation, and to detect sounds such as heart tones and Korotkoff (blood pressure) sounds.

Any candidate *not* meeting these criteria will be denied admission into the dental hygiene program.

I understand that many procedures performed as a dental hygienist would expose me to bloodborne pathogens, ionizing radiation and potentially hazardous materials. _____ **Initials**

I understand as a health care worker, I should have the following immunizations: Hep B, MMR, DPT, and an annual TB screen. _____ **Initials**

I understand that I may be required to submit to a drug test after acceptance into the program, and that I am responsible for this expense. _____ **Initials**

I understand that all students accepted into the clinical component of the program must undergo a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance, FBI Check, and State Police Criminal Record Check. No student will be admitted or retained in the program with a disqualifying criminal history or child abuse clearance. _____ **Initials**

As an applicant to this program or student in this program, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Technical Standards for the HACC Department of Dental Hygiene. **I acknowledge that I am capable of performing the abilities and skills outlined in this document** with or without reasonable accommodation and understand that my status as a student in this program depends on my continued ability to successfully demonstrate these abilities and skills.

Signature

Date

Please return this document along with other application materials. Failure to return this document will cause the application to be considered incomplete.

Adapted from USD Technical Standards Document
3/24/04 rev. 10/06, 6/08

The HACC Department of Dental Hygiene respects and complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Therefore, the Department will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability.



DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

Must be submitted by February 15 with application (if required)

_____ observed in my office on _____ for _____ hours.
(name)

Certified by: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____

Student should provide a description of the procedures observed

_____ observed in my office on _____ for _____ hours.
(name)

Certified by: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____

Student should provide a description of the procedures observed