

Texas Woman's University
Dental Hygiene Professional Entry-Level Program

ADMISSIONS: Requirements and Selection Process

Students accepted to Texas Woman's University may declare as pre-dental hygiene majors; however, admission to the professional entry-level dental hygiene program is competitive based upon specific written criteria for admission consideration and specific written selection procedures.

For admission to the dental hygiene professional entry program, you MUST:

- Have a cumulative college GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be in good standing with the college or university last attended.
- Have completed required foundational coursework with a C or better before applying for program entry in the following fall semester. Foundational coursework consists of anatomy (Anatomy I or A&P I), physiology (Physiology I or A&P II), microbiology, nutrition, statistics, and English composition I and II.
- Have completed anatomy (Anatomy I or A&P I), physiology (Physiology I or A&P II), microbiology, and chemistry within the past five years.
- Have completed at least 45 credit hours of required courses before applying to the program and have a plan for completing all prerequisite and core work prior to fall entry into the professional program.
- Be accepted as a student by Texas Woman's University. Acceptance into TWU does not indicate admission into the Dental Hygiene Professional Program. Application to TWU should be completed by December 1. Applications to the dental hygiene program cannot be considered until the applicant has been accepted to TWU.
- Submit all application materials, including fall transcripts, to the Dental Hygiene Program by January 10.

Information regarding Selection Process

Students meeting the admission criteria above will be considered for the professional entry-level dental hygiene program in a two-part process:

- **Part 1: Documentation Review**
 - A cumulative GPA is computed by TWU based upon coursework previously attempted. Only applicants with a 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA will be further reviewed.
 - All application materials are reviewed for completeness and timeliness.
 - A foundational grade point average (FGPA) is computed using an applicant's grades in the foundational courses necessary for success in the program. Both the cumulative GPA and the foundational GPA will be used in making selections.
 - Applicants are ranked according to an Admissions Selection Rubric. If credentials are competitive, applicants are invited to Part 2 of the process: Interview and Activities.

- **Part 2: Interview and Activities**

- Competitive applicants are invited for personal interview with members of the Selection Committee. Invitation for interview does not guarantee the applicant a place in the program, but serves as a part of the selection process. All expenses of the interview are the responsibility of the applicant.
- Both knowledge of the role that the professional dental hygienist plays in health care, specifically oral healthcare, and awareness of the professional code of ethics of dental hygiene, are critical during the interview process. This knowledge can be gained through individual research and study prior to interview. Information regarding the professional code of ethics of dental hygiene can be located here: [American Dental Hygienists' Code of Ethics](#).
- Activities include completion of a short writing sample that will be completed at the time of the interview. The writing sample will include a scenario involving a dilemma that requires an element of ethical decision-making. Applicants will answer two or three questions in relation to the scenario.
- The interview includes a series of questions. Interviewers will make a subjective assessment on such qualities as ability to communicate and articulate ideas, leadership skills, motivation for selecting oral healthcare, and overall knowledge of the dental hygiene profession and its ethics.
- After interview and scoring of the writing sample, applicants will be notified of acceptance or non-acceptance on a rolling basis until the class is filled and alternates selected.
- All required courses must be completed prior to entry into the program in the fall semester.

- **Part 3: Selection Factors that we may consider include:**

- Apparent critical thinking skills and positive attitudes as the applicant provides information, articulates ideas and expresses opinions during the application and interview process.
- Overall quality of prior educational experiences.
- Content of application information and the care with which the materials have been completed.
- Evidence of a desire to provide oral healthcare to the underserved.
- Evidence of participation in worthwhile community volunteer activities.
- Evidence of moral/ethical character, motivation, intellectual maturity, leadership skills, and overall optimism.
- Ability to benefit from the educational program.
- Other appropriate life experiences may be considered.

