

## DENTAL HYGIENE AAS

**Purpose:** RCTC's Dental Hygiene program is designed to provide academic and clinical educational opportunities for capable individuals to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for the professional practice of dental hygiene. Dental hygienists are licensed oral health professionals who focus on preventing and treating oral diseases both to protect teeth and gums, and also to protect patients' total health. They must take a written national board examination and a clinical examination before they are licensed to practice. In addition to treating patients directly, dental hygienists may also work as educators, researchers, and administrators. Members of the dental hygiene profession act as allied personnel to the dentist and make it possible for more complete preventative dental services to be provided to the public.

Graduates are eligible to take the 3 licensure exams which are required in all 50 states for the practice of dental hygiene.

### **Award**

*Dental Hygiene AAS Degree.....83 credits total*  
*Dental Hygiene curriculum..... 51 credits*  
*MnTC curriculum/General Education..... 32 credits*

**No less than 8 credits of basic sciences must be completed for admission.**  
**Students with no prior college experience are NOT eligible for admission into Dental Hygiene.**  
**You must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.00 and a raw science GPA of 2.5.**

### MnTC Curriculum/General Education Course Work

<b>Goal 1</b>	
COMM 1114 Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3 cr
Or	Or
COMM 1130 Interpersonal Communications	3 cr
English 1117 Reading and Writing Critically I	4 cr
<b>Goal 3</b>	
BIOL 1217 Anatomy and Physiology I	4 cr
BIOL 1218 Anatomy and Physiology II	4 cr
BIOL 2021 General Microbiology	4 cr
CHEM 1117 General, Organic and Biological Chemistry I	4 cr
<b>Goal 5</b>	
PSYC 1611 Psychology of Adjustment	3 cr
Or	Or
PSYC 2618 General Psychology	4 cr
SOC 1614 Introduction to Sociology	3 cr
<b>Goal 6</b>	
Elective	3 cr

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**\* The course sequence for this program begins in fall only and is intended for full-time enrollment.**

## RECOMMENDED FULL-TIME COURSE SEQUENCE

Not all courses are scheduled every semester. See course schedule: <https://eservices.minnstate.edu/registration/search/basic.html?campusid=306>.

### Dental Hygiene Program Core Requirements

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Semester 2</b>	
BIOL 1211 Principles of Nutrition	3 cr	DH 1520 Principles of Dental Hygiene II	2 cr
DH 1510 Principles of Dental Hygiene I	2 cr	DH 1521 Dental Hygiene Practice II	5 cr
DH 1511 Dental Hygiene Practice I	3 cr	DH 1523 Oral Pathology	2 cr
DH 1512 Oral Anatomy	4 cr	DH 1524 Periodontology	2 cr
		DH 1525 Dental Imaging for Interpretation	3 cr
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Semester 3</b>		<b>Semester 4</b>	
DH 2530 Principles of Dental Hygiene III	3 cr	DH 2540 Principles of Dental Hygiene IV	3 cr
DH 2531 Dental Hygiene Practice III	6 cr	DH 2541 Dental Hygiene Practice IV	6 cr
DH 2532 Pain Control	2 cr	DH 2542 Community Dental Health	3 cr
DH 2533 Dental Pharmacology	2 cr		
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>12</b>

Course descriptions can be found at: <https://www.rctc.edu/academics/courses/course-descriptions>.