

Riverside Community College
Moreno Valley Campus
Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene Program

Dental Hygiene Program: 951/571-6431

Counseling: 951/571-6104

DH Program Information/Orientation Sessions: 951/571-6431

Dental Hygiene Program Information Sheet

Program Status

The Dental Hygiene Program has received accreditation approval by the American Dental Association's Committee on Dental Accreditation and New Program Approval by the California Community College Chancellor's Office.

General Information

The Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene Program is a two-year program. The program includes the fall and spring semesters, winter intersessions, and one summer session. Upon completion of the 60.5-unit program, program prerequisites, and any additional requirements needed to fulfill the Associate in Science Degree (see the Riverside Community College Catalog), the graduate will earn an Associate in Science Degree. Students in good standing in the program are eligible to take the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination in April of their second year. Upon graduation and successful completion of the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination, graduates are eligible to take state and/or regional licensing examinations.

Each fall semester, 20 candidates meeting all qualification requirements will be selected for admission into the Dental Hygiene Program. See Selection Process for Admission into the Dental Hygiene Program for more information on this process. *All interested students are encouraged to attend a Dental Hygiene Program Information/Orientation Session.* For a current schedule, please call 951/571-6431.

Application to the Program

Students applying to the Dental Hygiene Program must have all eligibility and prerequisite requirements completed at the time of application. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all official high school and college transcripts and other necessary information are included with the Dental Hygiene Program application.

1. Eligibility is open to students meeting the qualification requirements and who have not been enrolled in other dental hygiene programs.
2. Foreign transcripts must have a "Detailed Evaluation". Information can be obtained from the Counseling Office.
3. Students must apply to RCC prior to applying to the Dental Hygiene Program.
4. Applications will only be accepted by and at the Dental Hygiene Program. Applications must be mailed to the Moreno Valley Campus or hand delivered to the Dental Hygiene Program Office.
5. Meeting minimum requirements for the program does not guarantee admission into the program.
6. Failure to meet the deadline for showing proof of a valid CPR Certification card (BLS Healthcare Provider Course), verification of receiving the Hepatitis B vaccination, immunizations, TB testing and completed health examination form with clearance permitting unrestricted functional activities will result in forfeiting admission into the program.

Application Filing Period

The application-filing period for the 2009-2010 year will begin on December 1, 2009 and close on February 15, 2010. Applications and application deadlines can be obtained by calling the Dental Hygiene Program at 951/571-6431. Attendees to the Dental Hygiene Information/Orientation Sessions will receive an application on-site.

Requirements for Eligibility

1. RCC application on file and eligibility to attend RCC.
2. High School Verification: Proof of high school or equivalent (G.E.D., high school proficiency examination) per the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation.
3. Cumulative GPA of not less than 2.0 in all work attempted at RCC and a cumulative GPA of not less than 2.0, which includes all accredited college units attempted.
4. GPA of not less than 3.0 for each science prerequisite courses (see ♦ below).

5. All the following prerequisites courses must be completed before applying to the Dental Hygiene Program.

- Anatomy and Physiology 2A ♦
- Anatomy and Physiology 2B ♦
- Chemistry 2A ♦
- Chemistry 2B ♦
- English 1A
- Math 52
- Microbiology 1 ♦
- Physical Education 4
- Psychology 1
- Sociology 1
- Speech 1

Additional General Education Requirements

Each student is responsible for taking the needed general education courses, not required for admission into the Dental Hygiene Program, to fulfill the requirements for an Associate in Science Degree from RCC. This includes Math 35. Please see the RCC Catalog for more details. *Most students complete these requirements prior to entering the Dental Hygiene Program due to the rigorous course load.*

NOTE: A grade of “C” or better is required in all courses used to fulfill requirements for the Associate in Science Degree.

Grade Point Requirements For Progress In The Dental Hygiene Program:

A minimum of “C” in all dental hygiene courses is required for the student to advance from one semester to the next. A grade of “C” or better is required in all prerequisite courses, general education graduation requirements and dental hygiene courses.

Required Courses

Required Courses (60.5 units)	Units
<u>First Fall Semester Courses:</u>	
DEH 10A Pre-Clinic Dental Hygiene #1	2.5
DEH 11 Principles of Dental Hygiene	2
DEH 12A Principles of Oral Radiology	1
DEH 12B Oral Radiology Laboratory	1
DEH 13 Infection Control in Dentistry	1
DEH 14 Systems Analysis of Dental Anatomy, Morphology, Histology, & Embryology	3.5
DEH 15 Head and Neck Anatomy	2
DEH 16 Preventive Dentistry	1
DEH 17 General Pathology	2
<u>First Winter Intersession Courses:</u>	
DEH 10B Pre-Clinic Dental Hygiene #2	1
DEH 19 Pain Control	1.5
<u>First Spring Semester Courses:</u>	
DEH 20A Clinical Dental Hygiene #1	3
DEH 21 Clinical Seminar #1	1
DEH 22 Oral Radiology Interpretation	1
DEH 23 Introduction to Periodontology	2
DEH 24 Ethics	1
DEH 25 Medical/Dental Emergencies	1
DEH 26 Dental Treatment of Geriatric and Medically Compromised	2
DEH 27 Oral Pathology	3
DEH 28 Basic and Applied Pharmacology	2
<u>First Summer Session Courses:</u>	
DEH 20B Clinical Dental Hygiene #2	1
<u>Second Fall Semester Courses:</u>	
DEH 30A Clinical Dental Hygiene #3	3.5
DEH 31 Clinical Seminar #2	1

