Dental Hygiene

Biological and Health Sciences Division, Room B213, (847) 543-2042

Dental Hygiene
(Associate in Applied Science) Plan 21DH

This is a Limited Enrollment program. DHY courses are only offered during the day.

Students are required to meet the screening requirements in effect at the time of screening. Students who screen and are accepted into a limited enrollment program will be required to complete the curriculum that is in place at the time of entrance into the program. If students who screen are not granted admission, they must rescreen and satisfy all screening and curriculum requirements in place for a future program start.

Screening Deadline: First Wednesday in February

Dental hygienists are licensed professionals who provide oral health assessment, disease prevention, and health promotion. They are vital members of a dental health team. They serve individuals and families within the community. The Dental Hygiene program at the College of Lake County prepares students to develop the competencies needed to present extensive, preventive oral health care services to the community. The Dental Hygiene program has been granted accreditation status by the American Dental Association.

To complete an A.A.S., students must meet the General Requirements on page 121. In addition, students should select General Education electives (*) from those listed on page 122. All course prerequisites must be met.

The number of students that can be admitted to the Dental Hygiene program is limited; therefore, a screening procedure is used to select the academically best qualified from those who request consideration. Preference will be given to residents of Community College District 532 and community college districts with which CLC has a Joint Educational Agreement. Students who live outside of CLC’s district but are eligible for in-district tuition because they are employed by a district employer are NOT considered residents of the district for purposes of selection into the program. Attendance at a Program Information Session is required to apply to the program and to learn other specifics of the application process.

Students must have submitted the following documents to the Welcome and One-Stop Center:

A. Student Information Form
B. Official high school transcript with graduation date OR Official GED test scores
   OR Official college transcripts with graduation date and degree awarded
   OR Official foreign high school or college transcript evaluated by a NACES approved agency
C. Dental Hygiene Program Request for Screening Form
D. If using courses from another college to meet prerequisites or degree requirements, submit an official transcript to the Office of Registrar and Records. It is also highly recommended to submit a “Request for Evaluation of Prior College Transcripts” form.

Minimum Selection Criteria: Student records must indicate the following:

A. College Reading and Writing Readiness and Basic Algebra Readiness
B. CLC Cumulative GPA is 2.0 or above
C. BIO 123 or BIO 161 or an equivalent (C or better)
D. CHM 120 or CHM 121 or an equivalent course (C or better)
E. BIO 244 or an equivalent course (C or better)
F. NLN PAX with minimum acceptable RN percentile rank scores of 30 in the verbal, math and science sections, and a composite percentile of 40 (within 3 years prior to the screening deadline)
G. Must be eighteen (18) years of age by the first day of the summer session following the screening deadline
H. Attendance at a Dental Hygiene Program Information Session (within 2 years of the screening deadline)
Note: Applicants may take the NLN PAX exam once every 90 days (approximately three months). NLN PAX exam results that are less than 90 days between exams will not be considered. Scores used for screening into the dental hygiene program will be valid for only 3 years prior to a screening deadline. Scores older than 3 years will not be considered for screening. A valid Social Security Number is required to acquire the state license, and may be needed for background checks and/or clinical locations. Visit www.nlnonlinetesting.org for available test dates and times or visit the Dental Hygiene webpage at www.cclllinois.edu/programs/dhy. Instructions for registering for the test are available on the webpage.

Students who have completed any of the following courses (or an equivalent) must have obtained a grade of “C” or better. These courses are not prerequisites, but program requirements. They may be taken prior to acceptance into the program.

BIO 245 Anatomy and Physiology II
Must be completed before the first fall semester of the program

BIO 246 Microbiology
Must be completed before the first spring semester of the program. If this course is taken during the first fall semester of the program, it must be taken as an evening class.

ENG 121 English Composition I
Must be completed before the first fall semester in the program.

Students who are selected for the program are required to attend a mandatory orientation session. Failure to attend the mandatory orientation session may result in the student losing their seat in the program and the next qualified student on the list will be selected in his/her place.

Note: A student must earn a minimum grade of “C” in each Dental Hygiene course to continue in and graduate from the program. All course prerequisites must be met.

Required General Education Coursework ..........................15
CMM 111 Communication Skills or
CMM 121 Fundamentals of Speech or
CMM 123 Dynamics of Small Group Discussion or
CMM 128 Interviewing Practices ..............................3
ENG 121 English Composition I ..............................3
PSY 121 Introduction to Psychology ............................3
SOC 121 Introduction to Sociology ............................3
Humans or Fine Arts Elective ............................3

Additional Required Coursework ...............................8
BIO 245 Anatomy and Physiology II ............................4
BIO 246 Microbiology ............................4

Required Dental Hygiene Coursework ............................56

First Semester ..............................................................12
DHY 111 Preclinic Theory and Practice of Dental Hygiene ............................2
DHY 113 Preclinical Dental Hygiene ............................2
DHY 115 Head and Neck Anatomy ............................2
DHY 117 Dental Anatomy ............................2
DHY 131 Oral Histology and Embryology ............................2
DHY 171 Preventive Dental Hygiene ............................2

Second Semester ..........................................................13
DHY 112 Theory and Practice of Dental Hygiene I ............................2
DHY 114 Clinical Dental Hygiene I ............................2
DHY 116 Dental Radiology I ............................3
DHY 119 Nutrition and Biochemistry ............................2
DHY 174 Introduction to Periodontics ............................2
DHY 175 Dental Pharmacology and Anesthetics ............................2

Summer Session ...........................................................8
DHY 132 Theory and Practice of Dental Hygiene II ............................1
DHY 134 Pain Management ............................2
DHY 176 Dental Materials and Expanded Function ............................3
DHY 179 Clinical Dental Hygiene II ............................2

Third Semester .............................................................14
DHY 211 Theory and Practice of Dental Hygiene III ............................2
DHY 213 Clinical Dental Hygiene III ............................4
DHY 215 Dental Radiology II ............................2
DHY 219 Advanced Periodontics ............................2
DHY 232 General and Oral Pathology ............................2
DHY 271 Community Dentistry I ............................2

Fourth Semester ..........................................................9
DHY 212 Theory and Practice of Dental Hygiene IV ............................2
DHY 214 Clinical Dental Hygiene IV ............................4
DHY 216 Ethics and Jurisprudence ............................1
DHY 231 Board Review and Licensure ............................1
DHY 272 Community Dentistry II ............................1

Total Hours for A.A.S. Degree ......................................79

For more information on recommended courses or program specific advising, contact the following faculty members or the Biological and Health Sciences division at (847) 543-2042:

Kim Aichele / Mary Jacobs / Sue Nierstheimer