



**HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College
Dental Hygiene Program
Record of Dental Hygiene Shadowing Experience**

The purpose of the 10 hours of clinical shadowing is to provide students with a better understanding of the responsibilities of the dental hygienist in addition to seeing the dental team in action. This shadowing form must be complete and submitted to the dental hygiene office prior to completing a clinical application, with all sections filled as-directed. Verification by a Dental Receptionist or Office Manager will not be considered.

Student Name: _____ **HACC ID:** _____

Name of Dental Practice: _____

Date(s) of Observation: _____ **Hours of Observation Completed:** _____

Student, please check off all areas/procedures you were able to observe. Emphasis should be on dental hygiene procedures.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Front desk procedures to include office policies | <input type="checkbox"/> Scaling and root planing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical history review and vital signs | <input type="checkbox"/> Polishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra and intra oral examinations | <input type="checkbox"/> Sealants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Periodontal exam | <input type="checkbox"/> Administration of anesthesia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental charting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fluoride treatment/varnish application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental health education | <input type="checkbox"/> Sterilization procedures and infection control |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure of radiographs | |

Signature of Dentist or Registered Dental Hygienist: _____

Printed Name: _____ Contact Phone Number: _____

Additional instructions for students:

- When contacting a dental office to request observation/shadowing time, explain to the staff member that you are interested in pursuing a career in dental hygiene and are fulfilling requirements for a HACC course. Please be flexible with your own schedule and considerate of the office's willingness to accommodate you for this assignment. **During the introductory phone call, please ask the following questions:**
 - **What is the appropriate attire to wear while shadowing?** If the staff member doesn't provide guidance, please dress professionally; meaning neat and clean; but no jeans, shorts or revealing clothes; dress slacks and a simple shirt are appropriate. Often, a lab coat or disposable gown will be provided.
 - **Will I be able to shadow the dental hygienist?** Although you will learn a great deal by shadowing the dentist, the purpose of this assignment is to learn the day-to-day tasks and responsibilities of the dental hygienist. If they office doesn't employ a dental hygienist, please choose another.
- Be polite and aware that some patients may be uncomfortable with a student observing their dental procedure.
- Remember to maintain patient confidentiality as this is an important part of being a health professional.
- Be sure to keep a copy of this form for your records.

**Dental Hygiene Program, HACC, One HACC Drive, Harrisburg, PA, 17110,
717-780-2490
Email form to DentalHygiene@hacc.edu**