

Q & A for the Dental Hygiene Applicant

Here are some answers to the most common questions:

Q: The application deadline is in December. I'm close to having the number of science and non-science courses to be able to apply. However, in winter quarter, I will still be taking the last of the prerequisite courses required to be eligible to apply. Will I still be able to apply?

A: Unfortunately, this disqualifies an applicant. All prerequisite courses must be completed *by the application deadline of the year you intend to apply.*

Q: I would like to know more about the process of applying and I am a bit hesitant to create a profile in the online application system. How can I get information on how to apply and what the requirements are before I begin an online application?

A: Attend an information session to get more information, dates are posted online at <https://healthcare.seattlecentral.edu/tours-and-information>.

For more information visit <http://seattlecentral.edu/>

- Go to the drop down "Programs"
- Select "Bachelor's Degree" <https://seattlecentral.edu/programs/bachelors-degree>
- Click on "Dental Hygiene" <https://healthcare.seattlecentral.edu/programs/dental-hygiene>. Thoroughly read this page before proceeding to the next step.
- Click on "What You'll Learn" <https://healthcare.seattlecentral.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/learn>. Thoroughly read this page to learn about the degree and learning outcomes. Go back to "Dental Hygiene."
- Click on "Get Started" <https://healthcare.seattlecentral.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/get-started>.
- Scroll to "Application Process" and click on "Application for the Bachelor of Applied Science in Allied Health – Dental Hygiene" which is linked to the "log in" page of the application <https://www.seattlecolleges.edu/bas/dentalhygiene>.

Additional informative links can be found under "Additional Useful Information" on the "Get Started" webpage.

- Estimated Cost of the Program <https://healthcare.seattlecentral.edu/sites/alliedhealth.seattlecentral.dev/files/inline-files/estimated-cost-of-the-program.pdf>
- Financial Aid, Scholarships, and Loans <https://healthcare.seattlecentral.edu/sites/alliedhealth.seattlecentral.dev/files/inline-files/financial-aid-scholarships-and-loans.pdf>

Then, apply to Seattle Central College and schedule an appointment with an advisor at AdvisorCentral@seattlecolleges.edu. Once the advising appointment has been completed and they have ensured all prerequisites have been met, go to the Seattle Central College website and follow the steps below:

Q. Does the college require Dental Hygiene entrance testing?

A: Seattle Central College requires one of two entrance exams:

- The Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH) Exam is a 240-question, multiple-choice computerized exam across six subject areas:

Reading comprehension	50 minutes/40 questions
Quantitative reasoning	45 minutes/40 questions
Biology	30 minutes/30 questions
General Chemistry	30 minutes/30 questions
Language usage	30 minutes/40 questions
Perceptual ability	45 minutes/60 questions

The ATDH testing process takes about 4 hours. The exam is available Sep 1-Oct 31, 2021. No minimum exam score is required to apply. Applicants must select an official report of scores to be sent to the Seattle Central College Dental Hygiene Program.

The [ATDH Candidate Guide](#) has been posted on the [ATDH website](#), and is one of the top five most downloaded documents on ADA.org. The *Guide* contains important information that candidates must read and understand before they attempt the examination, including information about ATDH content, administration dates, scoring, and fees. The *Guide* also communicates information about a **partial fee waiver** that is available to candidates experiencing severe financial hardship. A limited number of these partial fee waivers will be available each calendar year.

[ATDH Practice Questions](#) are now available on the ATDH website. These practice questions can be viewed and downloaded for free. DTS highly recommends that candidates review these practice questions—particularly those in the Perceptual Ability Test section—before candidates attempt the ATDH.

Results from the first ATDH administration window will be reported to candidates and dental hygiene education programs **no later than December 1, 2021**. Dental hygiene program directors will access candidates' ATDH results through the Department of Testing Services HUB – the same online portal where program directors currently access candidates' National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) results.

Lastly, an *ATDH Program User's Guide* will be made available to Dental Hygiene program directors no later than December 1. The User's Guide will provide normative information, such as descriptive statistics and percentiles, which will help program directors understand and interpret applicants' ATDH results.

