



## Description

A registered dental hygienist (RDH) is a licensed healthcare professional, oral health educator and clinician who, as a co-therapist with the dentist, provides preventive, educational, and therapeutic services supporting total health for the control of oral diseases and the promotion of oral health. State licensure requirements mandate that a dental hygienist must graduate from an accredited dental hygiene education program. In addition to treating patients directly, dental hygienists may also work as educators, researchers, and administrators.

The dental hygiene program is offered through a unique partnership with the University of Oklahoma (OU) and Southern Tech. Students receive lectures through interactive video-conferencing delivered live from the College of Dentistry, located in downtown Oklahoma City. All laboratory and clinical training are conducted at the new state-of-the-art dental hygiene clinic located at Southern Tech.

## Accreditation

American Dental Association (ADA) Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)

## Application

All curriculum, fees, application, etc. are processed through the OU Health Sciences Center College of Dentistry. There are 60 hours of specified prerequisite coursework required prior to application of the program, which may be taken at any higher education institution. Once an applicant is awarded acceptance into the program, the dental hygiene curriculum is two years and is held on the Southern Tech campus. Upon graduation, students are awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene from the University of Oklahoma and are eligible to take examinations for licensure to practice as a registered dental hygienist (RDH).

For the list of prerequisite coursework, transfer policies, forms, fees, admission statistics, and the entire application process, please visit [dentistry.uohsc.edu](http://dentistry.uohsc.edu).

## Program Details

<b>Dental Hygiene</b>	
Pediatric Dentistry	44
Dental Pharmacology	45
Geriatric Dentistry	44
General and Oral Histology	88
Dental Morphology	44
Clinical Dental Hygiene	88
Clinical Dental Hygiene Theory	45
Oral Diagnosis	88
Clinical Dental Hygiene Theory II	88
Head and Neck Anatomy	88
Applied Dental Materials	44
Oral Radiography I	130
Preventive Dentistry	130
Oral Radiography II	44
Dental Hygiene Research Methods	130
Dental Materials Science	44
Dental Hygiene Clinical Rotations I	44
Dental Hygiene Process of Care	44
Clinical Dental Hygiene III	260
Dental Hygiene Clinical Rotations II	44
Periodontics I	44
Dental Hygiene Senior Project Capstone	130
Dental Hygiene Practice Management	44
Dental Ethics and Jurisprudence	44
Advanced Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice	88
Clinical Dental Hygiene IV	260
Pain Control for Dental Hygiene Care	88
Oral Pathology	176
Periodontics II	44
Community Health Issues in Dental	88
Community Health Practicum	15
Periodontics III	44
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>2641</b>
<i>Estimated time to complete (Full Time)</i>	<i>2 years</i>

## Targeted Certifications and/or Credentials

- National Board of Dental Hygiene Exam

**Certifications may vary by Program and are subject to change without notice.**

## Employment Options

*The following list is associated with the approved SOC (Standard Occupational Classification) for this program and does not necessarily represent immediate opportunities; additional training may be required for some options listed.*

Dental Hygienist; Dental Hygienist, Mobile Coordinator; Education Coordinator; Hygienist; Implant Coordinator; Pediatric Dental Hygienist; Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH); Registered Dental Hygienist, Part Time Clinical Faculty – Approximate Pay Potential: \$16-48/Hour.