Texas Woman's University
Dental Hygiene Professional Entry-Level Program
P.O. Box 425796, Denton, TX 76204
Phone: 940-898-2870 Fax: 940-898-2869
Date of Application: _____

APPLICATION
Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene
Professional Entry-Level Program
Mail application and original college transcripts to the program.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____
Last First Middle (Maiden – if applicable)

TWU Student ID: _____ *Social Security # _____
(7 digit # beginning with 0 or 1) *This information is optional and voluntary; however, your social security number ensures that your documents are matched and processed promptly.

Date of Birth: _____ Place: _____

Citizenship Status: U.S. Citizen Permanent Resident of U.S. Student Visa Other (please explain): _____

Mailing Address: _____ Telephone: _____
Street, Apt, City, State, Zip

TWU Email Address: _____ Alternate Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____
Name Telephone

You must answer this question: Have you had a conviction or had deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense (not a traffic ticket)? YES NO

*If you answered yes, please note that you should contact the dental board to determine whether or not you will be eligible for licensure. (<http://www.tsbde.state.tx.us/index.php>) In addition, practicum and clinical rotations sites are part of dental hygiene education at TWU and most require background checks. Inability to participate in clinical rotations may hinder or preclude a student from continuing in the program.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Previously earned post-baccalaureate degrees: BS/BA? _____ MS/MA? _____ Major: _____

List all colleges attended, including TWU. List the most recent first. Include Name, City, and State for each.

Have you ever been enrolled in another dental hygiene program? YES NO

Name of previous dental hygiene program: _____

Have you previously applied to the TWU Dental Hygiene Program? YES NO

If yes, what year(s)? _____

If you applied to the TWU Dental Hygiene Program previously and would like to let us know what you've done since then to make yourself a better candidate, please feel attach a separate statement with your comments.

FOUNDATIONAL COURSEWORK (Must be completed prior to application)

TWU Course Required	College/University Taken	Course ID/#	Sem/Yr	Credit	Grade
<i>EXAMPLE: Microbiology BACT 1003</i>	<i>Texas A&M – Commerce</i>	<i>BSC 254</i>	<i>SP 18</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>A</i>
Anatomy & Physiology I* ZOOL 2013					
Anatomy & Physio I Lab* ZOOL 2011					
Anatomy & Physiology II* ZOOL 2023					
Anatomy & Physio II Lab* ZOOL 2021					
Microbiology BACT 1003					
Microbiology Lab BACT 1001					
Nutrition NFS 2323					
Elementary Statistics MATH 1703					
English I ENG 1013					
English II ENG 1023					

If you have taken any dental hygiene foundational course more than once, please complete the section below. If not, please proceed to the next section of the application

REPEATED FOUNDATIONAL COURSEWORK (list all)

TWU Course Required	College/University Taken	Course ID/#	Sem/Yr	Credit	Grade
<i>EXAMPLE: Microbiology BACT 1003</i>	<i>Texas Woman’s University</i>	<i>BACT 1003</i>	<i>FA 17</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>Microbiology BACT 1003</i>	<i>Tarrant County College</i>	<i>BIOL 2420</i>	<i>SU 17</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>C</i>

DENTAL HYGIENE DEPARTMENT REQUIRED COURSEWORK: Must be completed prior to fall entry

TWU Course Required	College/University Taken	Course ID/#	Sem/Yr	Credit	Grade
Psychology PSY 1013					
Sociology SOCI 1413 or SOCI 1013					
Chemistry					
Chemistry Lab					
Speech SPCH 1013					

CORE REQUIRED COURSEWORK⁺: Must be completed prior to fall entry

TWU Course Required	College/University Taken	Course ID/#	Sem/Yr	Credit	Grade
U.S. History I HIST 1013					
U.S. History II HIST 1023					
U.S. Government GOV 2013					
Texas Government GOV 2023					
<i>Approved Math (20)</i>					
<i>Approved Language, Philosophy, or Culture (40)</i>					
<i>Approved Creative Arts (50)</i>					
<i>Approved Social & Behavioral Sciences (80)</i>					
<i>Approved Multicultural Women's Studies (90)</i>					
<i>Approved 1st Year Seminar, Math, or Wellness (91)</i>					

⁺Some courses may fulfil both TWU CORE requirements and dental hygiene foundational/department requirements.

