

## Pre-Dental Hygiene at OUHSC

It should be emphasized that “Pre-Dental Hygiene” is NOT a major. It simply means that the student is meeting requirements for transferring. Academic requirements for transferring vary by institution. To be eligible for transferring, you are advised to complete the following courses.

Enrollment Abbreviation	Course Name	Hours	Completed
ENGL 1113	Freshman Composition I	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENGL 1213	Freshman Composition II	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
COMM 1113	Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSYC 1113	Introduction to Psychology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
SOC 1113	Introduction to Sociology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
HFS 1653	Basic Nutrition	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
HIST 1483 or 1493	American History	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLS 1113	American Federal Government	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
MATH 1513	College Algebra	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 1013 (Lecture)	Introductory Biology I	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 1011 (Lab)			
BIOL 1023 (Lecture)	Introductory Biology II	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 1021 (Lab)			
BIOL 3224	Microbiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 2154	Human Anatomy	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
BIOL 3314	Human Physiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEM 1123 (Lecture)	General Chemistry I	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
CHEM 1131 (Lab)			

### Additional Requirements

Non Western Culture Humanities Class	SOC 4153, SOC 3123, MUS 3861, MUS 3852, HIST 4653, HIST 3723, ENGL 4883, ART 3013, ANTH 4153, ANTH 3123, or ANTH 2223	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Artistic Forms Class	THTR 2843, THTR 2763, MUS 3002, MUS 2543, HUM 2843, HUM 2763, ENGL 3033, ART 4453, ART 3223, or ART 3213	3	<input type="checkbox"/>

**For additional information contact**  
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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The dental hygienist is a licensed member of the oral health care team responsible for providing preventive measures in the treatment of dental and oral disease. The oral health services include oral examination and charting, removal of hard and soft deposits from teeth, application of fluoride therapy and sealants, and exposing and processing oral radiographs. The dental hygienist is also responsible for educating parents in techniques needed to prevent dental caries, periodontal disease and other oral conditions. These services are usually rendered in the private dental office, but dental hygienists can be found in numerous other settings: nursing homes and long-term care facilities, hospitals corporate health facilities, school systems, research centers, state and federal agencies and public health clinics. Also, they can be employed as educators and/or researchers in dental hygiene and dental school programs where they are responsible for teaching courses and clinics providing continuing education seminars, conducting clinical research or collecting and analyzing scientific data.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:** The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics has projected that employment in the profession of dental hygiene will grow much faster than the average for all occupations through the end of the decade. There are still several areas of the United States that are currently reporting shortages of dental hygienists. Although there are opportunities for dental hygiene practice settings, the majority of dental hygienists are employed within general dental practices. About 70% of general dentists employ a dental hygienists, with many dentists employing more than one, which contributes to excellent employment opportunities. The dental hygiene field has a great deal of stability; the average length of employment for a hygienist working in the same practice is 5.5 years. Although there is a variation depending upon where a hygienist chooses to practice, the current average national wage is \$24-\$30 per hour. There is considerable freedom for hygienists to select their number of work days and hours; therefore, annual salaries for part-time practitioners vary.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Admission to the Dental Hygiene Program is competitive. Selection is based on the applicant's post-secondary academic record, life experiences and the potential for success in a baccalaureate program of study in dental hygiene. Oklahoma residents are given preference, but well-qualified non-residents are also considered for admission. New students are admitted for the fall semester only. To be considered for admission, students must meet the following requirements:

1. Submit a completed University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center application with application fee, a Dental Hygiene supplemental Application Form, official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended or currently enrolled, two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with applicant's potential for success, such as college science instructor and recent employer. All application materials must be submitted by January 15 of the year in which admission is sought (example: January 15 2016 is the deadline for fall 2016 admission).
2. Be in good standing with the college or university last attended.
3. Have successfully completed or will have completed, prior to entry into the program, the courses taken after the application deadline.
4. Have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale with a grade of C or better on all specifically required courses.
5. Ideally, applicants should complete FOUNDATIONAL coursework (see pre-requisite courses) before the January 15 application deadline. Acceptance is based upon completion of foundational coursework by the end of the spring semester prior to admission, and the remainder of required pre-requisite courses before entry into the Dental Hygiene program.
6. If English is the student's second language a national standardized TOEFL examination is required. A minimum score of 250 is required on that exam.
7. Interviews are conducted on an individual basis. Selected individuals will be notified and arrangements made for personal interviews. *An interview does not indicate acceptance into the program.* All expenses incurred in the interview process will be the responsibility of the applicant.
8. Fall transcript is required with application.

Applicants must investigate dental hygiene as a career prior to application by spending a minimum of 40 hours observing a dental hygienist.

Contents of this publication are subject to revision without notice. The provisions of this publication do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied between any applicant, student, or faculty member of the Dental Hygiene Program.

For more information about Dental Hygienists and Dental Hygiene programs go to [www.adha.org/](http://www.adha.org/).

For further information contact: Jane Bowers or Vicki Coury, University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry, Department of Dental Hygiene, PO box 26901, Oklahoma City, OK 73190; Telephone 405-271-4435. Email: [Jane-Bowers@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Jane-Bowers@ouhsc.edu) or [Vicki-Coury@ouhsc.edu](mailto:Vicki-Coury@ouhsc.edu)

OU College of Dentistry, Dental Hygiene Site Includes application information and packets: <http://dentistry.ouhsc.edu>. (Select "Become a Student," "Dental Hygiene," and then "Baccalaureate Program.") It is recommended that you review the website prior to contacting OU College of Dentistry.