

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 because the cut-off to have pre-requisites completed is the end of fall quarter, the policy states:

- ***All prerequisite courses must be complete at the time of application deadline of the year you intend to apply.***

Q: I'd like to know more about the process of applying and I'm 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: First, apply to Seattle Central College. Second, 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:

<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>

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 pre-requisite 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 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 2<sup>nd</sup> year. The dental hygiene program Bachelor of Applied Science in Allied Health – Dental Hygiene consists of 195 credits including prerequisites.

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

A: The Community Service Verification and Recommendation form in the application link is to be downloaded, printed, and given to the supervisor where you volunteered. 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 to scan and email the Community Service Verification and Recommendation form to Ms. Harris at Nancy.Harris@seattlecolleges.edu or the organization’s supervisor can mail to Nancy Harris, 1200 12th Avenue S, Seattle, WA 98144.

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**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.

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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 8 quarters of the dental hygiene program are required.

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**Q:** Is it necessary to take the TOEFL or IELTS Exams?

**A:** **Exception:** International students whose primary **and** secondary education took place in Australia, Canada (English-speaking provinces), Great Britain, Ireland, New Zealand, or the U.S. are exempt from this

requirement. Students born in one of these countries yet educated elsewhere are still required to satisfy the English proficiency requirement.

| TOEFL                                                 | Minimum Score Before Admission |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TOEFL Internet-based                                  | 92                             |
| TOEFL paper-based                                     | 580                            |
| International English Language Testing System (IELTS) | 7.0                            |

- Applicants who have not met the minimum English proficiency requirement by the application deadline or have not taken one of the English proficiency exams by the deadline will not be considered for admission.
- Previous ESL coursework or English composition courses, even when taken in the United States, will not satisfy the English proficiency admission requirement.
- An associate degree from a community college does not exempt applicants from submitting English proficiency exam scores. All applicants must submit official TOEFL or IELTS scores to be eligible for admission consideration.
- Plan ahead to take the English proficiency exam. Do not delay taking the exam.
- Official test scores. All exam scores must be sent directly from the testing agency. Score reports provided to the applicant (i.e. examinees' copies, student copies, etc.) or photocopies of score reports will not be accepted.
- English proficiency exam scores are only valid for two years from the original exam date. If scores are more than two years old, a new exam is required. Photocopies of previous exam scores will not be accepted.

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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.** Can I retake the essay?

**A:** Essays can only be taken once during an application period.  
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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. Coordination of applicants, staff, facility, and the interview team is cumbersome as well as time consuming. 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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**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.  
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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 comprises 50% of the total points for acceptance. The criteria for the available 21 points are listed in the following table.

Criteria	Available Points
Employer Verification Form and Recommendation Letter	1
Professional Reference Letter (Maximum two letters will be accepted. 1 point each reference) Acceptable Professional References: Previous supervisor, current/previous co-workers, association/club officers, or any organization where someone has been privy to your abilities. Not acceptable: Neighbors, family members, teachers, someone you babysat for, etc.	2
Community Service Verification and Recommendation Form	2
Essay Evaluation Essays will be evaluated for the content in the response as well as grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	8
Grade Point Average (GPA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA between 2.5 – 2.9 (2 pt.) • GPA between 3.0 – 3.3 (3 pts.) • GPA 3.4 or higher (5 pts.) (As per state requirements, no classes can be repeated more than three times.)	5
CDA Certification through Dental Assisting National Board (DANB); OR more than 1,000 hours experience as a Neighborcare dental assistant or front desk; OR graduation from a CODA accredited dental assistant program requiring 9 months or more of full-time study	1
Verified Military Service with honorable separation	2
Maximum Total Available Points	21

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

Criteria	Maximum Points
Mandatory Interview	19

The points earned from the application packet and the mandatory interview will be totaled to provide the ranking for acceptance.

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

A: The Employer Verification form needs to be completed by the most recent employer. The signed form and letter needs to be mailed to Nancy Harris, 1200 12th Avenue S, HEC 202, Seattle WA 98144 or scan and email to Nancy.Harris@seattlecolleges.edu and **should come from the employer only**. The Community Service Verification and Recommendation form is to be completed by the Community Service supervisor. The signed form and letter needs to be mailed to Nancy Harris, 1200 12th Avenue S, HEC 202, Seattle WA 98144 or scan and email to Nancy.Harris@seattlecolleges.edu and **should come from the supervisor only**.

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, current/previous co-workers, association/club officers, or any organization where someone has been privy to your abilities. **Not acceptable:** Neighbors, family members, teachers, someone you babysat for, etc. A reference letter from a professional colleague/acquaintance (preferably on letterhead if available). The signed letter needs to be mailed to Nancy Harris, 1200 12th Avenue S, HEC 202, Seattle WA 98144 or scan and email to Nancy.Harris@seattlecolleges.edu and should come from the author/reference.

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. 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. 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 sessions 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>.