

DENTAL HYGIENE ACADEMIC MAP: DEGREE AAS (60 CREDIT HOURS)

This degree map is a semester-by-semester course schedule for students majoring in **Dental Hygiene (DHYG)**. The Pre – Admission Milestones listed to the right of each semester are courses and special requirements necessary for admissions into the Dental Hygiene program. Any missing Pre – Admissions Milestones will delay a student’s acceptance into the program. The other milestones listed to the right of each semester are designed to keep a student on track to graduate in two years from the time of entry into the program. The schedule serves as a general guideline to help build a full schedule each semester. Milestones are courses and special requirements necessary for timely progress to complete a major. When one or more milestones are missed, students should consult with an academic advisor to determine if another degree path would be more suitable.

The Department of Dental Hygiene is committed to ensure an educational program of excellence for its students. Therefore, admission to the Dental Hygiene program is considered on a competitive basis. The committee is charged with the responsibility of reviewing the applicants and accepting those who possess the finest credentials based on the listed admission requirements mentioned below.

Admission into the dental hygiene program is **highly competitive**. The final application deadline is January 15th. The Department accepts a class for admission the fall semester of each year; therefore, interviews are conducted in the spring prior to enrollment for the fall semester. Any application received after January 15th will not be considered for first round admission. A second and third application deadline, March 15 and May 15 is available to applicants who are currently enrolled in a prerequisite course or who missed taking the ATDH examination. Meeting this March and May 15th deadline places the applicant on an Alternate list, along with those not accepted in the initial Jan 15th application review. Rest assured this does not decrease your chances of acceptance.

- Two degree programs are offered by the Department of Dental Hygiene: The Associate of Applied Science, which is the primary program and the Bachelor of Science/Degree Completion. The Bachelor of Science/Degree Completion may serve as a foundation for further study. **NOTE: Students applying for entry into the B.S. Degree Completion Program must have completed the AAS Degree program and have been issued a license to practice Dental Hygiene (This program will not be available until fall 2024).**
- Graduates of the Associates of Applied Science degree program in Dental Hygiene are eligible to test for the National Dental Hygiene Board Examination and Regional/State Board Examinations throughout the country.
- **A student must be accepted into the University before applying to the Dental Hygiene program. A formal admission into the Dental Hygiene program is required prior to enrolling in any Dental Hygiene (DHYG) courses.**
 - **NOTE: Acceptance into the University does not ensure acceptance into the Dental Hygiene program. Following notification of acceptance to the University by the Office of Admissions and Records, the prospective dental hygiene applicant's admission material will be evaluated by the Dental Hygiene Admissions Committee. Dental Hygiene applicants will be informed of their acceptance or rejection by the Departments Admissions Committee.**

THESE ITEMS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- All High School Prerequisite Courses passed with a “C” or better (Chemistry, Biology and Algebra). Minimum GPA 2.5
- **All College Prerequisite must be completed prior to seeking program admission. Courses passed be passed with “C” or better (Anatomy & Physiology I, II; Microbiology, English Composition I, General Chemistry I)**
- Minimum College GPA 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
- ACT Score – 19 or better / SAT (Equivalent score) – 980 or better
- TOEFL Exam, only if applicable
- Any required Immunizations should be up to date.
- (ATDH), Admissions Test Dental Hygiene scores range (200-500); Program Benchmark 300-350
- The application for the ATDH will appear on www.ada.org/atdh. The ATDH Candidate Guide has now been posted.
- The fee for the ATDH is \$140, paid at the time of application. The administration of the ATDH will begin on September 1. The first testing window will end on October 31. Results for all test-takers in the first testing window will be released by December 1.

Note: All required information should be included in the [Application Packet](#). The TSU Dental Hygiene Department will not request any information from the University. Incomplete applications will not be considered complete. All course work with the rubric DHYG are delivered in lock-step and can only be taken during the designated semester listing.

Tennessee State University recognizes that students have diverse learning, life, and professional experiences. The University provides opportunities for students to earn college credit toward the degree through a number of assessment options that evaluate their learning experiences. These paths are grouped under the category "Prior Learning Assessment" (PLA). Various means of earning PLA credit at TSU are the following: Advanced Placement Program, American Council of Education (ACE) Military Credit, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), DSST Credit by Examination Program (includes DANTES Examination), Institutional Course Challenge Exams (Departmental Exams), International Baccalaureate Credit, Other Military Service, Portfolio Assessment. To learn more about PLA contact your academic advisor or the Office of Student Support Services for Adult and Distance Learners at (615) 963-7001 or adultstudentsupport@tnstate.edu.

