St. Cloud Technical & Community College
Dental Hygienist Program
Current SCTCC Student - Information Packet

Welcome!

Health programs have specific requirements for students to complete.

This material is intended to help guide you through the process from beginning to graduating from your intended health major. Staff and faculty are here to assist with your educational journey and look forward to seeing you on campus!

Dental Hygienist Program Description

The Dental Hygienist Program is a full-time, 4-semester program.

- Dental Hygienist program begins each fall semester.
- 14 students are accepted each fall semester.
- 4 semesters: fall, spring, fall, spring

It is a competitive program that requires a 2-application process.

With a dental hygiene degree from SCTCC, graduates are licensed primary healthcare professionals. After learning skills in the classroom, students will take the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam (NBDHE), clinical exam (CRDTS, WREB, CDCA) and then get a license in the state where they want to practice.

Hygienists work in clinical dental settings and provide preventative, educational, and therapeutic services to patients. By promoting public health, dental hygienists help people learn the importance of dental health.

Duties include patient assessment, teeth cleaning, taking radiographs and dental images, applying fluoride treatments, providing periodontal therapy, and administering local anesthesia and nitrous oxide/oxygen inhalation.

Dental Hygienist Careers

Potential employers include clinical dental offices, nursing homes, public health agencies, dental and pharmaceutical companies, teaching in dental hygiene education programs and doing dental research.

- The two-year placement rate for the Dental Hygienist program is 100%.
- The average Central MN annual salary range is $62k to $81k.

Academic Advising Center - Current Student / Advisor Meetings

Current students are required to meet with an advisor at least once a semester to receive a registration access code and review their academic plan.

We encourage students to visit more often with any questions or concerns they may have.

We are here to align you with resources that are available and help guide you through your educational journey at SCTCC!

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Dental Hygienist Program Requirements / Planner

- All pre-requisite courses must be complete before applying to the program.
- Minimum GPA (calculated by 2 separate sections):
  - 3.0 in science pre-requisite courses are required for program acceptance.
  - 3.0 in remaining general education pre-requisites courses are required for program acceptance.
- HESI Exam will be used in selection process
- When applying to the program, applicants must be in *Good Academic Standing* at SCTCC (not on warning or probation - cumulative GPA 2.0 & cumulative completion rate of 66.67%).
- RE-Take Options: Each pre-requisite may be taken 3 times (Effective 12/2022) Consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses.

Science General Education pre-requisites include: **(Minimum GPA in Science courses = 3.0)**	**Credit**	**Semester**
BLGY 2310 Human Anatomy/Physiology I (Prereq is **BLGY 1351**)	4 credit	_____
BLGY 2320 Human Anatomy/Physiology II (Prereq is **BLGY 2310**)	4 credit	_____
BLGY 2330 Microbiology	4 credit	_____
CHEM 1345 General Organic Chemistry **OR**	4 credit	_____
CHEM 1350 General Chemistry I	4 credit	_____

Remaining General Education pre-requisites include: **(Minimum GPA in general education courses = 3.0)**	**Credit**	**Semester**
PHIL 1320 Ethics	3 credit	_____
Goal area 1 Communication – Oral (Example: CMST 2310)	3 credit	_____
Goal area 1 Communication – Written (Example: ENGL 1302)	3 credit	_____
Psychology Course (Example: PSYC 1304)	3 credit	_____
Sociology Course (Example: SOCI 1350)	3 credit	_____

Students MUST supply documentation OR take course work at SCTCC:

CPR requirement: Basic Life Support (BLS) American Heart Association OR American Red Cross

- Provide a copy of CPR card AFTER acceptance to the Dental Hygienist program.
- (During Dental Hygienist orientation meeting)
- Course options at SCTCC: EMSC 1480 (1 credit course) **OR** HBHE 1513 (Hour based course).

HESI Exam: The HESI Exam is being used by the Dental Hygiene program to help evaluate student readiness as part of the selection process. Dental Hygienist applicants will be invited to register and take the exam AFTER the application period closes.

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Historical Applicant Data – Dental Hygienist Program (Previous years – Student Data)

Program Start Date	Number of Seats Available	Total # of Applicants	* Total # of Qualified Applicants	*** Average GPA in Science pre-requisites	*** Average GPA in General Ed Courses	** Average HESI Score	*** All pre-requisites complete at time of app.	*** **(FYI)** Hold a Dental Asst. License	*** **(FYI)** Accepted DH students who completed 3 or more pre-requisites at SCTCC
Fall 2018	14	73	50	3.95	3.92	NA	14	3	NA
Fall 2019	14	76	50	3.97	3.95	NA	14	0	14
Fall 2020	14	76	55	3.93	3.97	82.89	14	1	14
Fall 2021	14	65	39	3.95	3.80	88	14	1	14
Fall 2022	14	51	38	3.96	3.96	81.75	14	0	14

* All pre-requisites complete, GPA of 3.0 or higher ** Students accepted to the program completed areas

Application Timeline for the Dental Hygienist Program at SCTCC (estimated dates, subject to change)

