

PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE
DENTAL HYGIENE





DENTAL HYGIENE

AT PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE

Prairie State College (PSC) provides a two-year program in dental hygiene, accredited by the American Dental Association and the North Central Accrediting Board. A dental hygienist examines patients' teeth and gums, cleans teeth, administers local anesthesia, takes dental X-rays, applies fluoride treatments and sealants to teeth, and educates patients about proper oral health care. Graduates of this program are eligible to sit for state and regional licensing examinations.

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (A.A.S.)
Dental Hygiene

Dental Hygiene

A.A.S. Degree

This program prepares students for careers in dental hygiene. Those who desire part-time college enrollment may enroll only in the general education courses prior to applying for entry into the dental hygiene program.

I. General Education Core 19 credits

Area A: Communication 6

ENG 101	Composition I - with a grade of C or better	3
COMM 101	Principles of Communication	3

Area B: Humanities 3

Select one course from the IAI courses listed for Area B

Area C: Mathematics (demonstrated competence required)

Placement into MATH 095 or completion of MATH 090- with a grade of C or better

Area D: Physical and Life Sciences 4

CHEM 105	Survey of General Chemistry	4
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Area E: Social and Behavioral Sciences 6

PSYCH 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOCIO 101	Introduction to Sociology	3

II. Program Requirements 64 credits

BIOL 211	Microbiology	4
BIOL 221	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIOL 222	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
DH 101	Histology	2
DH 103	Head & Neck Anatomy and Tooth Morphology	5
DH 104	Dental Radiology	4
DH 105	Nutrition	2
DH 106	General and Oral Pathology	2
DH 107	Fundamentals of Dental Hygiene	2
DH 108	Clinical Dental Hygiene I	4
DH 109	Clinical Dental Hygiene II	4
DH 116	Periodontology	2
DH 120	Care of Special Populations	2
DH 201	Clinical Dental Hygiene III	3
DH 202	Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	5
DH 203	Clinical Dental Hygiene V	5
DH 204	Ethics, Law and Administration	2
DH 205	Pharmacology	2
DH 207	The Science and Application of Dental Material	4
DH 220	Community Dental Health	2

Program Total: 83 credits



ABOUT THE CURRICULUM

The dental hygiene program combines courses in general education, basic science, dental science, and clinical science with learning experiences in the Dental Hygiene Clinic. Courses must be completed in sequence.

PSC's dental hygiene program is taught by full-time, licensed dental hygienists and two licensed dentists. In addition, there are adjunct faculty made up of both hygienists and dentists, many of whom are working in the community.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow by 38 percent from 2010 to 2020, much faster than the average for all occupations. Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will continue to spur the demand for preventative dental services, which are often provided by dental hygienists.



ADMISSIONS

PSC offers “open admission” that encourages diversity and admits all high school graduates or the equivalent.

Here’s how to start your college career at PSC:

- Provide a high school diploma or GED.
- Take the COMPASS Placement Test or submit a copy of ACT scores.
- Meet with an advisor from Counseling and Advising to select courses. For questions, contact an academic advisor at (708) 709-3506.

Please note: This program begins during summer sessions only and has special admissions requirements. All application requirements must be completed and submitted by the deadline date of Feb. 15. Contact Enrollment Services to obtain a copy of the Dental Hygiene Information Booklet.

Financial Aid Information

PSC’s tuition is affordable, and financial aid is available through a variety of sources. Additional information at prairiestate.edu/finaid.

How to Apply

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The school code for PSC is 001640. Apply online at fafsa.gov.

2. Notification from Department of Education

If you listed PSC’s school code in your FAFSA, the college’s Financial Aid Office will receive your report in approximately 14 days.

3. Notification from PSC

Once PSC receives your FAFSA from the Department of Education, a letter is mailed to the student indicating needed documents.

4. Complete the PSC financial aid application.

5. Determination Letter

Once all documents are completed, an award or ineligible letter is issued.

PSC Financial Aid Opportunities:

- PSC Board of Trustees Scholarships cover tuition and fees for two years.
- The PSC Foundation awards more than \$75,000 in scholarships annually.

For more information about how to obtain financial aid, contact the PSC Financial Aid Office at (708) 709-3735 or visit prairiestate.edu/apply-reg-pay/financial-aid.

Gainful Employment Disclosure

Visit prairiestate.edu/ge for important information about our gainful employment programs.

Find out more today by contacting

Dr. Carol Braun

Coordinator of Dental Hygiene, assistant professor
(708) 709-3715
cbraun@prairiestate.edu

Barb Kelly-Gorbitz, RDH

Chair of Dental Hygiene, professor
(708) 709-3714
bgorbitz@prairiestate.edu



202 South Halsted Street | Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 709-3500 | prairiestate.edu