DEH 32	Dental Materials	2.5
DEH 33	Periodontology	1
DEH 34	Community Dental Health Education #1	1
DEH 35	Community Dental Health Education Practicum #1	1
DEH 36	Research Methodology	2
DEH 37	Nutrition in Dentistry	1

Second Winter Intersession Course:

DEH 30B	Clinical Dental Hygiene #4	1
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Fourth Semester Courses:

DEH 40	Clinical Dental Hygiene #5	4
DEH 41	Clinical Seminar #3	1
DEH 42	Practice Management and Jurisprudence	2
DEH 43	Advanced Periodontology	1
DEH 44	Community Dental Health Education #2	1
DEH 45	Community Dental Health Education Practicum #2	1
DEH 46	Advanced Topics in Dental Hygiene	1

Selection Process for Admission into the Dental Hygiene Program

1. Preference will be given to those students meeting the RCCD and RCC residency requirements (i.e. applicants residing within the District, and having previously attended RCC for one full semester within the last two years preceding the semester in which they are applying to the Dental Hygiene Program).
2. If a student is not offered a space in the program, a new application will be necessary for the following year.
 - Twenty candidates will be randomly selected to begin the program each fall semester.
3. The following are the priority given to those candidates meeting the minimum requirements:
 - First Priority Selection:
Students meeting all GPA* requirements, prerequisites, RCCD residency, and RCC attendance requirements. If there are more than 20 applicants that meet these requirements, then a random drawing of 20 applicants will occur to select the 20 students for admission in to the Dental Hygiene Program. An additional 20 applicants will be randomly selected to be on the waiting list for admission for that year only. They will be assigned a waiting list number according to the order they are selected.
 - Second Priority Selection:
Students meeting all GPA* requirements, prerequisites, RCCD residency, and RCC attendance requirements. This category will be used only if there are not enough applicants to fulfill the needs of the program in the First Priority Selection category. The number of students selected from the second priority selection pool of applicants will depend on the number of applicants needed to fulfill the program and waiting-list slots.

Health and CPR Requirements

Students selected for the program will be admitted pending submission of a valid CPR Certification card (BLS Healthcare Provider Course), verification of receiving the Hepatitis B vaccination, tetanus, MMR, TB testing and completed health examination form with clearance permitting unrestricted functional activities essential to providing dental hygiene care in accordance with the American Disabilities Act (1990). The CPR card must be kept current throughout the program. Students need to show proof of meeting these requirements prior to August 18, 2010, to be admitted to the program. Failure to meet this deadline will result in forfeiting admission into the program.

Dental Hygiene Program Expenses/General Information:

(All expenses are approximate, not necessarily all-inclusive and are subject to change.)

1. Uniforms/scrubs/gowns: \$100 for two years.
2. Books and supplies: \$3,000 for two years.
3. Health examination/immunizations: \$200-\$300. Students selected for the program must have a completed health exam form which includes a clearance permitting unrestricted functional activities essential to providing dental hygiene care in accordance with the American Disabilities Act (1990). Selected laboratory work and immunizations must be repeated one year later.
4. Health Services fee: \$14 per year.
5. Student Fees of \$10 per year.
6. Enrollment fee of \$20 per unit.

7. Students must have current CPR card (BLS Healthcare Provider Course). If the CPR card expires prior to completing the program, re-certification is required.
8. It is recommended that students carry personal health and accident insurance including hospitalization. Policies are available to students at reasonable rates.
9. Students must purchase a predetermined instrument and supplies issue. The issue is determined and assembled by the Dental Hygiene Program and will cost approximately \$3,500 the first year and \$500 the second year. Students must purchase the issue prior to August 18, 2010. See the Program Director for more information on the instrument and supplies issue.
10. Students must purchase clinical magnification glasses. The Dental Hygiene Program Director will arrange for manufacturers to come to RCC for the students to select the magnification glasses of their choice prior to the beginning of the first semester. These glasses will range from \$600-\$1,000. Students must have purchased magnification glasses prior to August 18, 2010. See vendor for refund policy.
11. Malpractice insurance: \$50 for two years.
12. SADHA membership: \$90 for two years.
13. National Board Review Course: \$350.
14. National Board Dental Hygiene Examination fee: \$250.
15. California Dental Hygiene Licensing Examination fee: \$595.
16. Fingerprinting fee: \$36-57.

Additional Information:

Applicants for licensure in the state of California must be fingerprinted, and report information related to the illegal use of controlled substances, and any convictions or pleas of nolo contendere even if the charges were dismissed. In addition, the application requires specific information related to convictions, misdemeanor or felony, associated with state or federal action. If there are any concerns that may prevent licensure after graduation, direct inquiries to the Dental Board of California, Committee on Dental Auxiliaries, 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1050, Sacramento, CA 95815

General Information about the Field of Dental Hygiene

A registered dental hygienist (RDH) is a licensed dental professional who is an integral part of a successful dental team. The RDH provides preventive, educational, and therapeutic services to patients which can include oral examinations, oral prophylaxis (scaling, root planning, soft tissue curettage and selective polishing), dental radiography, pain control (administering local anesthesia and nitrous-oxide/oxygen sedation), dental sealants, preventive and adjunct therapies, nutritional counseling and oral health education. The Dental Hygiene Program will prepare graduates to work in a variety of settings, such as private dental offices, schools, health centers, government agencies, and private industry.

Bloodborne Pathogens Statement:

Dental health professionals may be exposed to contagious diseases therefore strict compliance with Center of Disease Control (CDC) and OSHA standards are maintained. Policies on blood borne and infectious disease are available upon request from the Dental Hygiene Program.