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Fall Schedule		Pre – Admission Milestones
Prerequisite semester	Hrs.	Prerequisite semester
ENG 1010	3	Pre-Requisite Course: Must be taken before ENGL 1020, and HIST 2010, HIST 2020, HIST 2030, HIST 2060, HIST 2070, or HIST 2700; Minimum Grade "C" Required
BIOL 2210/2211	4	Pre-requisite requirement for formal admission to program; Minimum Grade "C" Required
CHEM 1110 /1111	4	Pre-requisite requirement for formal admission to program; Minimum Grade "C" Required
Total Hours	11	
Spring Schedule		Pre – Admission Milestones
Prerequisite semester	Hrs.	Prerequisite semester
BIOL 2220/2221	4	Pre-requisite requirement for formal admission to program; Minimum Grade "C" Required
BIOL 2400/2401	4	Pre-requisite requirement for formal admission to program; Minimum Grade "C" Required
Total Hours	8	

*An Orientation course taken at another University does **NOT** meet this requirement. Students with less than 60 credit hours must take UNIV 1000 at TSU.

Fall Schedule		Milestones
Semester 1	Hrs.	Semester 1
		All DHYG courses must be completed in lock – step
DHYG 1010	3	Minimum Grade "C" Required
DHYG 1014	2	Minimum Grade "C" Required
DHGY 1030	2	Minimum Grade "C" Required
DHYG 1110	3	Minimum Grade "C" Required
HUMANITIES* *Humanities-Must take 3 credit hours from the following list: AREN 2310, ART, 1010, THTR 1020, MUSC 1010, PHIL 1030, HIST 1000 or RELS 2010	3	Minimum Grade "C" Required
UNIV 1000*	1	Minimum Grade "C" Required
Total Hours	14	

Spring Schedule		Milestones
Semester 2	Hrs.	Semester 2
		All DHYG courses must be completed in lock – step
DHYG 1020	2	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 1024	2	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 1040	2	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 1140	2	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 2050	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
NUFS 2010	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
Total Hours	14	

Summer Schedule		Milestones
Bridge Semester	Hrs.	Bridge Semester
		All DHYG courses must be completed in lock – step
DHYG 1134	1	Completion of all first year DHYG course work at a “C” or better
DHYG 1200	3	Completion of all first year DHYG course work at a “C” or better
DHYG 2300 ELECTIVE (3 CREDITS)		Completion of all first year DHYG course work at a “C” or better
SOCI 2010	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
Total Hours	7	

Fall Schedule		Milestones
Semester 3	Hrs.	Semester 3
		All DHYG courses must be completed in lock – step
CHEM 2500	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 2010	2	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 2014	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 2110	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DHYG 2100	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
Total Hours	14	

Spring Schedule		Milestones
Semester 4	Hrs.	Semester 4
DHYG 2020	2	Minimum Grade “C” Required
DYGH 2024	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
PSYC 2010	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
COMM 2200	3	Minimum Grade “C” Required
Total Hours	11	

Employment Information:

Employment of dental hygienists is projected to grow 33 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. Ongoing research linking oral health to general health will continue to spur demand for preventative dental services, which are often provided by dental hygienists. <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dental-hygienists.htm>

Representative Job Titles Related to this Major:

Clinician, Public Health practitioner, Researcher, Clinical Educator, Corporate Partner, Administrator, Entrepreneur.

Graduates from the AAS degree program will have the following credentials:

Registered Dental Hygienist, RDH

Representative Employers:

Graduates may be employed in a variety of settings – **Clinician:** Private dental practices, Nursing Homes, Assisted living Facilities, Hospitals, Prisons, and University dental practices; **Public Health:** Clinicians, Administrators, Researchers, State Public Health Officer, Community Clinic Administrator, Indian Health Service, Head Start programs, Local health departments, National Health Service Corps, School sealant programs, Rural or inner city community clinics; **Educator:** Clinical instructor, Corporate educator; **Administrator:** Statewide school sealant program, **Entrepreneur:** Product developer and Sales, Practice Management Company, CE Provider or Meeting Planner, Consulting Business, Founder of Nonprofit, Independent Clinical Practice and Professional Speaker.

International study is available for all TSU students and may include opportunities for internships or taking course work towards various minors. International study may have an impact on the academic map; therefore, it is important to consult with the academic advisor for this major before participating in an international Program opportunity. Students interested in study abroad opportunities should contact the Office of International Programs and consult with their academic advisor.

Launch My Career Tennessee

To better assist you in making decisions about the career for which you are preparing, a link to the website, Launch My Career Tennessee has been provided for you to explore. The tools on the site will give you a wealth of information concerning your degree choice and possible career pathways. For example, the site will allow you to determine the return on the investment you are making in your education by estimating expected earnings over the course of your career. Begin charting your course by clicking on the link below.

<http://launchmycareertn.org/>

This map is not intended to be a contract, either expressed or implied, between the University and the students, but represents a flexible program of the current curriculum which may be altered from time to time to carry out the academic objectives of the University. TSU specifically reserves the right to change, delete or add to any MAP at any time within the student's period of study at the University.