⁺For questions regarding transfer equivalencies, please contact your academic advisor. You may also visit the Texas Common Course Numbering System Webpage (<https://tccns.org/search/compareInstitutions/>) to compare course numbers between schools.

LIFE INFORMATION

Please list the languages, including English, which you speak, read, and write fluently.

Language	Spoken at Home		Speak	Read	Write
	Yes	No			
	Yes	No			
	Yes	No			

Briefly describe any life experiences you believe will make you a better dental hygiene student and dental hygienist.

I affirm that the information I have provided in this application and in all other admission application materials submitted to Texas Woman's University and the Dental Hygiene Program is complete, accurate, and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that providing false or incomplete information can lead to non-acceptance to and/or dismissal from the program. If I am accepted into the program, I agree to adhere to the regulations, policies, and standards of conduct of Texas Woman's University and the Dental Hygiene Program. I have reviewed the University and Dental Hygiene Program Academic Requirements, Essential Elements for Dental Hygiene and policies for Bloodborne and Infectious Diseases (<http://www.twu.edu/rm/Bloodborne-Pathogens.asp>). Furthermore, my signature below allows my National Dental Hygiene Board and Western Regional Examination Board scores to be forwarded to the Dental Hygiene Program upon completion of the examinations.

Applicant's signature

Date

Revised 3/2018

APPLICATION CHECK LIST

It is the student's responsibility to insure all materials are received in a timely fashion. Please use this check list to ensure that all materials are received before the deadlines.

Applications with missing, incomplete, or inaccurate information may not be considered.

- _____ 1. Submit online application to Texas Woman's University Admissions Office by **December 1st**.

Please note that you will not be officially accepted into the university until the Office of Admissions Processing has received official copies of all transcripts from other colleges/universities you have attended.

You will need to submit transcripts from other colleges/universities to TWU's Admissions Processing at the time of application, after fall grades have posted, and again after spring and/or summer grades are posted on your transcript(s) from any other institution(s) you are attending.

Transfer transcripts from community colleges must include the notation "Core Complete" to ensure credit for core completion or a letter from the Registrar with the same message. Although you may submit electronic copies of transcripts to Admissions Processing, some electronic copies of transcripts do not include the "Core Complete" notation that hard copies of transcripts contain.

- _____ 2. Mail your TWU Dental Hygiene Program application and hard copies of all official transcripts to the Dental Hygiene Program by **January 10th**.

Please send applications and transcripts together in one package. Transcripts must include fall grades. You only need to submit an official copy of your Texas Woman's University transcript if you have/will have a bachelor's level degree or higher from Texas Woman's University by the fall of anticipated entry into the Dental Hygiene Program.

TWU Dental Hygiene Program mailing address:
Texas Woman's University
Dental Hygiene Professional Entry-Level Program
P O Box 425796
Denton, TX 76204-5796

It is highly recommended that you include tracking on your application package to verify delivery. January 10th is the date applications must be post-marked by, not received by. Also please note that you cannot send your application via Fed-Ex or UPS (United Parcel Service) as these companies do not deliver to Post Office Box addresses.

Please DO NOT hand deliver your Dental Hygiene Program application.

Texas Woman's University Dental Hygiene Program

MISSION

The Texas Woman's University Dental Hygiene Program prepares students to be professionals who are clinically competent, think critically, are ethical, apply evidence-based decision-making to patient care, and adapt to the demands of oral healthcare through the use of interprofessional and innovative student-centered learning strategies based on best practices.

ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM GOALS

1. Accurately analyze total patient care assessment data, develop a comprehensive plan of action, apply evidence based implementation measures, and evaluate patient outcomes utilizing professional values and ethics. (Patient Care and Teaching)
2. Effectively assess, implement and evaluate the oral health needs of community based programs, supporting service activities that are essential to the profession of dental hygiene and to the public. (Service) To promote service activities that are essential to the profession of dental hygiene and to the public. (Service)
3. Effectively evaluate and analyze scientific literature as a basis for evidence based practice. (Research, Patient Care & Teaching)

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM COMPETENCIES

Competency means the knowledge, skill, and behavior expected of an entry-level practitioner performing autonomously. In simple terms it is what is expected of a practitioner safely and effectively performing a specific procedure on a specific patient when there is no one (such as a faculty member or mentor) directing his or her decisions and activity.

Being competent for practice, i.e., ready for licensure and for safe and capable provision of oral healthcare, requires knowledge, skills, and professional values that allow an integrated reaction to a full range of circumstances that could reasonably be expected to be encountered in professional practice. This level of performance also implies a degree of speed and accuracy consistent with patient safety; however, not yet consistent with performance at higher levels, i.e., proficient or expert. Professional competence also implies an awareness of what constitutes acceptable performance under the circumstances, self-assessment, and also a desire for self-improvement.

(Chambers DW, Gerrow JD. Manual for developing and formatting competency statements. *J Dent Educ* 1994; 58: 361–366.)

In this document, competencies (and thus ultimately the curriculum) are structured from general to more specific. The two competency categories used in this document are Global and Component.

- *Global Competency describes the ability to perform or provide a particular, but complex, service or task necessary for general professional practice of dental hygiene. The complexity of a global competency requires the acquisition and demonstration of multiple and more specific abilities that are necessary to support the performance of the Global Competency.*
- *Component Competencies describe the specific elements necessary to the achievement of the Global Competency and thus specific knowledge and skill related to that particular service or task.*
- *A signature artifact is a competency evaluation, assignment, project or paper that captures evidence of student attainment of specific learning outcomes.*

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES FOR ENTRY INTO THE PROFESSION OF DENTAL HYGIENE

1. ***The graduate will demonstrate core behaviors of the professional dental hygienist. Core competencies (CC) characteristically include satisfactory accomplishment the component competencies:***

CC 1. Apply the ADHA Professional Code of Ethics in all endeavors.

CC 2. Apply pertinent federal, state and local laws, recommendations, and/or regulations in the provision of oral health care.

- CC 3. Use critical thinking skills and comprehensive problem solving to identify oral health care strategies that promote patient and community health and wellness.
- CC 4. Incorporates scientific evidence and accepted standards of practice into all aspects of patient care to include providing health promotion information to community groups or individuals.
- CC 5. Continuously perform self-assessment for professional growth.
- CC 6. Promote values of the dental hygiene profession through service-based activities, positive community affiliations, and active involvement in local organizations.
- CC 7. Work effectively as a team member with appropriate communication and appropriate execution of assigned roles.
- CC 8. Communicate effectively with diverse individuals and groups, serving all persons without discrimination by acknowledging and appreciating diversity.
- CC 9. Record accurate, consistent, and complete documentation of oral health services provided to verify quality assurance of care provided.
- CC 10. Initiate a collaborative approach with all patients when developing individualized care plans that are specialized, comprehensive, culturally sensitive, and acceptable to all parties involved in care planning.
- CC 11. Initiate consultations and collaborations with relevant health care providers to facilitate optimal treatments.
- CC 12. Manage medical emergencies by using professional judgment, providing life support, and utilizing required CPR and any specialized training or knowledge.

