



# NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

*College of Science & Health Professions*

## Pre-Dental Hygiene

The Pre-Dental Hygiene program is designed to meet the requirements of the Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center Dental Hygiene Program. The applicant must have completed a **minimum of 60 hours** with a minimum C grade in each required course and a minimum GPA of 2.5.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

		Hours	Completed
English 1113	Freshmen Composition I	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
English 1213	Freshmen Composition II	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication 1113	Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>HFS 1653+</b>	Basic Nutrition	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
History 1483 <b>OR</b>	American History 1492-1876 <b>OR</b>	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
History 1493	American History since 1876		
Mathematics 1513	College Algebra	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Political Science 1113	American Federal Government	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychology 1113	General Psychology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Psychology 3553+</b>	Psychology Statistics	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sociology 1113	Introduction to Sociology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Life Sciences</b>			
<b>Biology 3224+</b>	Microbiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Biology 2154+</b>	Human Anatomy	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Biology 3314+</b>	Human Physiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Chemistry 1123, 1131+</b>	General Chemistry I (Lecture & Lab)	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Humanities</b>			
History 1113 <b>OR</b> 1213	Early Western Civilization <b>OR</b> Modern	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Select one of the following *Non Western Culture classes		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soc 4153, Soc 3123, Mus 3861, Mus 3852, Hist 4653, Hist 3723, Engl 4883, Art 3013, Anth 4153, Anth 3123, or Anth 2223			
Select one of the following *Artistic Forms classes		3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thtr 2843, Thtr 2763, Mus 3002, Mus 2543, Hum 2843, Hum 2763, Engl 3033 Art 4453, Art 3223, or Art 3213			

\*Students must take at least one upper division General Education course.

\*Additional General Education courses required for students beginning college education Fall 1990 or later. See OUHSC website for general education: [www.ou.edu/admrec/tetables.htm](http://www.ou.edu/admrec/tetables.htm)

**+ These courses are used to compute the Foundational GPA used in the selection process. Acceptance is based upon completion of foundational course work by the end of the spring semester prior to admission.**

**ELECTIVES:** Remaining hours needed to equal **60 hours**.

For additional information contact  
Prehealth Professions Advising  
Dr. Craig Clifford  
Science Building Room 141  
918-444-3002  
clifford@nsuok.edu

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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 patients 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 in other practice settings, the majority of dental hygienists are employed within general dental practices. About 70% of general dentists employ a dental hygienist, 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 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, 2010 deadline for fall 2010 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 listed on this form. Have a total minimum of sixty (60) semester hours of coursework from any accredited college or university. Course numbers and titles are those of the University of Oklahoma. Any exceptions or substitutions must be approved by the program chair and/or college dean. It is the responsibility of the student to submit official transcripts for 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. If English is the student's second language, a national standardized TOEFL examination is required. A minimum score of 250 is required.
6. Interviews are conducted on an individual basis. Selected individuals will be notified and arrangements made for personal interview. Interview does not indicate acceptance into the program. All expenses incurred in the interview process will be the responsibility of the applicant.
7. Fall transcript 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:** [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, P. O. 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 Web site prior to contacting OU College of Dentistry.