Once again, thank you for your support of the ATDH Program! If you have any questions about your program's participation, please don't hesitate to contact us at atdh@ada.org.

- The Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Exam is a 170-question, the entire testing process takes about 4 hours of multiple-choice computerized exam across four subject areas:

Reading:	58 minutes/48 questions
Mathematics	51 minutes/34 questions
Science	66 minutes/54 questions
English/Language Usage	34 minutes/34 questions

- Official test scores. All exam scores must be sent directly from the testing agency to Seattle Central's Testing Center. Score reports provided to the applicant (i.e. examinees' copies, student copies, etc.) or photocopies of score reports will not be accepted.



Q. Is there someone I can send my unofficial transcripts to so they can be evaluated. I need to make sure I'm completely on track rather than just thinking I am on track?

A: Schedule an appointment with a Seattle Central College advisor on the main campus to create an educational plan.

Q. Can I meet with someone in the dental hygiene program to review the application process and have them help me?

A: Due to the number of applicants, we do not have the resources to provide a one-on-one session with all applicants. Seattle Central provides a great support system for all students. Your best resource for assistance and advising on the application requirements is to make an appointment with an advisor and can be completed via this link <https://seattlecentral.edu/campus-life/student-support-and-services/advising/meet-with-an-advisor>.

Q. How do I get my official transcripts evaluated?

A: Apply to the Seattle Central College and complete the matriculation process. Submit official transcripts along with the form found online at <https://seattlecentral.edu/pdf-library/registration/workforce-evaluation-form-b-191.pdf>.

Q. I have a B.S. in Biology, however I have not taken the prerequisite courses microbiology or anatomy and physiology. Do I have to take these courses before being eligible for the program?

A: All prerequisite courses are required and successfully completed with at a minimum grade of 2.5 for each course respectively. This grade requirement is not an overall GPA.

Q. Is it necessary to complete the associate's degree if I already have a bachelor's degree?

A: Yes. The entire program curriculum is required. The prerequisites and the eight (8) quarters of the dental hygiene program are required.

Q: How long is your program? How many credits for the entire program?

A: The dental hygiene program is eight (8) quarters. Program entrance begins summer quarter and runs through June of the 2nd year. The dental hygiene program Bachelor of Applied Science in Allied Health – Dental Hygiene consists of 195 credits including prerequisites.

Q. I want some guidance because I know this program is very competitive? Can you recommend classes I should retake?

A: We do not make any recommendations. Students must determine what is best for them. Just know the calculations will be based on the GPA of the most recent course. Also, be aware the state allows a maximum of 3 retakes for a course.

Q. Can I retake the essay?


A: No, essays can only be taken once during an application period.

Q: In the online application, I entered a course for the Humanities elective course requirement. When and how will I know the course I entered will be approved for this pre-requisite course?


A: It is recommended all prerequisite courses and transferred courses be reviewed with an advisor and course evaluator to ensure they will be accepted by the college.

Note in the graphic below: The green circle with the check mark indicates that the course is accepted. The blue circle with the "A" indicates this course must be reviewed by the Review Committee.

Example Only Below:

	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	PSYC&100	SCC	Fall 2016	4.0	5.0 Qtr
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Humanities Course

	Japanese121	0236.01	BE 4123	SPR16	3.6	5.0 Qtr
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Q. How do I pay the application fee?

A: Once the application is complete and the submit button is clicked, the next step is the application fee payment and is prompted electronically. There is a choice to pay online or print the form and take it to the cashier's office on the main campus. It is strongly recommended the application fee be paid online so the receipt is included as part of the application packet.

Q. Who should the professional letter come from?

A: **Acceptable** Professional References: Previous supervisor, former or current instructors, or any organization where someone has been privy to your abilities.
Not acceptable: Neighbors, current/previous co-workers, family members, someone you babysat for, association/club officers, etc.

Q. I'm wondering how to record my volunteer/community service hours. How should I document my hours?

A: Each applicant will create their own log to record the community service hours. For each time you volunteer make sure you have your supervisor sign the log. The supervisor will also need to verify the number of hours volunteered with their organization. Only hours completed in the last five (5) years will be accepted. The supervisor needs email the Community Service Verification and Recommendation form to Ms. Harris at Nancy.Harris@seattlecolleges.edu

Q. I want to know more about the points used to calculate the application process.

A: Dental Hygiene student selection is calculated by completing the application criteria. The application and supporting documents comprise 50% of the total points for acceptance. The criteria for the available 20 points are listed in the following table.