Must be a current SCTCC student to apply to the program

The Dental Hygienist application is open December 1st through January 15th
Application is found at https://www.sctcc.edu/dental-hygienist-apply-online

- Mid-Late February qualified applicants will be invited and take the HESI exam
- 7 weeks after application period closes:

1. Acceptance letters sent to the top ranking 14 students.
2. *Alternate List* applicants will be notified of their status
3. Non-accepted applicants are notified & encouraged to meet with an advisor to discuss:
   - ways to improve your application before reapplying to the program
   - your educational options / course selection for next semester
   - other programs and opportunities at SCTCC

Students *admitted* to the Dental Hygienist program

• Applicants will be notified of the date and time for the mandatory Dental Hygienist student orientation, usually held in May.
• Applicants MUST provide documentation of either Basic Life Support (BLS) American Heart Association OR American Red Cross CPR Certification (during orientation meeting).
• Applicants will be required to take and pass a MN Criminal Background study, electronic fingerprinting, AND drug testing (paid for by the student).

Applicants placed on the *Alternate List* for the Dental Hygienist program

• Applicants who meet the requirements but were not admitted because the program was full will be placed on a ranked alternate list.

• Applicants placed on this list will be eligible for admission to the program if spaces open prior to the beginning of the fall semester.

• ALL applicants who wish to gain admission to the Dental Hygienist Program in the future must reapply, including those who were on the previous year's alternate list.

If an applicant is accepted and declines to be admitted into the program, no preference will be given to the applicant should they choose to apply in any subsequent year. To be considered for admission in any subsequent year, such students will need to go through the entire application process again.

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The Dental Hygienist Program is an 80-credit degree

Length of Program Once Admitted: 4 semesters *Start:* Fall Semester/August

Program courses (once accepted)		= 53 credit
Pre-requisites credits (minimum):		= 27 credit
	TOTAL	**80 credit**

Dental Hygienist Program Courses (once accepted)

Fall Semester - Semester I

DEHY 1400 Dental Hygiene Seminar I		2 credit
DEHY 1414 Nutrition and Dental Hygiene		2 credit
DEHY 1418 Introduction to Radiology		2 credit
DEHY 1424 Head, Neck and Dental Anatomy		3 credit
DEHY 1428 General and Oral Pathology		3 credit
DEHY 1480 Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene I		3 credit
	TOTAL	**15 credit**

Spring Semester- Semester II

DEHY 1402 Dental Hygiene Seminar II		2 credit
DEHY 1410 Introduction to Dental Materials & Methods		2 credit
DEHY 1422 Dental Pharmacology		2 credit
DEHY 1448 Dental Hygiene Radiology II		2 credit
DEHY 1460 Periodontics I		2 credit
DEHY 1485 Clinical Dental Hygiene II		4 credit
	TOTAL	**14 credit**

Fall Semester - Semester III

DEHY 1404 Clinical Seminar III		2 credit
DEHY 1421 Dental Hygiene Materials & Methods		1 credit
DEHY 1440 Community Dental Health I		2 credit
DEHY 1468 Pain Management		2 credit
DEHY 1486 Clinical Dental Hygiene III		6 credit
	TOTAL	**13 credit**

Spring Semester- Semester IV

DEHY 1406 Clinical Seminar IV		2 credit
DEHY 1445 Community Dental Health II		1 credit
DEHY 1464 Periodontics II		1 credit
DEHY 1488 Clinical Dental Hygiene IV		6 credit
DEHY 1490 Dental Hygiene Licensure and Jurisprudence		1 credit
	TOTAL	**11 credit**

Estimated Cost of Program

Tuition & Fees (80 credits) $17,720 ● Books, Supplies, Materials $8,100 = $25,820.
Please visit http://www.sctcc.edu/financial-aid for tuition and fees rate, cost of credits and programs. Also, there is information on how to apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Licensing Exam Upon graduation, students must successfully complete the National Dental Hygiene Board Exam, the Central Regional Board Exam and then obtain a license in the state they wish to practice.

FAQs – Dental Hygienist Program

Can I apply directly to the Dental Hygienist program?
Students MUST be a *Current Student* (applied and accepted to SCTCC).

Can I apply to the program without all of the pre-requisites complete?
All pre-requisite courses MUST be complete prior to applying to the program with a minimum GPA of 3.0 earned in these courses.

Can I re-take a pre-requisite course to improve my GPA?

- Each pre-requisite may be taken 3 times (Effective 12/2022)
  Consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses.

Beside my Pre-Requisite GPA, what can I do to improve program acceptance?
HESI Exam score (effective for Fall 2020 program start date). Please see HESI FAQs

When does the Dental Hygienist program start?
The Dental Hygienist program is a 4-semester program that begins each Fall Semester.

How many students are accepted?
14 students are accepted each Fall Semester.

Can I attend Part-Time?
The Dental Hygienist program is a *full-time* program only.

Can I take the Dental Hygiene classes online?
Once accepted to the program, classes are all held on-campus or at Clinical sites.

