

# ASSOCIATE DEGREE\*

# DENTAL HYGIENE

## Put Some Teeth Into Your Future.

You know from visiting the dentist that dental hygienists do a lot. But did you know how much? They're licensed dental health specialists, providing patients with preventative, educational and therapeutic services, while promoting oral health and controlling oral disease. They observe and record abnormalities, take oral X-rays, apply fluoride and fissure sealants. They also provide periodical therapies, such as root planning, plaque, calculus and stain removal. The framework for this type of oral care is known as the dental hygiene, or DH, process of care.

Students in the Carrington College® Dental Hygiene program develop the skills to give comprehensive dental hygiene care, including professional communication skills and a knowledge of ethical standards and behavior. The program culminates in an Associate of Science degree in Dental Hygiene. We prepare our graduates to take the Dental Hygiene National Board and state licensing examinations.† Licensing examinations vary by state. Information is available from the campus program director and in the clinical manual.

*According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow 33% from 2012-2022.‡*



## Duties May Include:

- Assessing patients' oral health
- Removing plaque, calculus and stains
- Providing X-rays
- Administering local anesthesia
- Applying fluoride
- Providing oral-hygiene instruction

## Possible Employment Opportunities:

- Dental offices
- Public health agencies
- Hospitals
- Community dental clinics
- Educational and administrative positions
- Research and marketing of dental products

\* Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. Information is current at the time of printing. For the most updated information, visit [carrington.edu](http://carrington.edu).

† Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program.

‡ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook (2014-15 Ed.)



**CARRINGTON  
COLLEGE®**

**877-623-1442  
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# ASSOCIATE DEGREE - DENTAL HYGIENE

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Dental Hygiene program, graduates will be able to:

- Deliver comprehensive dental hygiene care to patients in a variety of professional settings via the DH process of care.
- Demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking and information management.

## Admission/Progression Requirements

In addition to meeting the College's standard admission requirements, candidates must:

- Submit a statement of interest/essay on becoming a dental hygienist.
- Pass the Wonderlic General Assessment of Instructional Needs (GAIN) test with a minimum score of 4 on both the English and Math components.

The following credentials, which are preferred but not required, earn applicants additional points during the admissions process. Appropriate documentation must be submitted prior to the application deadline, which is generally five days before classes begin.

- Completion of a dental assisting certificate, diploma or associate degree.
- Expanded Functions Credentials, current RDA or CDA certificate. Copy of current license or certificate must be submitted.
- College degree (not including an associate degree in dental assisting).
- Work experience in the dental field. Employment verification form must be submitted.

Prior to entering direct patient care, students must:

- Provide negative TB test results. (Test results more than 12 months old must be from a two-step test). Applicants with prior positive results must undergo a chest X-ray.
- Provide proof of childhood MMR immunization or titer.
- Provide proof of Hepatitis B vaccination or written refusal.
- Provide proof of chickenpox immunization (only students who have not had chickenpox).
- Submit to drug screening and background checks immediately prior to clinical rotations, the results of which may affect eligibility to participate in clinical rotations.
- Hold a current Basic Life Support (BLS)/CPR card.

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS – Boise

Dental Hygiene Courses		Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours	Semester Credit Hours
DH 160	Dental Materials	15	30	0	2
DH 120	Head and Neck Anatomy	15	30	0	2
DH 130	Oral Anatomy, Embryology, and Histology	30	30	0	3
DH 170	Dental Radiography	45	0	45	4
DH 210	General and Oral Pathology	45	0	0	3
DH 180	Periodontology	45	0	0	3
DH 110	Introduction to Principles and Procedures of Dental Hygiene	15	30	90	4
DH 151	Dental Hygiene I	15	30	90	4
DH 205	Dental Hygiene II	15	30	135	5
DH 247	Dental Hygiene III	15	30	180	6
DH 290	Dental Pharmacology	45	0	0	3
DH 234	Legal and Ethical Aspects	15	0	0	1
DH 236	Pain Management	15	0	45	2
DH 250	Community Dental Health Lecture	30	0	0	2
DH 270	Nutritional and Biochemical Foundations for Dental Hygienists	30	0	0	2
DH 251	Community Dental Health Lab	0	30	0	1
DH 289	Dental Hygiene IV	0	30	225	6
DH 298	Senior Seminar	30	0	0	2
BIO 121	Human Anatomy and Physiology I with Lab*	45	30	0	4
BIO 124	Human Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab*	45	30	0	4
BIO 125	Microbiology with Lab*	45	30	0	4
C 120	Chemistry with Lab*	45	30	0	4
COM 131	Introduction to Communication*	45	0	0	3
ENG 113	English Composition I*	45	0	0	3
SOC 113	Introduction to Sociology*	45	0	0	3
PSY 113	General Psychology*	45	0	0	3
Total for Degree		765	450	810	83

\*General education course

Approximate time to complete degree program: 75 weeks