Dental Hygiene Applicant Evaluation Criteria (Class of 2023)	
Application Criteria (20 points)	Points
Professional Reference Letter (Maximum two letters will be accepted) Acceptable Professional References: Previous supervisor, former or current instructors, or any organization where someone has been privy to your abilities. Not acceptable: Neighbors, current/previous co-workers, family members, someone you babysat for, association/club officers, etc.	1
Community Service Verification and Recommendation Form	1
Essay Evaluation Essays will be evaluated for the content in the response as well as grammar, spelling, and punctuation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized, content supports topic, minimal grammar/spelling errors (6 pts) Mostly organized, content mostly supports topic, some grammar/spelling errors (4 pts) Lack of organization, content does not support topic, many grammar/spelling errors (2 pts) 	6
Grade Point Average (GPA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPA 3.8 or higher (4 pts) GPA 3.3-3.7 (2 pts) GPA 2.5-3.2 (1 pt) (As per state requirements, no classes can be repeated more than three times.)	4
Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH) Exam or Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) Exam	4 3
CDA Certification through Dental Assisting National Board (DANB); or more than 1,000 hours experience as a Neighborcare dental assistant or front office assistant; or graduation from a CODA accredited dental assistant program requiring 9 months or more of full-time study	2
Verified Military Service (current service or honorable separation)	2
Maximum Total Available Points	20

The second portion of the selection process consists of a group interview. The mandatory interview will contribute 50% to the final calculated application score.

Interview Criteria (20 points)	Points
Mandatory Interview	20

Q. The recommendation letter and the community service, how do I submit them? Should it be in an envelope and by hand?

A: Letters of recommendations need to be submitted by email directly from the recommender. Letter must be emailed to Nancy.Harris@seattlecolleges.edu and should come from the supervisor only. The Community Service Verification and Recommendation form is to be completed by the community service supervisor

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**Q.** If I was an alternate from the previous year, are spots held for the top three (3) alternates?

**A:** No, this is not an option.  
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Q. I bombed my interview, can I reschedule another interview?

A: No, there is not an option for a second interview. The acceptance deadline needs to be adhered to and does not allow sufficient time for all applicants to have a second interview.
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### **After Acceptance**

**Q.** Is there a background check process?

**A:** All accepted students must complete a National background check. The information will be sent to the student once accepted into the program. Students must have a clear background without any discrepancies to be able to enter the program.  
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Q. For the health history packet, can I meet with one doctor or do I have to meet with different doctors, i.e., primary physician, eye doctor, etc.?

A: Prior to entering the program, schedule a physical examination with a healthcare provider. Take the health history forms (the forms will need to be completed and signed by your healthcare provider).

Schedule a vision/eye examination with an optometrist and should include an evaluation of depth perception. Students will be required to wear safety glasses during all lab and clinical activities/procedures. Options for students needing prescription eyewear will be covered at the orientation meeting the last week in April.- Side shields are required on all safety glasses including personal prescription glasses. Some frame designs create difficulty in meeting this requirement. A pair of non-prescription safety glasses is included in the summer instrument issue.
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**Q.** What types of Immunizations and documentation are required?

**A:** The following immunization and document is required. (Lab results must be included):

- Hepatitis B requires the 3-dose series or positive titer showing immunity
  - Influenza requires a 1-dose given (during flu season September – June)
  - 2-step tuberculin test, or if TB test is positive, it is necessary to have a chest x-ray and a TB Assessment signed by a healthcare provider, a QuantiFERON®-TB Gold In-Tube test (GFT-GIT) showing no active TB or a T-Spot (must be done before entering the program)
  - Measles, mumps, & rubella (MMR) requires a 2-dose series or a positive titer showing immunity
  - Varicella (chickenpox) requires a 2-dose series or a positive titer showing immunity
  - Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) requires 1-dose within the last two years or TD within 10 years.
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