When can I apply to the program?
The Dental Hygienist application window is open December 1st through January 15th
Application found at https://www.sctcc.edu/dental-hygienist-apply-online

Once accepted to the Dental Hygienist program, what is the schedule like?
First year classes (semester 1 & 2) are held Mon-Friday from 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM
(8 hours a week in lab, 12 hours of lecture/didactic and additional open lab practice sessions).

- Study time and practice time is roughly double time spent in classes.
- The focus is on learning dental hygiene theory, terminology and basic clinic skills.
- Students will start seeing dental patients in spring of second semester.

Second year classes (semester 3 & 4) are 4-5 days per week depending on the semester.

- Majority of hours per week in the dental clinic with patients (12 hours per week).
- Lecture and lab hours amount to 10-12 hours per week.
- Additional time is spent on skills and practicing with instruments and equipment to increase experience and competency.
- Spring (semester 4) includes off campus activities at various community dental health sites providing oral hygiene instruction to underserved populations in the community.

Is the Dental Hygienist Program accredited?
The St. Cloud Technical and Community College (SCTCC) Dental Hygienist program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation
St. Cloud Technical & Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Dental Hygiene Program and HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)

What does HESI stand for?

Health Education Systems, Inc., and A2 stands for Admission Assessment.

Why is the HESI admission exam being used?

The HESI exam is being used by the Dental Hygiene Program to help evaluate students' academic readiness as part of the selection process. Students will also be completing a learning style and personality profile assessment. The learning style and personality profile assessment will not be scored.

When can I take the HESI exam?

Students MUST be invited to take the HESI exam at SCTCC. Students are invited to take the HESI exam after the Dental Hygiene Program applications have been reviewed. Students that have completed all program requirements and scored a minimum required GPA of 3.0 for the required prerequisites will be eligible to take the HESI examination. Explicit directions are included in the invitation that is sent via email and mailed letter.

What is covered in the HESI exam?

Eligible students will take the following components of the HESI exam for application to the Dental Hygiene Program:

English:

- Reading Comprehension (60 minutes)
- Vocabulary and General Knowledge (50 minutes)

Science:

- Biology (25 minutes)
- Anatomy and Physiology (25 minutes)

Learner Profile:

- Learning Style (14 items) *These scores are not scored for program admission*
- Personality Profile (15 items) *These scores are not scored for program admission*

How long will the HESI exam take?

Applicants should allow about 4 hours to complete the exam (all components listed above). Registration is a separate process and will be done prior to taking the actual exam. Details are explained in the invitation letter.

What is the cost of the HESI examination?

The test will cost approximately $50 -$60 (Fees will be set on the HESI site each year)
Students will register online and pay for the exam online.

Testing location:

Students will either take the exam at SCTCC in a testing lab at the main campus (1540 Northway Drive), or will utilize the ProctorU site for monitoring test takers. If the ProctorU service is utilized, there is a separate fee for this service. Testing location options will be provided to students that are invited to take the HESI exam.

FAQs Dental Hygiene Program and HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2) (cont.)

What are the student accommodations?
Students will be permitted the use of scratch paper if deemed necessary, which will be collected by the SCTCC Testing Center staff and immediately shredded after the test.

How many times can I take the HESI exam?
Students are allowed to take the test two (2) times for their dental hygiene application process. The HESI exam must be taken at St. Cloud Technical & Community College (or by using ProctorU as determined by the college) and will only be offered once each year in February. Students are encouraged to re-test to boost scores for program admission.

Is there an expiration date of my HESI exam?
The HESI exam must be taken within two years of applying to the Dental Hygiene Program for the score to be eligible for consideration in the selection process.

When will the HESI exam be administered?
The testing window for the Dental Hygiene HESI exam is offered mid-to-late February each year. Eligible students will receive an email with detailed information & dates. Once the Dental Hygiene application period closes, applications are reviewed and ranked. Eligible applicants will be notified and invited to the HESI exam.

What is the minimum score accepted for the HESI exam?
There is not a minimum score needed to achieve for admission to the Dental Hygiene Program. Students will receive points based off their comprehensive score based on a percent set forth by the program.

When will I know the results of the HESI exam?
Within 48 hours students will receive a detailed email regarding their score.

How can I study for the HESI exam?
Students are encouraged to study and prepare for all portions of the HESI A2 Exam required for dental hygiene program admissions. Study material sources are suggested on the Evolve Elsevier website and Amazon.
https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/product/9780323353786?role=student
** Only available after a student has signed up and paid for HESI EXAM.

HESI Admission Assessment Exam Review, 4th edition (book) ISBN: 9780323353786
Type in **HESI A2 Prep materials** on **Amazon.com** for more test prep books and materials
Health Education Systems, Inc., and A2 stands for Admission Assessment.

Visit SCTCC! – Dental Hygienist Information Session

Thank you for your interest in the Dental Hygienist Program at SCTCC!
We invite you to sign up for a Dental Hygienist Information Session to learn more about the program. https://www.sctcc.edu/infosessions/HEALTH

After reviewing this information, if you need further assistance, please contact:

Admissions Office 320-308-5089	enroll@sctcc.edu
Academic Advising Center 320-308-5741	advising@sctcc.edu
Health Science offices:	320-308-5485 **or** 320-308-5403