2. The graduate will demonstrate competency in health promotion and disease prevention for individuals and groups. HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION (HP) competency typically include the ability to accomplish the following component competencies:

- HP 1. Promote positive values of overall health and wellness to the public and organizations within and outside the profession.
- HP 2. Respect the goals, values, beliefs, and preferences of all patients.
- HP 3. Identify individual and population risk factors and develop strategies that promote health related quality of life.
- HP 4. Evaluate factors that can be used to promote adherence to disease prevention or health maintenance strategies.
- HP 5. Utilize methods that ensure the health and safety of the patient and the oral health professional in the delivery of care.

3. The graduate will demonstrate competency in the ability to actively contribute to the health of the community. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (CI) generally includes component competencies such as the following:

- CI 1. Assess the oral health needs and services of the community to determine action plans and availability of resources to meet health care needs.
- CI 2. Provide screening, referral, and educational services that allow individuals to access the resources of the health care system.
- CI 3. Provide community oral health services in a variety of settings.
- CI 4. Facilitate patient access to oral health services by influencing individuals or organizations for the provision of oral health care.
- CI 5. Evaluate the outcomes of community-based programs and plan for future activities.
- CI 6. Advocate for effective oral health care for underserved populations.

4. The graduate will be competent in providing the dental hygiene process of care, including assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation. PATIENT CARE (PC) typically includes the following component competencies:

Assessment

- PC 1. Systematically collect, analyze, and record diagnostic data on the general, oral, and psychosocial health status of a variety of patients using methods consistent with medico-legal principles.
- PC 2. Recognize predisposing and etiologic risk factors that require intervention to prevent disease.
- PC 3. Recognize the relationship between systemic disease, medications, and oral health that impact overall patient care and treatment outcomes.
- PC 4. Identify patients at risk for a medical emergency and manage the patient care in a manner that prevents an emergency.

Dental Hygiene Diagnosis

- PC 5. Use patient assessment data, diagnostic technologies and critical decision making skills to determine a dental hygiene diagnosis, a component of the dental diagnosis, to reach conclusions about the patient's dental hygiene care needs.

Planning

- PC 6. Utilize reflective judgment in developing a comprehensive patient dental hygiene care plan.
- PC 7. Collaborate with the patient and other health professionals, as indicated, to formulate a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan that is patient-centered and based on the best scientific evidence and professional judgment.
- PC 8. Make referrals to professional colleagues and other health care professionals as indicated in the patient care plan.
- PC 9. Obtain the patient's informed consent based on a thorough case presentation.

Implementation

- PC 10. Provide specialized treatment that includes educational, preventive and therapeutic services designed to achieve and maintain oral health. Partner with the patient in achieving oral health goals.

Evaluation

- PC 11. Evaluate the effectiveness of the provided services and modify care plans as needed.
- PC 12. Determine the outcomes of dental hygiene interventions using indices, instruments, examination techniques, and patient self-reports as specified in patient goals.
- PC 13. Compare actual outcomes to expected outcomes, re-evaluating goals, diagnoses, and services when expected outcomes are not achieved.

5. The graduate will demonstrate competency in developing strategies to increase professional growth and development. PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT (PGD) characteristically include the following component competencies:

- PGD 1. Correctly analyze, synthesize, and evaluate current literature in order to contribute to the overall body of knowledge of the professional dental hygienist.
- PGD 2. Develop a plan for lifelong, voluntary and self-motivated acquisition and updating of knowledge, skill, and qualification to adapt to a constantly evolving knowledge-based profession.
- PGD 3. Analyze career opportunities within health care, industry, education, research and other roles as they evolve for the dental hygienist.
- PGD 4. Advocate for professional change needed to improve oral health care and delivery of oral healthcare by engaging in activities that advocate for current oral care issues and promote professional growth.

NOTICE: The Commission on Dental Accreditation will review complaints that relate to a program's compliance with the accreditation standards. The Commission is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dental and dental-related education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff or students.

A copy of the appropriate accreditation standards and/or the Commission's policy and procedure for submission of complaints may be obtained by contacting the Commission at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago IL 60611 or by calling 1-800-621-8099 extension 2719.