

DEPARTMENT: DENTAL HYGIENE

As a member of the **Department of Dental Hygiene** you will join a group of students who are part of the **School of Professional Studies** at New York City College of Technology, City University of New York.

Mission: Whether you are starting a career or looking for a change, the dental hygiene profession can provide many satisfying opportunities. These include having the status of a licensed health care professional, an attractive income potential, the rewards of keeping people healthy, a flexible work schedule, the ability to work in a variety of professional settings, the option of working nationwide or abroad in pleasant surroundings, and career stability.

Dental hygienists provide educational, clinical, and therapeutic services to the public in accordance with individual state dental hygiene practice acts. Prevention and treatment of oral disease are recognized as important factors in a patient's overall health and well-being. Dental hygienists are important members of the dental health care team providing these services.

Students are provided with the following important resources:

- Senior students are assigned as mentors to first year students to help them navigate their entry in the dental hygiene program
- Each student has a faculty advisor
- Practice videos are available in the Learning Center for students to use outside of clinic as they continue to develop their skill set
- The opportunity for community outreach.

Students can join the Student American Dental Hygiene Association (SADHA):

The mission and purpose of SADHA is to serve as a vehicle for increasing awareness of dental hygiene education, practice, and research to all NYCCT dental hygiene students. Regular information is provided regarding innovative technology and equipment, legislative and policy issues that affect the dental hygiene profession. An effort is made to become visible within and outside of the college community by participation in NYCCT activities along with attendance at local, regional, and national meetings. Continuing Education speakers are invited during the school year to apprise students of the most current and applicable information.

Students can engage with opportunities:

Our affiliation with industry professionals nationally, regionally, and locally affords our students the significant privilege of connecting with organizations for additional advancement opportunities. The following are some of our affiliations:

- Second District Dental Society
- Long Island Academy of Odontology
- Johnson & Johnson Health Care Products
- Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals
- Crest/Oral B Products
- Phillips Sonicare
- Orapharma
- GlaxoSmithKline

Options for employment and further study

Licensed Dental Hygienists* are employed in:

- Clinical Practice-dental offices
- Public health agencies, hospitals, and community health clinics
- Dental hygiene programs and dental schools as educators
- Pharmaceutical companies, research, product development and marketing
- Dental equipment and product sales
- Government agencies
- U.S. Armed Forces

*Some of these employment opportunities require further education

Faculty in the Dental Hygiene Department have an interest in various research areas:

Prevention of Caries and Erosive Tooth Wear: Dr. Maureen Archer, Chairperson

Professors:

Geriatric Oral Care: Joycelyn Dillon

HIV, Oral Cancer, Emerging Medical Technologies for Diagnosis of Oral Cancer,
and Infection Control: Gwen Cohen-Brown

Preventive Measures for Public Health and Transmittable Diseases: Anty Lam

Associate Professors:

Maria Bilello

Infection Control and Community Service: Susan Davide

Novel Pharmacotherapeutics and Emerging Diseases and their Implications for
Dental Profession: Anna Matthews

Assistant Professors:

Special Needs and Public Health: Audra Haynes

Pain Management and Local Anesthesia: Christopher Bowers

Administrative Assistant: Francine Brown

Senior CLT: Robert Mahalko

Fun Facts

- ✓ Advice from your professors:
Stay above water; plan! Never wait until the last minute. The workload is intense and the students who navigate the potential pitfalls best tend to be the best organized students. Time management is a critical skill that must be practiced to succeed, not only within the program, but in the profession as well.
- ✓ Graduates of the program:
Over the years, thousands of students have successfully completed our program. Many have completed or are currently in dental schools, Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree and PhD programs. Several have returned to NYCCT to teach in the dental hygiene program.
- ✓ Department History:
We are the oldest and largest Dental Hygiene Program in the New York City area, established in 1947.
The longest faculty member served 50+ years at NYCCT in the Dental Hygiene and Restorative Dentistry Departments.