

RDH-BSDH COMPLETION

Admission

The RDH-BSDH Completion program is available for registered dental hygienists who are graduates of associate degree dental hygiene programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). Graduates are prepared for advanced practice, supervisory, administrative, managerial and marketing positions in the dental field. In addition to the clinical role, graduates may also work as educators and researchers.

Dental Hygiene application is separate from University application and admission. This distance learning program can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis.

Minimum admission requirements include (details on the Department of Dental Hygiene website):

- Unrestricted current dental hygiene licensure in the United States or eligibility for licensure
- College grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 on 4.00 scale.
- Completion of 45 semester hours of BSDH core curriculum with grades of C (or K or S) or better in all natural and behavioral science, math and Lower Division Major Requirements courses at the time of application and 60 semesters hours at the time of enrollment in the dental hygiene program.
- Successful completion of the legislative requirements.
- Successful completion of transition course DHYG 3101 Prof Dev in Dental Hygiene.
- Graduation from an associate degree dental hygiene program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Broad-based general education, preparing students to contribute to their profession, community, and society by communicating effectively, thinking critically, and conceptually, acting ethically and valuing diversity
- Requisite skills with a strong knowledge base, hands on experience and the mindset required for success in the dynamic field of dental hygiene
- Thorough foundation in the diversified fields of dental hygiene i.e., clinician, educator/health promoter, consumer advocate, administrator/manager, change agent and researcher
- Emphasis on importance of life-long learning in the ever-changing profession of dental hygiene

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core IMPACTS *		42
All core curriculum recommendations are shown under the Core IMPACTS section of the Undergraduate Graduation Requirements. (https://nextcatalog.clayton.edu/graduation-requirements/undergraduate-graduation-requirements/core-curriculum/#nonsciencemajorstext)		
Field of Study - Dental Hygiene		18

Choose 18 hours of appropriate 1000/2000 level coursework (not applied in Core A-E).		
Career Block		30
Complete 30 career block credits ¹		
Major Requirements		21
DHYG 3101	Professional Development in Dental Hygiene	4
DHYG 4200	Research for Evidence-Based Practice	3
DHYG 4301	Educational Strategies and Internship	3
DHYG 4500	Contemporary Community Roles	2
DHYG 4900	Independent Study in Dental Hygiene	3
HLTH 3110	Interactive Communication	3
HLTH 3420	Health Education	3
Electives		9
Choose any three upper division courses except PHED or courses identified in the catalog as career or institutional credit courses. ²		
Total Credit Hours		120

* CHEM 1151 Survey of Chemistry I and CHEM 1152 Survey of Chemistry II or CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I and CHEM 1212 Principles of Chemistry II are the preferred Area T science sequence courses (with laboratory). CHEM 1151 Survey of Chemistry I or CHEM 1211 Principles of Chemistry I are required regardless of completion of other Core IMPACTS (T) science sequence options.

MATH 1401 Elementary Statistics is also required in Core IMPACTS (T). PSYC 1101 Intro to General Psychology and SOCI 1101 Introduction to Sociology are preferred (Core IMPACTS (S)).

These courses can also be applied to the Field of Study and Elective areas as needed to fulfill degree completion requirements. All require a grade of C or higher.

¹ Upon successful completion of DHYG 3101 Prof Dev in Dental Hygiene, RDHs will receive up to 30 semester hours of block credit.

² Statistics course required for degree; must be satisfied prior to program admission; may be satisfied at lower or upper division level.

³ DHYG 4301 requires students to complete **either** a comprehensive project or a clinical teaching internship in a dental hygiene clinic under the supervision of dental hygiene faculty. This requirement may be fulfilled at Clayton State University's on-campus dental hygiene clinic during the summer, or at a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited program, pending approval from the program director. This course meets CODA's educational methodology requirement for individuals seeking to qualify as faculty members in CODA-accredited programs. Students who are not pursuing a teaching pathway may choose to complete the requirement in an alternative setting, such as a community dental health facility, with approval from the program director.

Academic Standards

Dental Hygiene students must maintain a semester grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 ("C") to progress in the program. A minimum grade of "C" is required in all upper division and major courses. Students who receive a "D", "F", "WF", or "U" in any dental hygiene course may repeat that course one time only on a space available basis. Students who receive any of the following: "D", "F", "WF", or "U" in any two dental hygiene courses may not continue in the program. Reference the Department of Dental Hygiene Program and Clinic Manual: Policies and Procedures.