

Department of Dental Hygiene Academic Complex Building, 7th floor





Who We Are

A dental hygienist is a licensed member of the dental health team who provides educational, clinical and therapeutic services to the public, according to the individual state Dental Hygiene Practice Act. Patient care provided by the dental hygienist includes collection and assessment of pertinent data, planning and implementation of care and evaluation of the results of treatment.

Dental hygiene students are taught responsibility for professional judgment, ethical conduct and infection control. They learn to develop an effective and responsible style of communication which enables them to involve the patient as a partner in care as a necessary condition for restoring and maintaining the patient's oral health. Students treat a broad range of patients with varied characteristics and health conditions and are given the opportunity to work in a variety of healthcare settings with different population groups.

The program includes theory, laboratory and clinical practice and general education courses. Students gain proficiency in clinical skills by treating patients in our on-campus dental hygiene clinic. Satisfactory performance in off-campus affiliated clinics may be required of each candidate for the associate in applied science degree with a major in Dental Hygiene. Computer experience related to dental hygiene practice is also offered. Prior to beginning clinical assignments, students must complete a departmental medical form, provide proof of required immunizations, malpractice insurance and Health Care Provider CPR certification.

Students must complete all requirements for the AAS degree within five years of the date of their matriculation into the dental hygiene curriculum.

In order to practice dental hygiene, graduates are required to pass a National Board Examination on the theory of dental hygiene and a Regional Board Examination on the clinical practice of dental hygiene. Application for licensure must be made to the individual state(s) where the applicant intends to practice.



Degrees Conferred

Dental Hygiene/AAS

Chairperson

Professor Joycelyn Dillon

Faculty and Staff

Professors: Maureen Archer, Gwen Cohen-Brown, Joycelyn Dillon, Leonard Friedman, Anty Lam

Associate Professors: Susan Davide, Anna Matthews, Susan Nilsen-Kupsch **Assistant Professors**: Lorna Flamer-Caldera, Audra Haynes, Christine Macarelli

Substitute Assistant Professor: Christopher Bowers

Lecturer: Shantel Childs-Williams **Senior CLT**: Robert Mahalko

Interesting/Important Facts

Licensed Dental Hygienist prepares for employment 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