

# Care for Others

# Allied Health Department

Nursing  
Dental Hygiene  
Occupational Therapy Assistant  
Radiologic Technology  
Pharmacy Technician

## SFCC Allied Health Admissions Office Contact

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## Department Contacts

### Dental Hygiene Program

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## A.A.S. IN DENTAL HYGIENE

The dental hygienist is a dynamic health care professional who is the only member of the dental health team, other than the dentist, licensed to provide direct care to the patient.

The diverse duties of the dental hygienist are rewarding and include oral prophylaxis (cleaning); exposing, processing and mounting radiographs; collecting and evaluating medical history information; performing head and neck examinations; periodontal assessment and therapy; applying agents for the prevention of decay; applying desensitizing and antimicrobial agents; and administering local anesthesia and nitrous oxide analgesia.

The dental hygienist also acts as a dental health educator and is responsible for teaching patients prevention of dental disease and providing nutritional counseling as well as being active in community health efforts; such as school based sealant programs and nursing home screenings and assessments.

Dental hygiene has been recognized by the state as a profession that is in great demand. Dental hygiene employment opportunities are numerous and vary greatly. They include general practice and specialty dental offices; federal, state, county and city health clinics; public schools; hospitals; long-term care facilities; dental schools; industrial clinics; the armed services; and research opportunities.

A dental hygienist in Missouri is compensated for their practice by hourly wage, daily wage, daily wage plus commission, commission only and yearly salary depending on the employer.

The Associate of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene requires a minimum of 93 credit hours, including the prerequisite courses. All of the dental hygiene courses in the "Sequence of Courses" must be completed in the prescribed sequence with a 2.75 grade point average or better. General education requirements (such as Public Speaking) in the "Sequence of Courses" can be completed with a course grade of "C" or above.

State Fair Community College does accept transfer courses from other colleges but an applicant would be advised to have their transcript evaluated before assuming transfer of credits.

Students have opportunities to develop lifelong learning and friendships in SFCC's Dental Hygiene program. A student enrollment of 10 per class allows for the students to work closely and develop working relationships that support learning and service. The dental hygiene student joins the Student American Dental Hygiene Association and participates in many campus events, state conferences and community health activities.

### Program accreditation and licensure

The program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

Graduates of the program are eligible to take the National Dental Hygiene Board Exam (NDHBEX), practical skill examination (CRDTS) and the state licensure exam required for licensure in Missouri.

## Dental hygiene clinic

State Fair Community College has a new and modern dental hygiene clinic with six dental units. The clinic is supervised by dental hygiene faculty and a supervising dentist. The clinic provides a hands-on experience for students



in patient assessment and treatment that leads to competency in delivering oral health care.

## Competitive admission

Admission to the Dental Hygiene program at State Fair Community College is competitive. Application packets are available online at [www.sfccmo.edu/applications](http://www.sfccmo.edu/applications).

In addition to reviewing and completing the information in the application packet, you will want to officially declare pre-dental hygiene as your major, so that you will be assigned a department advisor and we can guide you in your course selection.

## Dental Hygiene Program Sequence of Courses

### Prerequisite Courses

These courses must be taken prior to beginning the Dental Hygiene program. Note: Other non-dental hygiene courses (general education requirements) may also be taken prior to enrollment in the program, but are not required as prerequisites.

Class	Hours
Intermediate Algebra	3
Human Anatomy/Lab	4
Human Physiology/Lab	4
Microbiology/Lab	4
Introduction to Chemistry/Lab or Fundamentals of Chemistry/Lab	5
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>20</b>

Applicants must have Biology, Introduction to Biological Sciences or Advanced Biology in high school before taking Human Anatomy and Physiology. English Composition I is a prerequisite to Introduction to Chemistry. Prerequisites taken elsewhere must have equivalent credit hours and labs with them. Introductory courses, such as Living Chemistry, are not acceptable.

### First Semester

Class	Hours
Introduction to Dental Hygiene	6
Dental Radiography	2
Oral Anatomy and Histology	3
Oral Anatomy and Histology Lab	1
English Comp I	3
Dental Clinical Emergencies	1
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13/16</b>

### Second Semester

Class	Hours
Clinical Dental Hygiene I	6
Principles of Periodontics	2
Pathology	3
Applied Nutrition and Oral Health	2
U.S. History Before 1877 or U. S. History After 1877 or American/ National Government	3
Public Speaking	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13/19</b>

### Summer Semester

Class	Hours
Local Anesthesia	3
Clinical Dental Hygiene II	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>7</b>

### Third Semester

Class	Hours
Clinical Dental Hygiene III	8
Community Dental Health Pharmacology	1
Dental Biomaterials w/lab	2
General Psychology	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>13/16</b>

### Fourth Semester

Class	Hours
Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	8
Dental Hygiene Ethics and Legal Issues	2
Comm. Dental Health Lab	1
Advanced Periodontics Practicum	.5
Allied Health Career Development	.5
Sociology	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>12/15</b>

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NOTE: Not all courses are offered every semester. Check with an advisor. For a complete description of the Associate of Applied Science degree general requirements and for a description of courses, please visit [www.sfccmo.edu](http://www.sfccmo.edu) and select Course Catalog, or call the Admissions Office at (660) 530-5833. **8/2009**